

Chapter 98

Autumn

We spent a little more time with my parents just talking out what happened. Talking with them helped me to understand that it really wasn't my fault. I guess the biggest part was I thought everyone would look at me differently or judge me. I was worried they said I killed her because she was trying to get Reins or that she kidnapped me. But even with everything she did, I wouldn't wish her death maybe prison time or some type of punishment. They all assured me that was not the case and that people wouldn't judge my actions.

We finally went our separate ways. I was in need of a good hot shower. I still had her blood on me and I smelled horrible with all the running and then laying on the ground waiting for the others to get there and just being in wolf form.

Getting up to our room, I quickly made my way to the bathroom, stripping down and climbing in the hot water felt good. Scrubbing all the dirt and dried blood off and when I felt clean enough, I got out, looking at myself in the mirror over the sink. I could see a small bruise on my shoulder, then some on my forearms. Turning just a bit, I saw some more on my back. Ugh, I looked rough turning back around. I glanced down, seeing more small bruises down my legs. Grabbing the clean clothes that I assumed Reins had brought in, I slipped them on. Going out, I saw him sitting on the bed. He was looking through his phone. Hearing me, he looked up, giving me a smile. Walking over, I sat next to him. He turned just a bit to look at me,

" Feel better?"

"Yes, Much "

" Aunt Anna is bringing food. She claims that you will be starving after everything, but I just think it's a way for her to see you."

Chuckling at that, knowing her she didn't care what he told her, she was coming up anyway, which I didn't mind. I could use her loving hugs. She is one person who would never look down on anyone. She sees the good in everyone,

A soft knock on the door made us look at it before Reins could get up to open it. The door swung open and Anut Anna came bouncing through it with a full tray of food.

"Oh my dear," She says as she hands Reins the tray, " Oh come here dear," She pulls me up and wraps her arms around me,

Her hugs feel like my mom's hugs. They are always warm and comfortable.

" Why don't you ever hug me like that when I arrive home from battles or fights?"

Reins pouts as he stands there, arms folded over his chest.

" You hush now young man. You have more experience fighting and you did not just have some crazy person after you,"

He acted as if his heart was broken, placing a hand over his chest and whining,

" Oh my word, Reins Blackwood stop being so dramatic." She scolded him but laughed at the same time. I couldn't hold it either and giggled at her scolding him,

"Now, my dear, you have to sit here and eat. You have a hard night and after shifting and fighting you need good warm food in your belly,"

Looking at what she brought, there was no way I could eat all this.

" Aunt Anna, this is too much. I can't eat all of it!"

" Fine, you can share with him. I'm sure he will be hungry as well," She gave Reins a smirk,

" Hey, he groaned to her."

Laughing, he went over, patting his shoulder, " I'm just teasing you dear there enough for both of you. I already knew you would be hungry as well, so I brought enough for two."

He gave her a big smile, hugging her. He then came to sit with me as she walked to the door. Giving a small wave, she went out the door, closing it,

We sat there eating quietly, neither of us talking. I think we were just happy to be with each other. We didn't need to talk all the time. Just being close to him gave me peace of mind,

Placing my fork down, he looked at me. "You have enough?"

nodding my head," Yes, Aunt Anna really made a lot of food. I'm super full now."

"You want to lie down for a bit. I'm sure once everyone gets back they will all bust in here to see ya,"

" Yeah that sounds good, but can we keep them out a little longer? I don't know if I'm ready to face any of them yet."

"Some I can, but I don't think your brother will wait."

"True, I've felt him a couple of times trying to link me but I blocked him. I know he would be mad. I just needed some time to understand what happened."

Before Reins could answer, the door swung open and a very angry Zach stood there. Reins jumped up, pulling and pushing me behind him at the sudden intrusion. Letting out a hard deep growl.

"Zach!" Calling his name, so Reins understood who it was and he was not going to rip his head off.

I felt Rein's body relax, letting me step out from behind him.

I walked to my brother who hadn't moved from the door. He just kept his eyes on me. Giving me that look like he was about to give me a good hard lecture.

"Zach, " I said, his name a little softer, stopping to stand in front of him, he just looked down, not saying anything yet,

"I know you must be angry with me and I'm sorry. I didn't mean to not answer you," I spoke slowly and softly.

Looking down at me, he took a deep breath,

"I was worried. I went looking after you when you went off after her, then I was then told to drag a dead body back. I didn't know who the body was till I stumbled across it. When I saw the body, I instantly became worried you were hurt and all I was told was that you were going back with the Alphah alone. I thought you were hurt and he was rushing you back, but then I tried to reach you and you blocked me. Autumn, do you have any idea what was going through my head?"

I didn't let him finish. I jumped, wrapping my arms around his neck and hugging him. He did the same, holding tight as my feet dangled.

"I'm sorry Zach, Reins brought me back alone because I was such a mess. I was so upset at myself for taking her life. You know I'm not that kind of person, but after speaking with Mom and Dad I do not feel so bad about it. I didn't mean to shut you out. Please forgive me."

Hearing a small sigh leave him, I knew he couldn't stay mad at me long. He never could. I just smiled at myself. Setting me down on my feet, he put his hands on my shoulders, holding me at arm's length.

"I'm proud of you, sis. You defended yourself and didn't let the person harm you again. I know you do not wish harm to others, but I'm glad you did what you did and you should never feel bad about surviving."

Tears had built up and began to roll down my cheeks at his words. I could hear it in his voice as he spoke to me. He was truthfully proud of me and this made my heart warm hearing those words from my brother. The one person who has been by me my whole life and protected me in school helped me in any way he could. Our bond was strong. I hope it will always stay that way. I didn't think I could live without my brother,

" Love You," I told him.

He smiled, leaning down and kissing my forehead, " Love you too, sis."

" I have to get back to Ariel. But I wanted to come see you first, to make sure you were alright."

Pinching my cheek, he walked away.

Turning, I went back to Reins, who stood there quietly letting me and Zach have our time.

Laying down on the bed, I suddenly felt exhausted. It didn't take long and I had fallen asleep. Not sure how long I was asleep when I felt someone touching my face. Then my name.

"Love wake up,"

Groaning a bit, I halfway opened my eyes,

" I got a mind link saying that the others are back and they locked up the member."

"Okay," I said, not really caring. All I wanted to do now was to go back to sleep.

"I'm going to go down and make sure there are guards outside his door. You want to stay and sleep more or do you want to come with me?"

"Sleep," I mumbled. I normally don't feel this tired. But right now I was not going to drag my sleepy butt out of this bed for that person.

Hearing a soft chuckle, then a kiss on my cheek, " Alright you stay and rest. I'll be back soon."