

Chapter 180

Lacey didn't show up and the night was ending. Lana was passed out on the couch and Alanna, and I were out back sitting round the fire pit.

Jake had disappeared up the stairs a while ago leaving us to have some much-needed girl time. It was nice spending time with the girls. It was just a shame Lacey felt she couldn't join us.

"Remember when you punched Jake in the face?". She laughed.

"I do". I grinned.

"That was a good night".

"It was". I agreed. "Until I ended up with a broken hand because I punched a werewolf in the face".

"Bet it felt good though". She winked.

"It did". I laughed. "But we won't talk about that".

"You're both good though, right?".

"We are". I nodded.

"And you, you're doing, okay?".

I shrugged. "I'm okay I guess". I wasn't sure how to process it. I still didn't understand how to grieve something I never had to begin with. But I dealt with it the best way I knew how and that was by not talking about it.

I was burying it until I was ready and right now, I wasn't ready to face any of it.

"Do you want to talk about it?". She asked.

"No, I don't because even thinking about it makes me want to cry and I don't want to cry anymore".

"Okay". She nodded. "But we're here when you're ready and if you never are that's okay to".

"Have you spoken to Lacey?". I asked.

"She's avoiding my calls. I think she's afraid you'll think she's throwing it in your face. She doesn't want it to be awkward".

I frowned. Why would it be awkward? And why would she think that? She was having a baby, bringing life into the world and that alone was amazing. Right now, it wasn't my turn, but I would never be that person to hate on someone else.

Did I come across as someone who would act that way?

For her to think I would be anything other than supportive was sad.

"She's being silly but she is pregnant after all so I understand her emotions will be all over the place. Should I maybe call her tomorrow?"

"I could see if we could all go for breakfast?". She suggested.

"Sounds good". I smiled.

Feeling the light drop of rain against my forehead I looked up into the sky, the brightest I've seen in a long time. Stars shining bright, the moon full. I will never get over how peaceful it was around here.

"Should we go inside?". She asked.

Yawning, I nodded my head. I was deadbeat. I wanted to go to bed but I didn't want to be rude. "Are you staying?". I asked.

"I'm going to wake Lana and then go to my mom's. You need to rest".

"No, it's fine just...".

"I'm awake". Lana jerked up from the chair stretching out her arms.

"Did someone say something about breakfast?"

"You heard that?". I frowned.

"I was sleeping on and off I was just too comfortable to move". She smiled. "But I'm definitely up for breakfast in the morning".

"You girls gave up already?". Jake grinned from the bottom of the stairs.

"It's bedtime". I smiled.

"Changed days". He laughed. "You head upstairs, and I'll lock up or do you want me to help you?"

"No, I can manage. I'll see you both in the morning for breakfast".

"And cocktails for lunch". Lana winked.

Laughing, I shook my head as I made my way upstairs and into our bedroom. Sitting on the end of our bed I ran a hand down my face, a yawn escaping my mouth.

Tonight was fun, having the girls over was just like old times. I was glad Alanna and Carter were coming back home. It wasn't the same without them and Alanna was like the glue that kept us all together.

But I still wanted to know why they were coming back. There had to be more to it than just it wasn't for them. It's a question I will ask Carter when he gets here tomorrow.

"What you thinking about?". Jake asked, making his way into the room.

"Do you know why Carter and Alanna are back?".

"Apparently it wasn't working out".

"But they've only been there a few days".

"I don't know Leah and it's none of my business. They wanted to come home, so they came home".

"Don't you find it strange?".

A sigh fell from his lips as he ran a hand down his face. "Maybe they got homesick like I said I don't know. Ask Carter when he arrives tomorrow".

"Did they have to ask permission to come back?".

"Why are you so interested in this?".

"I'm not". I frowned. "I'm just curious".

"Don't you know curiosity killed the cat". He grinned.

"Well, it's a good job I'm a wolf then isn't it".

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I showered and changed into clean pjs. I was more than ready for bed but when I got in and got comfortable, I was wide awake.

Jake was already asleep, snoring his head off beside me.

I still didn't have my phone which when I couldn't sleep, I would usually scroll through social media to help so instead I grabbed the remote off the nightstand and turned on the tv.

And then I wanted some snacks.

As quietly as I could I slipped out of bed and left the room, making my way to the kitchen. Putting a couple of slices of pizza on a plate, I grabbed some chips from the pantry and headed back to bed.

Thankfully, Jake never heard a thing. Poor thing was just as exhausted as I was.

I was halfway through an episode of the vampire diaries, a slice of pizza in my mouth, my hand in the bag of chips when he started to stir.

I froze.

"Babe?"

"Shhh". I whispered.

"Babe, are you eating?"

A laugh fell from my lips as he shifted in the bed and turned so, he was facing me. He caught me red handed. Smirking, he sat up resting his back against the headboard.

"You should be sleeping".

I shrugged. "I couldn't so I put the tv on but then I got hungry, so I snuck downstairs for some snacks and here we are". I popped a chip in my mouth and turned my attention back to the tv.

"It's late Leah".

"I know". I nodded. "I'm sorry I woke you. Do you want me to sleep in the spare room?"

"I wish I woke sooner. Now I want pizza".

I couldn't hide my grin. "I think we should make this a thing". I spoke passing him the plate with the pizza slices on.

"Midnight snacks with my girl. I could do that". He winked.

"It's way past midnight".

"Which is why you should be sleeping". He leaned forward placing a kiss on my forehead. "I'm going to get more of this". He held up the pizza slice. "Do you want me to make you some tea?"

"No, I'm okay". I was starting to feel tired, my eyes growing heavy.

"You're getting sleepy, aren't you?". He smiled.

I nodded. "Can I leave the tv on until I fall asleep?"

"Sure, baby anything you want".

I put my snacks on the bedside table and buried myself under the covers. When he came back to bed, I was still awake but had my eyes closed.

"Is there anything you want to talk about that's maybe keeping you awake?". He asked climbing back in beside me.

I lay my head against his chest, my arm resting over his stomach.

"Lacey is avoiding us".

"I'm sure that's not true".

"Then why didn't she come over tonight?"

"I don't know Leah but I'm sure she'll have a good reason".

"Yeah, she's avoiding us. If she doesn't show up for breakfast tomorrow, then it's definitely that".

"Try and get some sleep it's late". He kissed the top of my head and that's the last we spoke until morning.