## Dating 125

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Chapter 125

[Liam's POV]

I couldn't believe my luck when I received Ella's message to come and meet her. Was I a bit deterred by the fact that she preferred to meet in a public setting rather than the familiar, comforting surroundings of her own home?

A little... Okay, a lot.

It felt as though she was purposely putting an even greater distance between us. I knew I shouldn't have tried to reach out to her so directly last night. Banging on her bedroom window like some kind of a psycho at four in the damn morning.

I knew it was overly impulsive and did nothing to help my case. Call it a fit of desperation because that's what I was. Desperate.

I'd lost track of the amount of times I tried to either call or message her. Knowing that she was purposely blocking me out was enough to drive me utterly manic. I had to forcibly shut myself away in my room to avoid any possible confrontation with anyone else in the house.

My wolf was seething and beyond distressed.

As soon as I got her text, I got myself together and practically stormed through the house to get ready.

"Where the hell are you rushing off to?" Noah yelled from the living room.

make it stronger than before.

Arthur's little schemes."

The cafe in town. I need to meet with Ella."

I left before I could hear his response, nor did I care. I knew I'd been a real psycho since I left the hotel. I was eager to speak to her to clear any assumptions that she may have pieced together.

had ever felt when she commented about me being better off with an 'actual she-wolf as if I would ever want anyone who wasn't her. Every time I had called or referred to Ella as my mate, I meant it with night of Noah's party.

I was glad that she gave me a chance to explain the situation as it happened. It pained me nothing I

entire being. I knew she was mine from the moment we touched the

exactly refused the idea of starting our relationship over, but she didn't seem too keen about it either. That's because she feels her trust in me has been broken...I have to find a way to mend it and

Unfortunately, I could tell from the look in her eyes that she was hesitant about this fact. Ella hadn't

In all honesty, I wasn't happy with the fact that Arthur was interested in Ella. In fact, the mere concept made me damn near feral. As much as it bothered me, I needed Ella to know that I cared for her and wanted her to know that I trusted her.

"Ella, if you want to meet with Arthur and try to get some real answers out of him then...I think you should."

Her features softened with a look of disbelief. "Really?" I gave a curt nod. "As much as it irritates me, I have my own list of questions when it comes to

Ella shook her head, utterly dumbfounded. "I couldn't understand how he always seemed to know where I was back at the hotel."

"Perhaps we have a special connection," A low voice calls from a few away.

I watched Ella's eyes widen as Arthur came into view with a sly grin on his face.

"Hello, Ella. So lovely to see you again."

She kept her voice even. "Arthur."

"Care to tell us how you knew Ella was here, or are you just going to add it to your growing list of

sketchy undertakings?" I questioned briskly, "Cila, please. I was merely passing by and saw her through the window outside. I wanted to see if

she was alright after that little incident at the hockey Fink" 106 you mean the incident that you orchestrated with your little friend!" I bit out sharply. "When you

get a chance, you can break the news to Oliva that 1 am more than uninterested in her Arthur clicked has tongue. "Putry, I always thought that two of you truly suited one another," he said

The corners of my mouth curved upward into a knowing unirk "Really? Well, it's going to be that idiotic obsessive behavior that's going to make my team win these upcoming matches?

Arthur let out a grizzly laugh that caused Ella to tense www.n(o)vel@orm.c0m

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dryly. "You both possess the same idiotic, aburssive betunior"

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A disdainful snarl tore from my chest before I had a chance to stop it. wwW.ñovelwo(r)m.©om

"Is that right? Perhaps, we ought to add the word 'delusional' to your list as well. Your team is

"That's enough, Arthur," Ella spoke out. +5

The air between us stilled. Arthur and I slowly turned our heads to glance at Ella whose mouth was twitching into a small sneer at the display two of us were putting on.

nothing but a pack of wanna-be hockey players."

Much, I think, to our surprise, Arthur actually stepped back. He took a deep breath in order to compose himself.

Because of the ongoing bond that was growing between Ella and me, I had no choice but to adhere to her demands. Which, in a way, I was somewhat grateful for. Her words always felt like a calming

breeze that eased my nerves and anxieties.

Was this asshole actually listening to her? Why?

For some reason, Arthur appeared as though he felt the same way. Arthur must have noticed my subtle evaluation of his strange behavior because he swiftly shifted back to his usual bastard self. A devious smile pulled at Arthur's lips.

Ella rolled her eyes. "It doesn't matter what I think. Both Liam's team and your team practiced for the

same amount of time. You're both highly skilled players, we're just going to have to see."

"Who do you think is going to win these upcoming matches, Ella?" he asked arrogantly.

I wasn't going to lie, her remark felt like a slight jab to the chest. Part of me really wanted to hear that she solely believed in my team to win this upcoming season.

Just another reminder to let me know that I am on thin ice with her. "Yes, we will," Arthur said darkly. Ella and I watched him as he turned to leave. "See you at the

I let my eyes settle on Ella as she watches Arthur leave the cafe. Her gaze lowered to the table in heavy contemplation. She leaned her head into her hand.

"Please tell me that you'll at least be at the matches," I inquired.

Again, I could sense the hesitation in her voice, or lack thereof.

"Liam...I'm not so sure-"

"Fine," she said quietly. Her features were crossed with uncertainty which did nothing to help the worry in my stomach. "I'll be there for support."

match, brother."

I was well aware that it was going to take time for Ella to open up around me once more. No matter. I was willing to be patient as long as she was willing to give me a chance.

"I need you there. You more than anyone else," I clarified.

In the meantime, I silently prayed that her mere presence was going to be enough to get me through these matches. Arthur had to have known what this whole situation with Olivia and Ella was doing to me. It was as though he'd gone for my Achillies Heel in order to mess with

boxing ring. Because of him, Ella has nothing but broken trust in me. I will not let Arthur win. 22

A big part of me wished that this match against Arthur wasn't going to be on the ice but rather in the

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