

Chapter 12

Maddox's POV

I was going out of my mind. I couldn't believe that two women had just disappeared without a trace. Kurt and I are a mess. My men don't even want to do check-ins now if they don't have good news. The last time I almost ripped off one of their heads. It wasn't even the poor bastard's fault. King was getting impatient and felt his men were being incompetent.

I was brought out of my thoughts when my phone rang. I quickly answered it hoping it was one of my guys saying they had found my mate. I was disappointed when I heard Jed, my gamma, on the line saying, "Hey Maddox. We just received a call from councilman Hector Lupin. He received a call from his niece Claire Black this morning requesting your protection for her daughter. She had her first shift last night and now the alpha of her pack wants the girl to be the chosen mate of his heir. From what I heard from Councilman Lupin that this alpha is a real piece of work. Making a lycan an omega in his pack."

"That is horrible for the girl, but why do they need my protection? The laws should be protection enough to keep her from being forcibly marked." I said feeling annoyed with this alpha. The mate bond is not to be tampered with.

"That's why I called you myself Madd. Get this. The girl in question shifted into a dire wolf!" Jed said excitedly. Out of all of us he was the most upset when the dire wolves died out. He didn't understand why and neither did we.

"Are you kidding me? A dire wolf? How in the hell did that happen? There hasn't been a dire wolf in well over ve centuries!" I said back.

"Yeah I know, Madd. She is the daughter of Asher and Claire Black. Asher is or was supposed to be Alpha of the Green Orchard Pack until he met his mate Claire, who happens to be a female lycan! Remember about nineteen years ago when we were shocked that the Green Orchard Pack named Max as its new alpha? Well that was because Asher met his mate, Claire, and she was being hunted. In order to protect her and their unborn pup they went into hiding. We couldn't find out what happened to him at the time. Now we know." Jed said, sounding excited. I can understand why too. He just solved a cold case that we had lost any leads on.

Asher Black was from an ancient bloodline that produced strong alphas. His brother Max is a ne alpha, but not the intended alpha for their pack. Asher was a promising young alpha back in the day and it was a shock to me that he disappeared without a trace. "That explains why they want my protection for their daughter. That alpha is probably thinking that with a dire wolf as Luna their status will be higher. I really despise alpha's like that. Find out what pack this is. I want an investigation started on the alpha family. Also call Hector back and tell him that we will take this girl into our protection. Have her sent to the palace. Put her in my wing. There are several empty rooms there. Make sure she has everything that she will need to make her stay comfortable. I can't imagine how scared this girl is. She is going to be ripped away from the only home she knows." I said.

"They had another request, Madd. As you were saying she is leaving the only home she has known and they want to know if her friend can accompany her. The way it was explained these girls have never been separated before. They are more like sisters than friends." Jed said.

"Sure. That is ne. Make sure they both have a room beside each other then with an adjoining door. Have Scarlett be their maid. Her mom told me just the other day that she was looking for a job in the palace." I said. Scarlett is of my sister's bloodline. I don't like having my family working for me. I would rather take care of them, but my siblings made me promise that I wouldn't treat their family any differently from anyone else in the kingdom. One thing I don't do, and that is break a promise.

"I can do that. It sounded like they were going to send them as soon as they got word from us. You might want to start heading back to the castle if your meeting is done so that you can be here when they arrive. It would look bad if the one person they are requesting protection from isn't even home to protect." Jed said with a chuckle.

I groaned out loud when I realized he was right. I didn't want to leave the academy knowing that my mate was here, but I can't put this girls' life on the line because I don't want to leave the place I met and lost my mate. With a sigh I said, "We will leave shortly. Tell Ralf that he will have two new play toys when we arrive. The Dean Veronica, and one of our own Stuart."

I hung up the phone before he could ask me any more questions. I had to tell Kurt that our search for our mates was being cut short. We would have to pick up at a later time. I mind linked Kurt and said, 'Kurt. We have to head back to the palace. There is another pressing matter we need to attend to. Jed just called. Seems we have a dire wolf who needs our protection.' I knew mentioning the dire wolf would peak his interest.

'Stop f*****g with me Madd. Keno and I are going crazy here trying to find our mate and you are making jokes about an extinct race of wolves.' Kurt growled down the link.

'As much as I wish I were joking I am not. This girl just shifted last night and now her alpha is wanting to force her to be his heir's chosen mate. She is going to need protection until she finds her fated mate. I know you want to keep looking for your mate man, I want to keep looking for mine too, but they aren't here man. We'll have to regroup and come up with a better plan because this one isn't working. Did I mention she was bringing a friend with her? We'll have to make sure Jed and Ralf keep their paws to themselves.' I tried to joke a bit to liven the mood. I know he doesn't want to abandon his search. I don't either, but as I said this isn't working. We need a new plan of attack and we can't do that here. Well we could, but duty calls and we have to go.

'A dire wolf huh. Well she better be f*****g amazing if I am abandoning my search for my mate and your mate.' Kurt said. I smiled knowing that he was probably cursing his job right now.

'I'll meet you at the cars in fifteen minutes. Make sure the men are ready to go. We need to get there before the girls do.' I said. Kurt just grunted at me and cut the link.

I sent a prayer to the moon goddess that I will be reunited with my mate soon. I have waited too long now for my mate to just lose her. She must be distraught thinking that I didn't want her because I wasn't there when she woke. She didn't get my message so I can only assume the worst is running through her mind right now.

I was at the cars waiting for a good twenty minutes before everyone was ready to go. We loaded the prisoners into the last car and Kurt and I climbed into ours. The moment we were seated and buckled the driver took off heading back to the palace.