### The Defiant Luna Chapter 26

Jay-la POV

Jay-la saw her grandmother and mother on the first floor landing along with a big bulky man, knew it wasn't Alpha Austin but had to be his man. She didn't know him, smiled at them. It had been a very long time since she had seen her grandmother. Got a big hug from her and then saw all the children look at her.

Watched all three of them stand and look at her, then tilt their heads in the exact same manner at the same time, they could feel that family bond kicking in and she knew it. "I'm Clara your nanna, your Grandmother's mother." She told them.

"You're not old enough for that." Lilly stared up at her.

"Yes I am. We wolves don't age like humans do, though some of us do, not all of us."

"How old are you?" Lilly asked right back.

Clara chuckled softly "Oh, you're very bold to ask a woman her age. But I'm nearly eighty now."

"No way." All three of them exclaimed together, she hardly looked a day older than Vera herself.

"Yes way." She mimicked them right back, and saw the children laugh at her.

They all headed up the stairs, she wasn't exactly sure of what Nathan expected of her today. Nathan had only told her Alpha Austin was coming, not how he wanted her to behave. But Jackson had told her that Alpha Austin would be watching their interactions as well as talking to them.

She sat down next to Nathan, knew it was where she was supposed to sit, knew that if Kora was awake, it was where she would be made to sit, because Kora would want to be next to him.

After yesterday afternoon and this morning in the shower and she knew that was all Nathan, Havoc had been sleeping. He'd assured her of that. She had also really looked at him and Havoc had not been there, that she could sense, it hadn't been that she didn't exactly believe him. It was more that she didn't think she could handle his beasts' needs again. That he'd been fully turned on as well and asking permission to have her.

He'd only chuckled at her, not taken offense to her asking or peering at him, seemed to know what she was doing or maybe even thinking "It's just you and me Jay-la." His hands

had been gentle and he'd kissed her long and slow and she'd melted right into him, knowing he wanted her, that it wasn't his wolf pushing his needs at him.

Had slid her arms up around his neck and pulled herself up to take him for herself, no wolves, just her and her need to have him, and his to have her. She'd actually felt that he, Nathan himself, did want her. Had heard him groan as she wrapped her legs around him, as he'd placed his hands against the wall and let her ride him how she wanted to. Her needs had built quickly for him, just like they had always done all those years ago, she had gasped his name and moaned 'please' and he'd known what she'd meant, pressed her up against the wall and taken control, picked up the pace and given her exactly what she'd wanted all-hard and fast till she had been crying out for him in o\*\*\*\*m.

It had been just like the old days, her and him alone, neither of their wolves involved. It was still so damn good. Better even, with their Mate Bond in tact heightening everything. The way he had kissed her afterwards, so hungry and demanding, she'd known he'd wanted more to have her again and it hadn't taken long for his hands to start touching her once more.

She'd had to say no, she was actually tired, had to swat him away, but had smiled as she'd done so. Gotten a playful little growl out of him, but he'd not pulled her back into their bed. Though she got the distinct feeling that if the children hadn't been out there waiting to go to breakfast or were still sleeping, he would have.

She would also still be asleep right this minute if that had been the case. He had always been able to exhaust her, seems nothing had changed in that matter. She had to shake those thoughts off before it woke Kora up.

It had been a long time since she had seen Alpha Austin, not since she was a little girl, he hadn't changed much from her memory. Tall and imposing, to say the least, he had those dark stormy grey eyes and a very genuine smile, that always reached his eyes. Though she was not going to discuss anything in front of the children. They did not need to remember that.

He understood and simply let it go, but she could only smirk at Nathan's concerns about the children sitting drinking hot chocolate, which made her realise that he had learned and very quickly so. Nearly laughed along with his entire Unit when they heard her speak of the children throwing up on him, likely he was never going to live that one down.

Then Havoc was awake and purring so damned loudly at her, that it raised Kora's head and she yawned. Jay-la felt happiness roll off of her wolf as she looked at Nathan and could hear her Mate purring for them. Then she just lay back down and closed her eyes once more. It was just her today, Kora was going to sleep, it seemed. She found it fun to watch Nathan try and quieten his beast. He had told her Havoc liked just looking at her and he was right this minute. Those brilliant green eyes were glowing at her, she could see them flickering as Nathan tried to take back control, didn't look like he was winning.

Felt him touch her mind and then chortle as he sensed Kora was sleeping, seemed happy to have sated her completely, saw his hand reach out and touch her, slid through her hair, blinked when Havoc leaned over and kissed her, it was soft and gentle 'TIl sate you to, he'll not get a say.

'Havoc.' She gasped 'I don't think

I am yours to Jay-la. I will not hurt you.' Then he was gone from her mind and she saw Nathan shake his head.

"Sorry." He murmured. She knew he was apologising for Havoc's words, not his actions.

"It's alright." She wasn't going to bring that up in front of

everyone.

"Not to interrupt." It was Alpha Austin. "But I see your wolf is awake

Nathan."

"Mm, and his first thoughts are a little naughty." He nodded.

"I got that." Austin smirked "It is good to see you two are getting along, I had some real concerns, though I will stay for a few days to make sure."

"Stay as long as your like." Nathan told him.

"I will do just that. I am still going to want to talk to Jay-la alone."

"Why alone?" she questioned.

"Mates can feel very differently, when not in the vicinity of each other.

This close to Nathan you're drawn to him, on the other side of the pack away from him, you'll act differently and say things that will show me your true feelings. So you and I Jayla, we will walk at some point. A nice stroll around the pack, you me and my Gamma and he will pick up on your true feelings, even if you try to hide them."

She was frowning at him now, heard a slight growl come from Nathan and knew it was Havoc, put a hand on him without looking at him, slid it down his arm to find his hand. Skin on skin would be better to calm his beast.

"I'm not certain why you would care to do that? But I will not be leaving.

I will not separate Kora from her Mate, not ever. She loves him and I know Havoc loves her. I also don't think it is wise to tick him off with thoughts like that." She'd heard about his temper and from more than one.

"I can handle his beast Jay-la. I'm not here for him, only for you and your welfare after.."

"No." she cut him off "That is not going to be discussed right this minute. I already told you why, respect it."

Saw him staring right at her, didn't like her tone, she gathered, he'd also seen the way she'd reached out to touch Havoc, how he'd settled which he had. He was no longer growling and had receded. Likely placated by not just her touch but by her words, that she was never going to take Kora away from him and she wouldn't.

It might take time for her and Nathan and her fears to be way laid, but this morning had been all him, and she did feel that he wanted her and she'd not really felt that until now. Havoc had always been there with him when they'd been together. Pushing his needs at Nathan, but not this morning. This morning had been different and she felt different, right this minute herself, about the man sitting next to her. She was not so confused when she thought about him.

"What you and your wolf feel, could be two very different things." Alpha Austin stated as he stared at her, his eyes were narrowed on her, he was trying to feel her out or read her. He was very lucky she thought, that Kora was asleep, she knew Kora would take serious issue with his words. Mostly because they were true, though what he thought he was going to do about it she didn't know.

He couldn't make her reject Nathan and there was no way in hell, Kora was going to let her voice those words out loud, not after finally coming home to their pack and being Mated to the father of her pups.

She stood up before Kora woke up and got angry, she didn't want her wolf displaying her will to fight. "Thank you for your concern. I do appreciate it. I truly do, but I will not be letting you dictate what I do." Turned to look at Nathan, she could see why he was so concerned with Alpha Austin being here now.

"I need to go see and speak with Rae-Rae, will you watch the children?"

"Of course, I will." He smiled up at her.

She smiled right back at him, then just leaned down and kissed him softly on the mouth "We'll pick up that thought from this morning a little later." She murmured "Yours not Havoc's." she added and saw him smile, then pointed right at him "You in there, behave yourself." She told Havoc, heard him chuff at her and she walked around him only to get a firm whack to her backside and gasped, looked right at him and found Havoc looking right

at her, smiled at him and then just shook her head, turned her eyes to the children "You lot behave for daddy?

And then she walked off. "Stephen please come with me." She stated looking over at him "I need you for a conversation with Rae-Rae" Saw him get up "How is Suzy doing?" she asked as he joined her.

"They are all shaken up but settled in your apartment now." He sighed"

I'd really like to go over there Jay-la."

"I understand." And she did. "I'll discuss it with Nathan later tonight."

They stepped into the elevator and the doors closed. She looked right at him, "Stephen, can his Gamma read me?"

"It is likely, though internally, you are a complete mess."

"I know, there's something else as well," she sighed "I think Kora and I are sick."

"You're not sick Jay-la...but you are correct, there is something different about you and her. Darla got a full dose of it at the restaurant, Ethan has been holed up for days researching it."

"Researching what? And is his Gamma going to pick it?"

"Only if it gets activated Jay-la, Nathan is going to talk to you about it, though..."

"Though?"

"You already know, Jodi and Vera were not surprised. You were not wrong in your assessment of yourselves. If that is activated and your fear is let loose, I doubt the man will cope, not many will, from my understanding." heard him sigh "We only found out yesterday, the true nature of it. But we have known something was off since the incident at the restaurant."

"Hmm," she thought about that, it had not been a good night for her or Kora for that matter. "I want to know what it is, how to fix it. if it can be fixed. How does he feel about it?"

"He'll tell you all of that. I'm not willing to lose you to it, no one here is."

She nodded, didn't sound good, not willing to lose her to it.

"Is it at all

obvious to you?"

"No, I didn't get any of that from you, I don't. Though perhaps the day you ran from here, it was activated without Kora, I think we were all very lucky."

"Tell Nathan, I want to know all of it."

"I don't have to, he's already told those that need to know, and that he would be disclosing it to you this evening. Once the blood results became official to him this morning."

"Ah the sudden need for a blood drive. I thought that was weird."

"You weren't the only one, I was with you when they were figuring it all out, so I didn't know till later on, when you and Nathan were off having lunch."

Jay-la nodded "I'd pick your brain but..."

"You want to hear it from him." Stephen nodded "Do you want me there or close by?" he asked her.

She thought about that for a full minute as they got to Rae-Rae's room.

"No, I don't think I need that. Nathan's touch can comfort me and Kora, if its bad, he should be enough to keep me calm."

"Something is different between the two of you today."

"You're not wrong about that." She nodded, felt his hand on her arm to still her, looked right at her and she shook her head "Bloody Gamma." She murmured "if that drawl rolls out of you, I'll punch you, I swear it."

Heard him chuckle "You need me for?"

"To make sure that Rae-Rae is okay." She sighed "She was innocent, I hear, deflowered by an Alpha Wolf."

"So were you, I believe." He nudged her with a grin.

"I wasn't human." She muttered "Had a better chance of handling it,

Alpha's...are well.."

Saw him laugh now "That they are...but she is his Mate, and should be able to handle him."

"I want to make sure she hasn't come to me. Lauren will come and get her if Rae-Rae displays any unhappiness at all. Her family do not exactly approve of this quick marriage."

"Fair enough."

Jay-la could feel that Michael was in that room with Rae-Rae, used that Luna tether, she now had to everyone inside the pack to see if he was in there. Knocked on the door and waited, it took a full minute before the door opened and Michael appeared before her, not Rae-Rae.

She saw something like guilt pass across his face as his eyes landed right on her, and a little bit of fear as he registered Stephen standing to the left of her. Her eyes narrowed on him, before they passed into the room behind him, no Rae-Rae. "Out." She snapped at him, her gut was telling her that something was wrong.

"Excuse me." He shot right back at her.

"Michael, I want a private word with my little sister." She told him, used the word sister just to remind him that Rae-Rae was considered her family.

"You can't tell me to leave Jay-la."

"Hmm," she turned and looked right at Stephen "That's a bit disrespectful, seeing as I am the Luna, correct Stephen."

"It is my Luna." He nodded "I'll inform the Alpha and punishment will be dealt, severely so, I believe Havoc is awake right now."

"Harshly so this time please." She stated and turned back to Michael, felt Kora lift her head and push forward to peer at him and saw the man stiffen "Out." She reiterated to him, even more harshly than before.

Saw him glare at her and felt Kora bristle heard Stephen growl and felt his Gamma Aura roll out of him "You will move aside for the Luna, or I will have Havoc down here in less than a minute. Do you really want to be dealing with your brother's beast?"

Saw him step out of the room and she walked in, followed by Stephen, who shut the door, she turned and looked right at him, then giggled and he chuckled "I see you still like to play games."

"That was fun." Stephen laughed "I also believe Nathan and Jackson got him real good this morning too. Poor bastard doesn't know which way to jump."

She snorted with amusement, "Is that why he told me about them?" She felt Kora take a breath in, an frowned 'I smell blood.

"Stephen?" she questioned him.

"I smell it, not fresh though."

"Rae-Rae?" Jay-la called out for her, and got no answer, frowned that can't be good, walked through the suite to the bedroom and found her sitting in the middle of the bed, looked a bit nervous and confused. She was sitting with full pyjama's on and the bed sheets pulled tightly around her.

'Something is wrong.' Stephen sighed down the mind-link to her, She's scared and confused...has pain.

Jay-la sat on the bed and looked at her. "Rae-Rae, what's the matter?"

She saw her finally look up at her and tears spilled down her face, "I, he

...I don't understand why he would do that."

"Do what Rae-Rae?" She asked

"He said he was sorry but..."

'Oh he's a dead man Stephen' She shot down the mind-link.

'I got him, heading at speed up stairs.

"But?"

"He he bit me, and it really hurt, still hurt.. don't..why would he?" She was clearly very confused, and still in pain, that was not normal.

Heard Stephen take a breath in and knew why.

"Show me." Jay-la asked softly, trying to keep all the anger from her voice and expression. It was less than a week till the full moon. Saw Rae-Rae move her pyjama collar and nearly snarled at the bite mark on her mark spot. It looked fresh only a few hours old, and she could still see the blood congealed on the surface of the skin. There, however, was no silver filagree on her neck.

"Jay-la may I?"

She nodded a bite with no filigree, not a full bite, not Marked though it was likely it had been very bloody close to it. Saw Stephen lean over and look right at it, saw him probe the area, and watched as Rae-Rae flinched. It was painful for her. "I will have to inform the boss in an official capacity Jay-la." She already knew why, the mark was half realised and that was why it was causing Rae-Rae pain. It was not complete.

"Oh, I will do that myself." She grated out, looked right at Rae-Rae "I'm sorry he did this to you. Michael is going to get into trouble Rae-Rae and a lot of it, this is not on."

Saw her nod slowly "Who just bites someone so hard?"

"Jay-la, she needs to go to the pack hospital, for blood tests."

"Agreed." She nodded up at him and stood up. They both knew that a half-realised bite over the full moon could well kill Rae-Rae. He was going to have to Mark and Mate her fully before then, if Rae-Rae would now allow it. She was not happy at all. "Rae-Rae," she looked at her." Stephen here is going to take you to the hospital for some blood test alright." Saw her nod

Looked at Stephen and muttered "I will deal with Michael, where is he?"

Saw him smirk "Ran to his mother it seemed, Luna."

### The Defiant Luna Chapter 27

Nathan could feel it, there was anger welling off of Jay-la, Kora was letting Havoc sense it. He knew she was with Stephen, the man wasn't trying to stop her from feeling it or even keep her in check, it seemed.

Stood up as Havoc snarled inside his mind and connected right to her

'Jay-la what's wrong?'

Michael half marked Rae-Rae.' She snarled right back and the link was cut. Both her and Kora were angry, it seemed.

"Excuse me, I have to go and kill my brother." He told the table "Jackson, Ethan, hunt Michael now, he half Marked Rae-Rae."

He heard both their wolves snarl and then they were gone.

"What is going on in this pack, Alpha Nathan?"

"My brother has a human mate here, only been here a few days. He told me this morning, told mother and father at that, he has not marked her, but it seems he has now tried to."

"That could kill her. The full moon is only six days away."

"Oh, I'm aware of it. My Luna is hunting him right this minute, I imagine. Its her human sister."

He pulled on that tether that was his brother, as he knew so would everyone hunting him right this minute. There was no escape for that man or his wolf. There was only one thing worse than Marking a human this close to the full moon, and that was half marking them. No wolf was given, yet the human body would want to shift on the full moon and couldn't. She was likely going to die and in agony, at that.

With no understanding of what was happening to her.

That boys tether was upstairs. No real surprise there, he'd run to his mummy for help, knowing that not only would Jay-la be coming for him, so would he and Havoc. But right this minute there was likely one place worse inside the pack for him, than in his brother's office. That i\*\*\*t had run right for his mother, for protection, but little did he know he was likely not to survive his own mother's rage over it.

His eyes moved to the stairs as he saw Jay-la on the move.

"Vera?"

"I have the children. Don't let her explode please."

"Agreed." Nathan nodded and was gone, up the stairs after her. She was damned fast and Kora was giving her everything, watched her bang right into his parents' suite a full hree seconds before he did.

- He found his mother had Michael down on the ground beating him, saw his father's eyes move towards him as he walked across the room to where Jay-la stood, Jackson had a hand on her, keeping her still and out of it. Though it didn't look like she needed to be involved, his mother was furious. Seemed Michael had told her what he'd done.

"Enough, motker, if you kill him. Rae-Rae will likely die." He reminded

"T'll beat him to within an inch of his life." She snarled "Then I'll stop."

"No, now you stop. Rae-Rae is our biggest concern, he must complete the process, then you can beat him all you like and I won't intervene." Turned to look at Jay-la "Where is Rae-Rae." He knew Stephen had been with her and now he was not here. Likely was still with Rae-Rae at Jay-la's order.

"Taking Rae-Rae to the pack hospital, for blood tests to see how bad it is

"A good idea." He nodded.

"If she dies." Jay-la looked right at him and he knew what she meant, even without her finishing her sentence.

He just nodded, this was a crime and the outcome would not be good for his brother. 'We'll let them have what they want.' Havoc snarled at him.

'Unfortunately, I agree as well.' Nathan sighed, but he would try and resolve it first. He had wanted to kill his brother less than a week ago himself. Now his mother wanted to kill him, and so did the Luna herself.

Looked back at his mother, who was ripping into her own son with claws out,

"Mother, don't bloody kill him." he muttered, looked at his father "do something about that." He grated out though it was likely his father was in agreement with the punishment, it's why he'd not stepped in yet.

"Jay-la." He touched her arm gently "you and I need to go and talk to Rae-Rae, now."

Saw her nod, there was no delaying it now, looked at his father, who had still yet to step in and stop his mate. "You've got mother, right?"

Saw him nod his head "She won't kill him, and you've survived all your beatings by her right."

Nathan nodded, though he'd never taken one like Michael was doing right this minute. Slipped his hand into Jay-las,

"Kora's awake now, I see."

- "Very much so." She nodded "and very unhappy." She told him as they walked away and headed for the pack hospital.

"I'm sorry Jay-la, he told me he had not marked her, and in front of Jackson as well as both my parents." He sighed.

"He lied to you all. How the hell did he think that no-one would notice it?" heard the anger in her words "or that she wouldn't tell me?"

"I don't know, perhaps he was thinking he could sway Rae-Rae into a full Mark and Mate. I don't know." and he didn't. He wasn't happy about

• it. That was a full certainty, "Vera and Clara have the children so we can deal with this."

She just nodded,

time."

"The full moon is only six days away, it's not enough

"We'll fix it, you and I, we'll talk to Rae-Rae."

"What if she's too scared of him now? Stephen got pain and fear off of her, and she didn't understand why he would bite her like that. She's not even seen a wolf yet."

"She would have heard Havoc last night though, the whole pack did.

She also knows there are wolves here. It was mentioned at her home when I met with her parents. So perhaps it will be okay. You'll convince her."

"But what if I can't?"

Nathan could hear a tinge of fear in that statement, stopped walking.

He did not want her being afraid. Looked down at her, tilted her face up to look at him "I know you can, Rae-Rae loves you, trusts you, you just need to stay calm yourself and not be upset or angry in front of her.

Can you do that?

"I don't know." She murmured.

"Stephen will be right there, for you both." He sighed. He hadn't even told her what was wrong with her yet. Needed to do that today.

They found Rae-Rae sitting on a bed and Stephen standing next to her, saw his eyes move right to Jay-la. He knew she wasn't happy, he was all Gamma right this minute. Though it did surprise him that Alpha Austin was in this room, looking at Rae-Rae's neck himself. He could see that her blood had already been taken.

"Waiting" Stephen stated "A rush has been put on it." he answered

Nathan's unspoken question.

"It's too late." Alpha Austin muttered "Your brother needs to complete the process now." His pure-blooded Alpha senses were even Keener than Nathans had been able to pick up on the venom in her. Not enough for the process to be completed though.

- Nathan sighed heavily, looked at Rae-Rae. She still didn't like kim at the best of times. Now it was possible she didn't even like Michael, she certainly didn't look happy. She was looking around the room at all the people. She had heard the words Alpha Austin had stated. Looked a bit more than confused.

"Stephen, you will stay in this room." Saw the man nod.

Turned and looked at Jay-la. There was only one real course of action to be done here. "Jay-la, who do you trust the most with the triplets?"

"What? Why?" she asked, looking up at him confused.

"I think and I am certain that Alpha Austin will agree with me on this."

Didn't concern himself with his word usage, it was all about to be revealed to Rae-Rae "That we need a full crash course, it'll be the quickest and easiest way, to let Rae-Rae see the triplets with one like

นร."

"Oh."

"It could go bad." Alpha Austin nodded. "But yes, I agree, it is the quickest way."

"Kora would like to do it herself." she nodded.

That didn't really surprise him. "Alright? What about Brawny as well?" The children had loved playing with their uncle and he knew Jay-a trusted him completely

She nodded up at him and smiled "Kora is happy with that."

He smiled at her.

"I thought she might want to play with her

brother."

"Though a third might be good." She seemed to understand what he was getting at, the children with their wolves, to show Rae-Rae they were not to be scared of. Found Kora looking right at him and Havoc surged forward 'calm yourself, he told his wolf. "Agreed Kora." He touched his forehead to hers, knew she wanted it to be his wolf, her mate out there with their children. That made both he and Havoc happy.

Looked at Stephen, "The window, make sure Rae-Rae sees everything."

"I'll stay with the girl, as well" Alpha Austin added

"Thank you." Then he looked at Rae-Rae. She was very quiet watching all of them, had no idea what was about to happen, seemed curious though "Rae-Rae, I'm going to introduce you to those that live here, I need you to remain calm. Stephen will stay with you. It's part of his job here in the pack to keep people calm."

- "Who do you mean?"

"I mean the Alpha Wolf, his Luna Wolf and a warrior wolf. You do know that there are wolves here."

She nodded "Jay-la's mum got injured by one."

"Mm, and I am unhappy about that, de-ranked that wolf myself right down to warrior status. Bloody lucky she's not an omega."

"Huh." She frowned up at him.

Nathan waved it off, "you'll understand soon. A little later on, let's just introduce you to those that truly live here."

His eyes moved back to Jay-la "Sweetheart, are you ready?" She nodded and he mind-linked to Bradley and informed him of what had happened, heard the man state a string of curse words and then mutter he was on his way. Then mind-link to Vera to have her bring the children and to tell them they were going to see Kora and Havoc for the first time in wolf form, got an okay.

Nathan was standing with Jay-la, he'd cleared the area of everyone that didn't need to be here, saw Brawny walking this way, a silver timber wolf much like Jay-la though more silver than white. Was surprised to see Jodi coming at a run. "Wait." The man hollered.

"Jay-la, baby girl" He said when he got there "Perhaps you and the triplets should be seen with the wolves, not just the children."

"Kora wants to be with them." She frowned up at him.

"I know baby girl. But we can do that too. But perhaps it is better to let Rae-Rae see Havoc interact with you yourself. She is your human sister. See you in human form first, then shift into Kora to let her see the real goings on and Kora will still get to be with the triplets."

"That is not a bad idea." Nathan nodded

Watched as she really thought about it, it took a long quiet minute, she looked over to the children up by the pack-house. They were all standing looking at Brawny who was just sitting a few metres away from them, waiting on them.

"Were a wolf short then."

"No your not baby girl." Jodi grinned at her and stripped his shirt off.

Nathan watched her turn away and mutter "I'm not mum, I don't need to see that."

Nathan chuckled softly at her comment and murmured "You ready, to show Rae-Rae what you are."

Saw her nod and watched her looked him over as he stripped his – clothes off, smiled right at her when those eyes of hers lingered a little, growled a little at her and then just let Havoc rip right out of hing.

Heard the triplets gasp at watching both he and their grandfather shift before their eyes mind-link to her 'you're turn to strip for me. Allowed all his eagerness to see her n\*\*\*d roll down the mind-link to her 'put my shirt on.'

Both he and Havoc watched her shake her head and do just that, felt Havoc tilt his head to look at her n\*\*\*d body, could feel his wolf's happiness, he really did just like looking at her. Had told her he was going to Mate her at some point, he would push through to take control of Nathan's human body and have his way with her. He could feel that his wolf liked the idea of mating her as much as he liked mating Kora, he realised.

'Havoc come on.' He urged his wolf to walk away from her as she put his shirt on, liked his dress shirt on her, liked even more knowing there was nothing else under it. Havoc was considerably larger than both Brawny and Tanner. Both those wolves followed him round to where he knew Stephen would have Rae-Rae by the window in her room.

He looked at her and saw her look right at the three of them. Her eyes were wide, and could see Stephen was explaining to her who he was, that Havoc was the Alpha Wolf and he was large as the Alpha Wolf, stood on four legs with his head all the way up at one and a half meters tall, he was three meters long and weighed in at nearly a hundred and twenty kilo's. He was actually the biggest wolf in the pack, not even his father's wolf stood taller and bigger.

Though Nathan was certain that Alpha Austin's wolf would be both bigger and stronger, being pure blooded. Pure bloods were the largest of their species.

Havoc was nearly as tall as Jay-la was, standing in human form, came up to her chest easily. He heard Rae-Rae gasp from here, as Havoc looked right at her, saw her take an involuntary step back and Stephen place both hands on her shoulders to calm her and make her stay and watch.

The three of them were in full view of Rae-Rae now, Havoc turned and looked at Jay-la 'Ready when you are.' He mind-linked to her. He saw her nod. Knew she was not afraid of Havoc, not only had she grown up with him, played with him and gone on pack runs with him, he was her Mate and she knew he was more than happy to be her Mate.

Looks good in our shirt.'

'She does.' Nathan agreed with hi wolf.

"We mate after this."

'No.' Nathan laughed softly 'stop thinking about mating her all the time, she needs to rest, you know.

- 'I want to mate her.'

Nathan shook his head, he couldn't change his wolfs thoughts, they both watched as she walked right up to him and slid her hand through his black fur, and then scratched behind his ears "I forgot how big you are to me." She smiled at Havoc and got licked right up the neck, which made her laugh. Havoc wound himself around her, rubbed his body all over her, liked having his scent on her.

His wolf turned at the sound of the children coming over to them, they were all talking about how big he was, also saw Vera walking with them, walked them all the way over and then just leave them to go and stand next to Tanner, her Mate. She had his leg drumming on the ground in response to her scratching his sweet spot.

He turned his attention to his children and looked down at them. He was much taller than they were, they all stared up at him. Havoc tilted his head to the left and saw all three of the children do the same, felt amusement come from his wolf, tilted his head back the other way and heard the three of them giggle and then mimic him right back. He was suddenly purring at them, good and loud, to show them how happy he was that they were there with him.

Then just lay down in the snow so they could all pat him, and they, did, touched his face and pat his head, scratched behind his ears, and run their hands through his fur down his back. Heard Jay-la tell them about Brawny being their uncle Brad and Tanner being their grandpa.

Encouraged them to go over and interact with them too.

Havoc watched them for only a moment before his eyes moved to Jay-la, rubbed his head along her bare leg, his nose up past her knee and watched her head whip down as Havoc took in a deep breath and then licked the inside of her thigh, got a swat right on his nose, and heard his own wolf chortle, as she admonished him, Havoc didn't seem to mind at all, Nathan could only shake his head he had no control over Havoc.

Moved his eyes to Rae-Rae who Stephen still had a hold of, 'Jay-la, ask the children if they want to go for a ride on us?' she smiled down at Havoc and he purred just for her, as he realised she too liked that idea, his beast would never deny her anything she wanted. He was too bloody smitten with his Mate and her human counterpart.

"Children, would you like to go for a ride on them?"

Saw all three of them turn and stare at their mother, watched a moment later as Vera simply picked up Rosalie and put her right on Tanner, heard her squeal as he st od up and she clutched at his fur.

Lilly was suddenly climbing on Brawny didn't need to be told to, so very bold that girl.

But it made both Nathan and Havoc happy to see them so happy, watched as Jay-la walked over to Nate and take his hand. "Would you-like to ride on Havoc, he wants that." She was not wrong, he could feel excitement from his wolf at the thought of his son really interacting with him.

The boy looked a little nervous, but he did climb on when she encouraged it, heard his own son gasp as Havoc stood up, felt his little hands grip tightly to the fur between Havocs shoulders and then Havoc was off at a slow trot with the boy and it took barely a minute before the two girls and Nate were laughing.

Havoc and both Brawny and Tanner were trotting around and interacting with each other, playing with the children on their backs, chasing each other a little. It was the first time in years, that her whole family was interacting with him and Havoc. Actually, felt really nice as the Alpha to have some niceties back between them.

## The Defiant Luna Chapter 28

Jay-la POV

Jay-la was watching as the triplets got to ride around on Havoc, Tanner and Brawny, they all looked so very happy. Were all laughing and yelling for them to go faster. Looked at her mother who was now standing next to her, smiled right at her.

"Not even a week here and look at your babies, so very happy with all their family around them."

Jay-la couldn't deny that at all, they were so very happy right this minute, turned and looked at Rae-Rae. She still wanted to murder Michael for his stupidity. The girl was watching her children interact with Havoc and the others. Not often would one see children riding on wolves, or see wolves that were as large as that for that matter.

"Havoc was a bit on the naughty side with you." Her mother teased her a little.

"He's always naughty." Jay-la chuckled.

"That's because he not only loves Kora, but you as well."

"I know." And she did, she realised.

'Jay-la, now would be a good time. Stephen mind-linked to her but she knew he'd connected to everyone out here, could feel that multi line open Rae-Rae is curious

'Alright.' She looked at her mother and said softly "Well, here we go." And found all three wolves turn to look at her, took a breath in and looked at Rea-Rae, smiled at her, a full crash course it was to be. This was not the way it was supposed to happen at all, but they had no real options right this minute.

Let Kora rip right out of her in full view of Rae-Rae, then a moment later she was standing there in the snow in her silver wolf form, saw Kora look at her children, they knew that Kora was a wolf, but had never actually seen her before. Talked to her often, played with her in human form but never her wolf, due to living in the city all the time.

They were all now staring at her, both girls were biting their lip, but Nate; she nearly laughed when she saw him kick Havoc like he was a horse to make him move forward towards Kora. Havoc didn't seem to mind. He just trotted right on over to his Mate and let Nate climb down and stand right before her, looked right at her "Kora?" He asked and – she nudged him with her head and then he was hugged right into her.

Both his arms were around her neck "Kora." He sighed, sounded very happy as he hugged her, got to really meet her for the first time. Then he leaned back and touched her face, Kora leaned down and put her forehead to his, he was too young for them to mind-link to, but he knew she was happy, was purring at him.

Then all the children were around her, touching her and she smooched up against all of them, gave each one of them a good lick up their little faces, making them laugh and squeal and then they ran away from her, and she was off chasing them, pouncing into the snow in front of them to make them shriek and run the other way, so much Joy coming from her wolf to be able to play with her pups in her true form, to know that they were not afraid of her or any of them.

Saw Ivy right there within the wolves as well, her mother had shifted to join in the playing, felt Havoc slide his head and body along Kora's and she returned the gesture, then nipped him right on his tail and ran off to have him chase her Play not mate.' Jay-la reminded Kora, and heard Nathan laugh inside her mind, Kora was allowing both Havoc and Nathan free rein inside their mind, keeping them all connected

'He's only playing. Nathan assured her.

We don't need the triplets seeing that.'

No, probably not. He agreed but still seemed amused to her.

Kora settled down on the ground and Havoc sat right next to her, and they both watched on as the triplets continued to play and ride around on her family's wolves. They were so

happy, were laughing and yelling out to each other, they had the biggest fastest wolf. Kora and Havoc would be the fastest though.

Havoc settled all the way down to rest his head across Kora's shoulders, he was purring softly at her, Kora turned her eyes to her Mate and licked his face, rubbed her head on him and then settled herself all the way to the ground, comfortable with him as always.

They allowed Rae-Rae to just stand and watch for a good half an hour to have time to adjust to what she was seeing. Mind-linked to Stephen 'How is she doing?'

'A little confused, but not really scared right this moment. Was at first when you shifted, kind of freaked out a little. But is calm now. For the most part. I'd give it a few more minutes. She's touched that bite on her neck twice now, hasn't said anyth ng though.'

'Alright.'

Heard Nathan's voice inside her mind 'She's figuring it out, from what she heard Austin state.

- 'Yes, is not dumb at all. My appear to be a happy bubbly eighteen year old, but is actually very intelligent. Though I have no idea what she will do with any of this information.'

Michael could have royally screwed up his own Mate Bond.' He sighed.

'Could have done. She acknowledged 'He was too impatient.'

'He's Alpha blooded jay-la, not to excuse him at all. If mother hadn't beat him. I would have let you or done it myself. But the need to claim one's mate is extremely strong.

'I don't really care for that excuse. If I recall correctly, your mother and father did not Mark for a full month. Mated but did not Mark till the full moon at her Luna Ceremony. So there is self-control if one wants there, to be.'

'I know the story. He chuckled 'couldn't keep their hands off each other, still bloody can't even now. But yes, father kept full control of himself, as did Havoc for that matter. He did not Mark Kora in wolf form, when he could have. I was the one to Mark you, not him.

Your brother is selfish, he only wants what he wants, thinks he can have it because he is Alpha-blooded. Did he consider Rae-Rae at all? If she runs away or even rejects him, she's likely to die, in less than a week.'

'I'm sorry Jay-la.' She could hear that he meant it, was sorry for how this turned out.

'It's not you who needs to apologise...how would I explain it, to Lauren and Tony.

'Thonestly don't know' He sighed We should shift back and go and talk to her. She needs to understand all of this. She has to let Michael finish Marking her, even if she want's to reject him so she doesn't die.'

'I know, and that will just make the pain even worse.' And she knew that it would, Rae-Rae would be one of them, she would leave and her wolf would be forever lonely, out there like Kora had been. I don't want her out there alone Nathan, she'll have to stay here for safety and socialisation. Being alone out there is not fun, it hurts and not just the human, but the wolf as well.'

I'm sorry.' He murmured softly.

'He has to be the one to leave if she rejects him, not her. Rae-Rae should not be punished for something she not only didn't do, but had no say in or even any hope of understanding the consequences. This is not her fault, she wanted to wait.

'I know and I understand.'

'But do you agree?' she asked, knew this was his brother they were-talking about, talking of banishing him or having himself turk rogue, or go to another pack and not just for a little while, but forever.

He was quiet for a long time and then simply stated 'Yes'

Havoc got up and so did Kora, they both shifted back to their human form and she looked up at him, he looked sad to her, but he leaned down and kissed her softly "We should get cloths on you, your not acclimatised yet." He took her hand and led her back to the hospital, where they dressed. Watched him slip his jacket on without a shirt underneath and smiled.

"You kind of look good like that." She touched his jacket and his bare chest at the same time. Liked seeing his smooth chest.

Heard him chuckle softly "I'll wear whatever you want, anytime you want." Then he took her hand "I'll have Vera take the children back to the pack-house." He told her as they headed for Rae-Rae s room.

Pushed in through the door and saw Rae-Rae turn to look at her, look from Nathan to her and frown, then shake her head your not human."

"No, werewolf." She told her, there was no hiding it "Nathan is my Mate.

" Moved her shirt aside so she could show her Nathan's Mark on her neck. "When one is claimed by their Mate, they bite you and bleed their venom into you."

Saw Rae-Rae's frown deepen and then look at Nathan. He moved his jacket for her to see his neck. Then her eyes moved to Stephen. "No mate, I am unclaimed." He stated.

"For now." Jay-la told him "I will get Suzy here for you."

Saw him nod and heard Rae-Rae state "As in your nanny?"

"Yes, she is Stephen's human Mate." Jay-la nodded.

"As you are Michael's." Nathan told her. "I's why you're drawn to him, you belong together."

Watched as Rae-Rae looked from Nathan to herself and then back to Nathan, then pointed right at him "He was married before."

"Unfortunately," he nodded, "To be honest with you Rae-Rae, I'd really rather forget that."

"What exactly is a Mate?" she asked.

"Your soulmate, the other half of you." Jay-la told her and saw Rae-Rae once again look from one to the o her, she was trying to figure it out.

Jay-la stood and waited, as did everyone else in the room, including Alpha Austin, he was leaning up against the wall.

"Are you, his Mate? Or did he claim you because of the children?"

- There it was, the one pressing question out in the open, so it wasn't only her who thought that either, though right this minute after this morning she didn't really think it was just the children, "I am his Mate."

"But you weren't before?"

"No, I was not."

"Then how does that work?" she folded her arms across her chest. "You only get one soulmate."

"Well actually, in our world, young lady." It was Alpha Austin, "you can have multiple mates granted to you. It's complex at times, but those that have more than one mate, each Mate fits a particular part of you that the others don't. My Gamma Clark, he has three Mates, got himself a set of triplets, lucky man." He smiled amusedly.

Saw Rae-Rae frown at him now, "That is not legal."

"It is, the women don't sleep with each other, just with Clark. It's a little weird to you because you don't yet understand it. You will though, given time."

"Each to their own I suppose."

"Rae-Rae, we have a bigger problem than this. Michael has tried to claim you, it is not complete."

"So."

She heard Nathan sigh "If you don't let him complete it before the full moon comes, in six days...you could die. I'm sorry Rae-Rae, he was not supposed to do this. This is not how it is done at all with humans."

"What? I'm going to die?" could hear the fear and panic in her voice now.

"No." Jay-la shook her head "You need to trust me now. Do what I say from here on in. I know you love Michael." Saw her nod her head slowly. That was a good start.

"Then you need to let him Mark you properly."

"You mean bite me again. He already did that." She pointed to her neck, it was red and not healed. "It still bloody hurts."

"and it will continue to hurt until the process is complete," Nathan told her.

"It really hurt when he bit me, I so reamed in pain, it's why he stopped."

Her eyes moved right to Jay-la "Does yours still hurt?"

"It only hurts during the Marking, then once it's complete, you'll really want to have s\*x a lot, crave him. You won't be able to Mark him back till after the full moon though."

- "Will I become like you?"

"Some humans don't shift, some do. That is up to the moon goddess herself." Nathan commented, "There is no guarantee one way or the other."

"The who?"

"Young lady, from my experience, ninety percent of humans shift and become like us. So it is likely you will get a wolf of your own. It will be weird and a little scary for you. But it is what needs to happen." Alpha Austin walked right over to her, tilted her face up to look at him. "You want to live, yes?"

"Yes," she nodded

"Then you need to go back to Michael and let him bite you once more. It will be a few minutes of pain for a lifetime of happiness and pleasure from what I hear."

"What you hear?"

"I've not found my Mate yet. She's out there somewhere, I'm still waiting. You young lady are very lucky to have found your Mate so quickly. Doesn't always happen like you and Michael. Look at Nathan and Jay-la. Pain and suffering, trauma and separation, took years for them to know, likely take a few more for her to ever completely trust him, but they do appear to be trying to work on it."

"Do I have to do it now, and what about mum and dad?"

"You can't tell them Rae-Rae, we have laws about humans finding out."

"So I'm just supposed to let Michael bite me and then what? Just give up everything in my life, and be stuck here. Like I now realise Jay-la has to be here."

Heard Nathan sigh "You don't give up everything, Rae-Rae, we do live full lives, and once you are Marked you will feel very differently. You'll want to stay, to be close to Michael."

"And my family?"

"You can still see them, go and visit. They can also come here a couple times a year. We usually would try and get all the human extended family's to visit at certain times all together, making it easier on the wolves. Not having to hide who they are all the time"

"What if I don't like it?"

Jay-la watched as Stephen slid his hand on to her back. She was starting to get upset at losing contact with her family, and needed to calm down.

"How about we just take it one day at a time, Rae-Rae." Jay-la – murmured "I know you love Michael, he loves you."

"I want to talk to him."

"That is a bit more difficult, right this very minute." Nathan told her.

"Why? Where is he?.Did he run away?"

"No, he did not." Jay-la stepped over to her and took her hands, had been worried that she would back away from her now she knew the truth, but she didn't, hadn't backed away from Alpha Austin either and Stephen had his hand on her. "But what he did is punishable by wolfen law."

"What?" Saw her eyes go really wide. "Where is he?" all her fear gone now and only concern for Michael's well being remained, her side of their Mate Bond was showing. Likely their bond would be strong between them.

"Mother..." Nathan looked right at Rae-Rae "I'm not going to lie to you, mother beat him, quite severely, he'll likely need a day or two to heal."

"What? No, I want to see him."

Jay-la sighed as Rae-Rae pushed past her to latch on to Nathan's arm please." She was practically begging a man she didn't even really like, to let him let her see his brother.

Saw his eyes move to her. "Jay-la, this will be your choice, she's your sister."

"Alright. Rae-Rae after you go and shower and dress, eat something for me, then you can see him."

Saw her nod "Alright."

Mind-link to Nathan 'you'd better warn him she's coming. I've given him an hour, tops, to heal the parts of himself that she'll see.

'Alright."

# The Defiant Luna Chapter 29

#### Nathan POV

Nathan left Jay-la with Rae-Rae at the bottom of the stairs that led up to the first floor. She'd looked right at him and he'd touched her lace gently "Everything will be okay." He'd told her softly and felt her squeeze his hand with hers and then nod slowly

"TIl keep Stephen for a bit iFthat's alright."

He'd nodded "That's a good idea" Nathan also knew that Stepben was happy to be with Jay-la, in case Suzy called her. Jay-la, perhaps how is a good time to remind Suzy about that job offer?

Saw her nod, "Ir will be her whole family, now. You realised that night. not just Suzy.

"That is five." He smiled "Extenuating circumstances, once everyone is settled I can get them a nice place in Rotchester, nice and close by. Il that will help with bringing her here." He'd watched her walk off up the stairs with Rae-Rae and Stephen, after that, had stood and watched until she was closed inside Rae-Hae's room, then sighed heavily "What a nightmare." He muttered.

"You are not wrong about that, Nathan' Alpha Austin commented, from just behind him. He'd kind of forgotten he was there to be honest.

"Despite my concerns, I do see signs that young Jay-la is coming around to you."

"Thave a lot to make up for." Nathan told him in all honesty "It will take some time, but I am working on it, apologising and trying to make her feel wanted

"Good, I'II leave her be for a while, she's got a lot going on. I'll take a wander around your pack if you don't mind

"I don't. I can have someone go with you"

"No need." The man's eyes moved past him. "He comes Blaine, he'll walk with me. It's been a while since we caught up."

Nathan turned to see his father walking down the stairs, little Halley next to him, holding his hand.

"My goodness, you had another." Austin chuckled

"I did," He heard his own father laugh right back

Walked away to let them catch up, Halley likely wasn't going to be their- last either, not with the way they were Mating all the time. He was likely to get a few more siblings over the years to come.

He'd sent Jackson, along with the pack doctor, up to Michael to patch up any wounds that needed dressing, while his wolf was still healing him. In order to make him more presentable for when Rae-Rae went to see him.

Headed for his office only to see that the Luna's door was actually open, strolled in there out of curiosity, to find his mother sitting on the couch, with a glass of bourbon in her hand. Sighed instantly at the dejected look on her face.

"Hard liquor?" he enquired of her.

"I've not had a good morning" She muttered "I did hear that you had to show Rae-Rae what we are...How'd that go?" she asked as she stared into the glass and swirled it around, the ice cubes clinking together.

It didn't exactly sound like she thought it went well, he realised.

"Not too bad. Though now she's just upset that Michael got punished and wants to see him." he shook his head a little "Their bond out weighed her being upset with him."

"That is good, I suppose." She sighed "I don't actually take pleasure in beating any of you."

"I know mother." He did believe her. "But we wolves are aggressive beasts at the best of times, he broke the rules, the most important one at that."

"Then lied, right to our faces, I didn't even pick up on it." caught an annoyed inflexion in her tone.

"Neither did I, or any of us in that room. Don't blame yourself, mother.

He's obviously much better at lying than we both know."

"She could die. He would have known this. We do educate on such things." She muttered "Did I raise all my children to be so stupid, none of you seem to have any common sense, until its too bloody late.

Where did I go wrong with all of you?" she was staring right at him now, her eyes were boring into his, she wanted an actual answer, it seemed.

He sighed to himself "You did not raise us wrong."

"Are you certain? Abbey attacks a pack member and risks her unborn pup. Michael half Mark's his hum n Mate, which could kill her and you." she wave a hand at him "Your errors are too numerous to lay out for you."

He felt Havoc bristle inside his mind at the intended insult to them, though he did not snarl at his mother. "How will Halley turn out, or..'

- watched her bang the glass down on the coffee table in front of her and got up.

Nathan stood and grabbed onto her. "Mum, you are a good mother. He told her and pulled her into his chest and hugged her. He heard her sigh and felt her shake her head.

"I must have gone wrong somewhere, not instilled some sort of rules or something, missed something."

"You did not." He told her "Havoc and I, we have our own issues, and they did not stem from you and our up bringing. But from our first Mate. So you are not at fault where we are concerned. Abbey has always been a bloody handful, her Mate needs to step up and be firm with her is all."

"I should have smacked her just once, while she was growing up, I was too lenient on her."

"I can see why you never did. I can't see myself ever punishing my girls.

To bloody cute, they're going to walk all over me."

"Jay-la will do it." his mother sighed, "She's strong, that one."

"That she is." He nodded, "As for Michlael, none of us saw that coming and yes, of course, he would know the consequences." He sighed heavily himself, "Not to excuse him at all, but it's likely he got carried away, is all."

"It's not right

"No it's not." He agreed "Halley is level headed, like father is, you wont have to worry about her."

"Thope not."

Nathan smiled as he rubbed her back. "As for the one you got growing inside you now."

"What?"

"Oh, come on. I can hear that little heart beat, I'm sure you'll raise him or her perfectly."

"Bloody Alpha senses." She muttered.

Nathan chuckled softly "It wasn't that, it was the no drinking and the pause after Halley's name. Does dad know yet?"

"Yes, I woke up to him grinning at me, his ear pressed to my stomach."

The day after we got home, told ne, and I quote, "You're growing me a son in there." She shook her head and finally stepped back from him.

"A son huh?"

"Hmm, apparently so." She nodded "Like saw it already, him and his-bloody foresight."

Nathan laughed now, "Well tell that man to put it to some good use and see just how long it's going to take us to help Jay-la."

"I will, though he's probably already trying. He will need to be with her to sense it out. If he can, that is. It's a bit obscure, sometimes not really straight forward."

"Iknow." He nodded "Out of curiosity, how'd you get that Luna's Communications book?"

"Every pack has one, I believe. It's a magical book, whatever is written in it is transcribed into all the other books. For all Luna's to use, communicate with, i guess. Though most only put important things in it. I will document our journey with Jay-la for future reference to other. packs."

"I don't know about that." He frowned.

"It's only meant for Luna's. I think it was originally meant for important communications, but ended up being like a diary, between pack Luna's. It doesn't get used by all packs, some won't use it at all. Seen nowadays as giving the enemy packs your weakness's."

"I can see why. It could be used that way." He nodded.

"Son, I think it's important for us to document this, to help others that are like Jay-la, and I imagine that there are others out there with her affliction."

"I guess that is very likely." He nodded "Keep her name out of it and her rank please."

"Alright. How did it go with Havoc, Kora and the children?"

"Really well." He smiled right at her "You should have seen them mum, riding around on us. The way Nate hugged Kora, I think he's been waiting a long time to do that, to meet her in wolf form." She smiled up at him "That's good to hear. You and Jay-la?"

"Better I think. Having just me and no Havoc this morning seemed to help."

"Again good, you might want to do that more often with her."

"How do you suppose I do that?"

"That is a pickle son." She chuckled then sighed "Now I want a bloody pickle," she muttered.

"Go find a pickle." He waved her off and headed into his office. Sat in his chair, he was getting a little brother, it seemed 'Can play with our pup.

Havoc piped up.

'Knock that off.' Nathan smiled though, it was a nice idea. Halley was -even the same age as the triplets, they already had family, their age to play with.

He looked around his office, all was quiet for the moment, he didn't really need to do anything he realised, he would take the free time and set up for his conversation tonight with Jay-la, after the children all werit to bed

He took that book upstairs along with her blood test results, put them in the suites office and closed the door. They were all the things that he needed. Stepped out of his suite to see Jackson strolling this way.

Coming from where Michael's room was.

"The damage?" he enquired.

"Lots of wounds, nothing life threatening for an Alpha-blooded wolf Though he's not very talkative, shrank away from me when I walked into the room."

"So he should. What he did was reckless, he should have completed the Mark and dealt with the fall out, rather than halt marking her and risk her running off and dying."

"Probably thought you would kill him."

"I'm more likely to do that now, what would be the point if he'd marked her?"

"Mm, you want to go and put the fear of Havoc into him?"

"No," Nathan shook his head "Let Jay-la handle him, Rae-Rae might even yell and scream at him. That would be worse for him than any of us doing it. She might still threaten to leave him, she did leave him once before."

"We can't allow that Nathan." Jackson frowned at him.

"I'm not going to, but I'd let him think it. That he has lost her and it was his own stupid fault."

"Technically, twice now he's done that." Jackson nodded.

"Hm, I might just go and do that, it would be a good way to punish him, without actually punishing him." he mind-linked to Jay-la' Hi, where are you guys at?'

'Showered and heading for food.

'Alright, I'm going to have a word with him, could you do me a favour?'

"That depends on what it is!"

He laughed softly 'Nothing like that. I'm going to let Michael think Rae-Rae wants to leave. And you re the one who's talked her into staying'

- 'Why?'

'Punishment, without further punishment.

"Cruel."

"You don't approve."

I didn't say that, you can, I'll play along.

'Thanks, oh, I have got same news to impart to you.'

'Mm.'

"Mother and father are with pup?

Stunned silence returned to him for many seconds Wow, alright'

'She was hunting pickles in the kitchen, feel free to tease her about it.'

Heard her chuckle now, liked the sound of it, sent a shiver of pleasure through his body 'No, I like your mother!'

He cut the mind-link and headed for Michael's suite. It was a nice suite, 3 bedrooms and he'd furnished it in cream and dark greens. Nathan looked at his younger brother in his bed and sighed. His mother had beat the hell out of him.

"I'm sorry." He stammered, looking up at Nathan.

"So am I, Rae Rae is leaving, doesn't want to be here."

"What?" he gasped "you can't let her leave." He was trying to get up now.

"I can't make her stay." Nathan stated "Jay-la is trying to convince her now."

"Please, Nathan. You have to help me."

"Help you..Like you helped me? After you scared Jay-la and the children. Rae-Rae left you, Michael; The first time because you lied to her or omitted the truth. That I was your brother, not because of Jay-la.

Now you've gone and half marked her. Bit her and she's terrified right now. I had to do a crash course for her into our world. What we are and she is scared. Doesn't want to be here. Is in pain from your half-assed marking of her. The bite is still open, just so you know. Not healing properly, it is red and inflamed. Your lack of control has caused your Mate to be in pain, she will stay in pain as well."

"I can fix it."

"Can you? and if she chooses not to let you..you do realize, you've essentially killed her, right?" That was the truth of the matter, he had a human mate and could have killed her, still could in fact. "You'd better start praying to Selena herself. That Jay-la can talk her around, I'm not – going to do anything to you. Until after the full moon and the outcome is truly known to us."

"I'm sorry."

"Jay-la has her own thoughts on your punishment, do you want to hear them?"

"Not really" His brother sighed and closed his eyes.

"Have your wolf heal your face and arms first." Nathan told him "Jay-la will bring Rae-Rae here, if she agrees to see you."

Saw him nod but say nothing, he knew what he'd done was wrong.

Knew the consequences of it and now would have to lay here and hope and pray Rae-Rae would still accept him and before the full moon, the sooner the better, to be honest.

That wound of hers was going to be red and inflamed and painful until he completed the process. There was no making Rae-Rae accept him, though it was in her best interest to, if she wanted to live, that was.

# The Defiant Luna Chapter 30

Jay-la POV

She stood outside of Michael's room and explained to Rae-Rae that wolves were not like humans, when it came to punishing their own kind. That wolves by nature were aggressive animals and that fights in both human and wolf form did happen. That she needed to be prepared to see Michael in a wounded state.

That it had been his own mother's wolf who had literally torn strips off of him, saw both pain and fear touched Rae-Rae. Told her that werewolves had exceptional healing abilities, and that he would heal up good as new, in a day or two, depending on his wolf.

"Healing abilities?"

"Yes." Jay-la nodded "Our wolves can heal us, we don't generally need a great deal of medical attention, just a few days of rest. Maybe some staples to hold wounds together if they were big gashes."

Rae-Rae looked more than shocked by this. "We could use some of that knowledge in our world." She said finally.

"Not going to happen, there are laws. Very strict laws around humans.

The first is, that humans do not know about us, unless one is mated to us, then you will be made to swear an oath, not to tell any other humans about us."

"So mum and dad?"

"Never." Jay-la sighed "I'd have done it years ago if I was allowed to. Told all of you."

"But you couldn't?"

"No...Now, I've not seen Michael, so not even I know what to expect going into this room. It might not be as bad as you think, but..."

"It could be really bad." She nodded and looked at the door. Took a long breath in "He's like you." she looked back at Jay-la, turned her eyes to Stephen "No wonder you're all muscled up." Shook her head "I guess I'm as ready as I'll ever be."

Stephen opened the door and walked in, they followed and she watched Rae-Rae look around the room, "It's massive." She murmured.

"It's yours and Michael's suite, if you forgive him and accept him."

- "Let him Mark me?" she asked

"Yes." At least she had stopped saying 'bite me.

Stephen walked across the living room and pushed open the door that would lead into the master suite, ushered Rae-Rae into the room, Michael didn't look that bad. Was trying to sit himself up, his face and arms were healed, though she could see there were bandages under his shirt, only healed what Rae-Rae would see.

She watched as Rae-Rae bit her lower lip as she stood staring at him, she was really looking at him now, with all the knowledge of just what he was, a werewolf.

"Rae-Rae, I'm sorry." He stated as he finally managed to sit up properly.

His eyes moved to her neck, she was wearing a simple dressing over the wound, due to its not healing over, it wasn't likely to either and marking her again, was likely to cause even more pain to her at the time. He would know all of this.

She was just standing watching him, didn't seem to know what to do or say to him, Jay-la saw him hold his hands out to her and winced at the pain and then Rae-Rae finally moved and walked over to the bed and took his hands. "You really have some explaining to do you know that." ®

"I know Rae-Rae." He nodded.

To both Jay-la and Stephen's surprise, they watched Rae-Rae sit on the side of the bed and pull the dressing off of her neck, looked right at Michael and stated firmly, "Fix me." Saw Michael blink in surprise "You have to finish it, I don't want to die. I can be mad at you later."

"Rae-Rae?"

"No. Now." She demanded of him.

His eyes met Jay-la's "We'll give you some alone time." She nodded at him and then turned and left the room. Stephen followed her out of the

room.

"Lucky bastard."

"Not really." Jay-la shook her head, "She actually meant those words, she will be mad at him later. She has a bit of a temper, she might let him Mark her right now, but it's likely that's all he'll get until they are married or the full moon comes anyway." She stated as they left the suite.

"Still, he's lucky she's willing to forgive him."

"I hope you know better." She looked at him pointedly.

"I do know better. I also have the patience of the goddess. I can not only -wait for my Suzy, but I will happily let her Mate me all she likes until she's ready to be Marked by me."

"Good." Jay-la nodded, looked at her watch to see the time, "Ill call her and see how things are going. Remind her of that job offer. Nathan is right, perhaps now is the time. If they lost everything will need a fresh start."

"That would be nice." He nodded and smiled a little.

"Have you thought of a way to get Nathan off pack territory? In case I can't sway her."

"Thave actually, the children gave me an idea."

"They did?"

"Mm, they were talking about Christmas and I know neither of you have gone Christmas shopping for them."

"A good thought. Though only one problem with that."

"Yes?"

"He's not going to leave this pack before I go into heat, not even up to Rotchester."

"Hmm, well Jay-la...go into heat already." He nudged her and laughed softly.

She shook her head and laughed herself, "It doesn't work that way."

"Fake it till you make it." he laughed.

Looked right at him, "Well, when it happens he's not going to need you.

You could just zip off, and he'd not know about it till afterwards."

"Jackson would know. I'd get my a\*s kicked by him."

"Not if you tell him, I gave you my Luna's blessing to go get your Mate."

"Maybe I'll find away to sneak out, or you can get me out."

"Or maybe I can just get Suzy to come here, and no one needs to tick the Alpha off." She chuckled.

"That really would be the best option." Stephen agreed with her.

"If I can't, I still need to go back and close out my human life, he's agreed to let me, though he state I can't go alone."

"You probably shouldn't."

"So you can come with me, if we've not gotten Suzy here by then."

"Probably the most sensible plan." He nodded.

- She walked into Nathan's office and found the children, all in there, colouring in at the coffee table, she smiled right at them, they were back from playing with her family, they all smiled up at her and then they were all talking a mile a minute at her. About how happy they were to see Kora's wolf in person. The girls thought she was so pretty and they were sitting drawing pictures of their morning, wolves and them riding on them.

She stopped to look at all the drawings they'd made and smiled "On the fridge they go." She told them, and let them go back to drawing. She had been surprised to find them all in here with Nathan.

"Rae-Rae is fine, she went in there and demanded Michael fix her.

Mark her completely."

She saw him smile at her with relief, she too was relieved about Rae-Rae wanting to be Marked and not running away. "Though her first shift, will be painful and it might take a while to do."

"Or it could take her wolf hours to emerge and actually come forth." He sighed "On your Luna's Ceremony, or during it. I should say."

Looked right at him and thought about that "She'll need me to be there.

She may have seen us shift today, but she really has no idea how painful it is, or will be for her. That first time and neither of us know how long it will take. A few minutes? an hour?" She sighed herself, "We should put off my Ceremony. Take care of Rae-Rae first."

Watched him frown right at her "I don't really want to put your ceremony off jay-la. I want to present you to the pack officially and thank the moon goddess for granting you to me." She nodded "Do I get a say, or is it just.."

"Of course you do jay-la," he cut her off, "I'm just trying to let you know how I feel. That I want you to have your Ceremony, is all. To not have you think or feel that I don't want that."

"Fair enough, but I think it should wait until the next moon. The new pack member, a human moving to wolf for the first time, should come first, I think she will need support and guidance."

"If that is really what you want?" he asked, though he was still frowning at her.

"It is, I'm not going anywhere. The ceremony can happen anytime.

Rae-Rae only gets her first shift once and despite her being up there all assertive and demanding, I know she'll be scared, maybe even terrified on that day."

"Agreed, we are prepared all our lives, born into it. Rae-Rae should have had a good month to get her head around this and is barely getting six days." Watched him shake his head, was still annoyed by it she thought.

"So it's settled then?" she asked.

"It is." He nodded "May I ask you something, without upsetting you?"

"You can try, I guess."

"Will you have closed out your human world by then?"

"It's likely." She nodded, she was aiming to do it right, after going into heat. "After my heat, I will go back and explain things to both Eric and Tim." She nodded.

"That would be nice."

"It was always my plan." She told him.

"Oh, you never said."

"I did not." She nodded "Does that suit you?" she asked him.

"Yes." Nathan nodded.

"Good I'll be taking Stephen with me, so he can see Suzy and get her to date him, if she's not agreed to come here by then."

"We'll be taking Stephen," He stated.

Jay-la frowned at him, "If you have no concerns about Tim, then why do you need to come along?" she questioned him.

"That is simply because I don't want you on the other side of the country, from me."

"That's the reason?"

"It is." He nodded.

Jay-la narrowed her eyes on him for a long time, "You're certain that is the reason?"

"Yes Jay-la. Tim does not concern me in the slightest." He stated, calmly leaning back in his chair, even smiled at her.

"Good to hear that?" she smiled right back at him. "So you won't care to attend either of my meetings with them. Excellent."

She watched him open his mouth and knew he was going to object."

You just said you were certain." She reminded him.

"That's not fair Jay-la."

"I asked you twice, you're not concerned you said."

"T'll still be escorting you...you can have your meetings alone, but I'll be going with you to L.A."

"Ill have Stephen and there are warriors still out there I believe, it's not at all necessary.

- "In your books. In mine it is. I need to protect you."

"Well, you can always pack up my apartment while I'm at the law firm." She nodded.

"I can have people do that for you Jay-la."

"Or, you could do it yourself. Sometimes it's nice to do things for yourself, instead of letting others do everything for you."

"I do a lot of things myself Jay-la, I just think that pack movers would do a better and more efficient job of packing up your apartment."

"TII have to pay out the lease, while I'm there."

"T'll sort that out for you."

"Alright, real estates are a pain to deal with sometimes."

"Male or female?"

Jay-la nearly glared at him. "As your Mate, I don't approve of you using." She waved her hand at him and his body, around his face "Your Alpha card on human women anymore. So please don't do it. That all belongs to me now."

Saw him smile right at her "It does." He told her "Forever, and to do with as you please. Every day." His smile turned to a smirk.

She shook her head but smiled, "You and I, we're going to train tomorrow morning, so sleep is all you get." Heard him laugh now,

"If you can get up that is. My Jay-la doesn't like

early mornings anymore."

"It will take some getting used to, I admit and I have not trained properly in a very long time. Only twice a week at the company gym."

"You'll pick it up quick, I'm sure."

"Ill want to be well rested." She stared right at him.

He was still smiling at her. "Hmm, I'll try my best to keep my paws off you, but I can't promise you anything." Saw his eyes slide over her "Not when you told me earlier, we'd pick up where we left off."