

## Chapter 186

ordered us both coffee and waited patiently for her to arrive. It only took her an hour before she walked through the door shades covering her eyes.

Someone was hungover.

She grunted a hello before sitting acrossac from me. "I feel like death". She groaned.

"You should have left when I left. Jake would have dropped you off".

"Where's the fun in that?". She grinned lifting the mug of coffee and bringing it to her lips. "Did you order food?".

I shook my head. "Just coffee".

"Good I don't think I could stomach anything right now. Unless you want to eat?".

"Oh, I'm eating". I smiled. "And you should to it'll make you feelnd better".

"Probably". She shrugged. "Or it'll make me sick".

"But you'll be fine for tonight, right?".

"Do you really think Jake would let me out of doing my patrol?". She made a face. "I'm hungover not sick".

"True". I laughed.

"So, Mr. Gallagher". She smirked. "I wonder why he left the school".

I shrugged. "Still the biggest asshole ever and get this. He's holding a grudge because I turned down Yale".

"No". She laughed. "You were going and then you weren't and then you were and then you weren't. I'd hold a grudge to".

"Hey". I frowned. "Turning down Yale was the biggest decision I've ever had to make. It wasn't easy giving it up". I don't regret my decision, but it still plays on my mind at times.

"Well now I feel shitty".

"I'm over it". I shrugged. "I just have to see if I get accepted to college".

"The offer is there for me to speak to my dad". She spoke. "He's got a lot of friends in high places".

No, if I was going to get accepted into college then it was going to be because I deserve it. I didn't need anyone putting a word in for me or doing me any favours.

"No, no favours. If I don't get accepted, then it's their loss". I grinned. "I'm going to order pancakes. Do you want some?".

"With bacon and syrup and get more coffee".

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We ate, laughed and had the catch up we needed. I've said it before, but I really did miss her not being here. Even with it only being a few days Alanna had become a massive part of my life.

We were more than friends.

"Oh, I'm stuffed". She groaned. "But that was amazing".

"Feeling better?".em

She nodded. "Are you and Jake coming tonight?".

"I wouldn't miss dinner". I grinned. "What time do we start night patrol?".

"10pm. Bring a bag with a change of clothes and lots of water and snacks".

"Change of clothes?". I frowned.

"Yeah, for when you shift back. You do realise we patrol in wolf form, right?".

I had to be in wolf form all night? I swallowed the lump that appeared in my throat. Trying to play it off I nodded. It couldn't be that hard. Channel some anger and I would be fine.

No, I didn't want to do it that way. I shouldn't have to be angry every time I wanted to shift.

Why couldn't we patrol on foot?

"Hey". She tapped the table to grab my attention.

"Sorry".

"You'll be fine, and we'll have fun I promise".

"I know". I smiled.

"Ready to go I need a nap".

A laugh fell from my lips as I nodded.

I dropped Alanna off at her parents' house. I had texted Carter to come over for coffee and a catch up. I wanted to hear his side of the story about why they're home.

Pulling into the driveway I turned off the engine and gotten out. I frowned when I heard the laughter coming from the back yard. Maybe he was already here? Heading inside I kicked my shoes off and hung up my jacket before walking to the kitchen.

The patio doors were open, so I poked my head around. It wasn't Carter but Jack.

"Hey baby". He smiled.

"Hi". I went to grab a bottle of water and left them to it. Taking a seat on the couch I grabbed the remote and turned on the tv.

"How did the visit go?". He asked.

I shrugged. "I didn't go inside. I think it's better to wait in case I don't get accepted". I wasn't lying but if I told him about Mr. Gallagher, I don't think he'd take it well.

"Why wouldn't you get accepted?". He frowned.

"Because not everybody does".

"They'd be idiots not to give you a place. When do you think you'll hear from them?".

"I don't know Jake". A sigh fell from my lips. "What time is dinner tonight?".

"We don't have to go".

"Why wouldn't we go?".

"Did something happen when you were out?".

"I'm sorry". I was pissed off about college and I was taking it out on him.

"Do you remember my old teacher?". There was no point in keeping it from him and if he didn't take it well then, I'd deal with it.

"What teacher?". His eyes darkened.

He knew exactly who I was talking about.

"My old English teacher is now the dean at the college. I'm not sure I'll get

accepted with him in charge".

"He's the one that helped you get into Yale, isn't he?"

I nodded.

"So why wouldn't he let you into the college?". He frowned.

"I'm not saying he wouldn't let me in its just". I paused. I didn't need for him to lose his head over this which I knew he would. "I think he's holding a grudge because I turned Yale down".

"He said that?". His hands balled into fists by his side. "He fucking said that to you?"

"Not in so many words". I chewed the inside of my cheek. "Look it's not a big deal and I don't know anything yet so please". I got to my feet quickly and chased after him as he stormed into the back yard. "Jake please don't do anything stupid". I called after him as the back gate slammed shut.

Jack was still here.

"Please go with him". I sighed.

No questions asked Jack high tailed it after him.

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I was in two minds on whether to call him or not. I didn't need him getting into trouble over this. He couldn't put hands and think it was okay. He was angry wasn't thinking straight and if he did find Mr. Gallagher, I was afraid of what he might do to him.

I couldn't sit still. Every noise of a car I was at the window looking out. He wouldn't be stupid enough to do anything right?

Running a hand down my face a sigh fell from my lips when I heard the front door open and close. I was on my feet at once.

"I didn't do anything". He entered the living room collapsing into the couch. "I wanted to, but I realised if I did it was only going to make things worse for you".

Wait, what?

Who was this and where had my overprotective hot-headed boyfriend gone?

"I swear to you Leah if he stops you from getting into college, I'll break his

neck. They'll never find his body; they'll never know where to look".

Oh, there he was.

I swallowed the lump in my throat. It always made me feel uneasy when he spoke like this. I guess deep down I really didn't know what he was capable of. Sitting next to him I pulled my legs up and rested them over his.

"If I don't get accepted then I'll do online courses like I planned. No one needs to get hurt over this. I'm probably overreacting, and I'll receive my letter soon".

A grunt was his response, but he handled it better than I thought he would. We lay on the couch for a few hours watching tv and before I knew it, it was time to get ready and head over to his parents for dinner.

"I'm taking you to the cabin tomorrow". He walked into the bedroom from the bathroom. "We need to get out of here for a bit".

"I invited Carter over for coffee and he didn't show".

"Did you hear a word I just said?".

"Yeah, the cabin but why didn't he show?".

"I don't know babe maybe he forgot. You can ask him tonight. Go finish getting ready and I'll meet you downstairs". He kissed the top of my head before leaving the room.

All I had to do was put my shoes on and find my coat and I was good to go. I'd be lying if I said I wasn't excited about a Charlotte dinner.

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My apologies for the wait. Hopefully the next chapter won't take as long. I am on annual leave as of today so will have more time to write.



RV.Elliott

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