

Chapter 196

Sure, as hell Jake took care of it and made them leave. I didn't ask what he said but I was relieved when they left. Now not so much. I couldn't help but feel bad. I was riddled with guilt.

I basically threw my gran out because I wasn't ready to face the truth because that's really what it all came down to. But what else could she tell me that I hadn't already found out?

Was she going to explain her reasoning behind it all?

A sigh fell from my lips as I sat up. There was a knock on the door before Jake stuck his head inside.

"You've been in here for almost an hour babe".

I was currently laying in the bath with music playing in the background and a few candles lit round the side. I knew I had to get out. My skin had already started to wrinkle.

"Did you book somewhere for tonight?". I asked.

"I did". He nodded. "But then I cancelled and thought we'd get takeout instead".

"This is why I love you". I laughed. "But I feel bad about what happened today. I basically threw my gran out".

"They were fine. I told them you suddenly got a headache and weren't feeling well".

"And she was okay about it?". I chewed the inside of my cheek.

"She was fine". He shrugged. "She asked if you'd call her when you were feeling better".

"I feel bad for lying. Do you think she knew I was lying?".

"I think she knew you were uncomfortable with them showing unannounced but it's not a big deal. Call her when you're ready".

"Did she say where they were staying?". George lived out of town at least a few hours' drive. I hope they didn't drive all the way out here to then have to drive all the way back.

"Your old house". He scratched the back of his head.

"No". I gasped reaching for the towel. "What about Lacey and Jack?"

"They're going to stay with Jack's parents for a few days".

"This is so messed up. Why would they show up unannounced and then think it would be okay to live in our old house". I stepped out of the bath and made my way to our bedroom.

"Did she know it was occupied?". He asked.

"That doesn't matter. Why do I have a feeling she wants to move back here?". I rummaged through my drawers finding clean pjs. "She up and left without no explanation. We've barely spoken to each other in months and-...".

"Hey". He whispered. "Stop getting so worked up about it all. Whatever the reason she's here we'll deal with it".

"I hate this". I sighed. "It should never have ended up this way. Everything's a mess". I fell against him resting my head against his shoulder.

"It can only get better baby but whatever happens I've got you". He kissed the top of my head his arms tightening around my waist.

I loved how he could calm me instantly. He always made me see the bigger picture. No matter what happened I would always have him. Nothing was going to change unless I let it and my gran being here wasn't going to make a difference.

"I should get dressed. Do you want to order pizza?"

"Sure babe". He placed a kiss on my lips before leaving me to get dressed.

I was so happy this morning and now, now I felt deflated. Wasn't it my turn to catch a break? I pulled on my pjs followed by my dressing gown before heading downstairs. Jake was sat on the couch with a beer, his head buried in his phone.

"Everything okay?". I asked.

"Just checking in with Rocco for tonight".

"Rocco's still on night patrol?". I asked taking a seat on the other couch.

"He is". He nodded. "He's one of the best trackers we've got and like I told you before I trust him".

"Trackers?". I frowned.

"He's got a good nose". He smiled. "He's a strong wolf Leah and we need the best people out there right now".

"He also needs a break from being on nights". Rocco might be a strong wolf, but he wasn't the only one. Other people were capable of taking their turn.

"Says he prefers it". He shrugged.

"Who prefers working through the night?". I made a face. "And I think he only says that to keep the peace. His family are safe here and he wants to keep it that way".

"Did he say something to you?". He frowned putting his phone away.

Ah, he was giving me his full attention. He says he trusts Rocco but was this conversation going to start an argument?

"We talked when I was on patrol that one time and before you say anything no, he didn't ask me to talk to you". I wanted to get that part in before he jumped to conclusions.

"So, you think we should switch it up?".

"I do". I nodded. "Maybe a rotation and I think there should be more than two people out there at night".

"I see". He laughed.

"What?". I frowned. "What's funny?".

"Nothing baby I'm happy to hear your thoughts on this. I like that you want to share your input and your ideas. After all this is your pack to and I'm glad you're finally taking an interest".

I always wanted to take interest in the pack, but the timing was never right and not to mention I didn't exactly feel I had the authority to do so. But now, now I didn't give a shit about what people thought of me.

This was my pack; my home and I'll be damned if I was going to sit back and keep my mouth shut any longer.

"But I do think Rocco needs a well-deserved break. Maybe even put him on early morning or midafternoon?".

"I moved Alanna to midafternoon". He spoke.

"Because she hates morning and nights". I rolled my eyes. "I swear if she

could she'd opt out of doing it all together".

"Probably". He grinned.

"Did you manage to talk to her?". I knew she wasn't having the best time right now, but I didn't want to get involved in case she thought I was trying to fix everything.

I still can't believe she said that, but I would be here for her when she needed me to be.

"She brushed me off. Told me she wasn't talking to me about stuff that was none of my business. I swear if she wasn't my sister I'd have knocked her out by now".

"Were you genuine about it though? Did you show her you were concerned?".

"I might have told her to straighten her face". He scratched the back of his head.

"Jake". I sighed as there was a knock on the door.

"I'll get it". He grinned.

I was starving. Heading into the kitchen I fixed us both a drink and got two plates from the cupboard.

"What kind did you order?". I turned to head back into the living room the smell of pizza making my stomach growl.

"Large pepperoni and a large cheese. I got a side of wings too". He sat the boxes on the coffee table as I placed down our drinks.

"Should we watch a film?". I asked sitting down beside him.

"How long's it been since we've done this?". He asked.

"Seeing as you're always running about the woods at night, I'd say a while". I teased.

"I do that a lot don't I?". He grabbed a slice of pizza taking a bite.

"Maybe just a little". I scrolled through the movies on Netflix stopping when I landed on the notebook. "Should we watch this?".

"I think we need to have more nights like this. I'm sorry for always coming home late babe".

"It's okay". I shrugged. "I get you have to do it". I took a bite of my pizza

before adding a few wings to my plate.

"I'm serious though babe I'll do better".

"Okay". I smiled.

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Jake fell asleep halfway through the movie. Snoring his head off beside me I moved his legs gently so I could get rid of the plates and turn the tv off. It wasn't late but it was late enough to go to bed.

I took the plates into the kitchen and placed them in the sink. I made sure the back door was locked before I took a bottle of water from the fridge. Turning off the lights I walked towards the front door making sure to lock that also.

I still got a little paranoid when it came to the house being secure at night.

"Jake". I shoved his arm but got nothing back.

He was wiped and I'm surprised he lasted this long. My gran stopping by stopped him from getting much of a sleep and he had been out all night.

"Jake". I whispered shoving on his arm again.

This time I got a groan before his hand came up rubbing at his eyes.

"What time is it?". He yawned.

"Almost 11 I'm going up to bed are you coming?".

"Yeah, babe head up I'll be there in a minute". Another yawn fell from his lips before he placed his arm over his eyes.

Yeah, I had a feeling he wasn't moving from that couch tonight. Once again, I checked both doors before heading upstairs to our bedroom. I headed into the bathroom to wash my face and brush my teeth and by the time I was done Jake had made it upstairs.

"I'm beat". He yawned. "Sorry I fell asleep babe". He bypassed me and went into our bathroom.

I climbed into bed fixing my pillows before laying down. I checked my phone; a message from my gran was sitting there. She had sent it early today but instead of reading it I placed my phone on the nightstand and turned away from it.

I would read it tomorrow.

Jake climbed into bed pulling me against him, so I was laying across his chest. As he kissed the top of my head, I closed my eyes feeling myself drift off to sleep. This is what I loved. When we were home together and going to bed together.

There weren't many nights where that happened but tonight was one of them.

"Leah". He mumbled.

"Hm?". I whispered.

"I love you so much babe".

I couldn't hide my grin. With my eyes still closed I lifted my head my lips finding his.

"I love you too".

