

## Chapter 8 - Dr.Luna |

Lilly leaned down and accepted a single rose from a little girl who came up to give it to the new pretty Luna. Lilly turned to look up at Tyler, but he seemed to be mind linking with someone. You could tell by the concentration and slight haze over his eyes. Lilly turned back and thanked the little girl who skipped off happily.

Kade walked up next to Lilly's side and she had the sense he was there to take care of her. When she looked over to Tyler, she could tell that she had guessed right. He was looking down at her with apologetic eyes.

"Sorry Lilly, I need to take care of a couple things. I should not be too long. Kade will stay with you." Tyler leaned in and kissed the top of Lilly's head before he walked off.

The moment they parted, Lilly missed his familiar heat next to her body. She had been held next to his side all morning and it suddenly felt foreign with out him being near her. Her father was the Alpha, and she knew that there were always things that needed to be taken care of that required their Alpha's presence. With a bit of longing, she turned back to the crowd in front of her, putting on her best face.

The little boy that she had tended to when she first crossed into their border, came up to her grinning ear to ear. "You are a very nice person. I am glad you are our new Luna." The little boy then giggled and took off running away.

Some time had gone by and Lilly was freely wandering between the new pack and greeting them all. Kade stayed closely by her side. A young man about her age came up to her. Lilly noticed that he seemed to have quite the following of young ladies ogling after him.

"Man, our Alpha has all the luck, you are simply mouthwatering." The young man winked at her and Kade growled at him reproachfully, stepping up to Lilly's side. The man was very attractive, not Tyler attractive though, but you could tell the man knew women couldn't resist him.

"Cedric, have some respect for your new Luna." Kade warned him. His tone did not sound overly aggressive, but his eyes shot Cedric a warning that could not be ignored.

"I did not say anything that she did not already know. I was just commenting on how lucky Tyler is to find such a beautiful luna."

Lilly gave him a small smile in acknowledgment and took a small step away from him. He made her feel uncomfortable, he looked at her like she was dessert, but that wasn't what was making her feel uneasy. Something felt different about him. While she stood in his presence, she felt the back of her mind stir.

Kade, gave Cedric another reproachful look, then rested his arm around Lilly and led her away from Cedric. "He is really quite harmless. He is just what you call a man whore." Kade said bluntly as he led Lilly away. "Let's get you something to drink."

Lilly let Kade lead her back towards the house when something caught the corner of her eye. She stopped and looked causing Kade to look in the direction she was looking at. In the distance, near another building was Tyler and Jessica. Jessica had her arms wrapped around Tyler and in that moment tipped up on her toes and kissed Tyler. Lilly felt her stomach turn immediately and a clenching pain formed in her chest. She was giving Tyler her heart and trusting him. She knew that they had been engaged just yesterday, and it was probably difficult for Jessica to adjust. But Tyler did not correct her when she held him or kissed him. Something he should have done since he had a mate now.

Lilly felt jaded and her color faded from her face. Kira, on the other hand, was seeking bloodshed. She was pacing back and forth in Lilly's mind demanding she takes the head of the she-devil that touched their mate. Though Lilly wanted to throat punch Jessica she wanted to get away from the situation. She looked up at Kade whose face was rigid, and his jaw was set.

Kade was furious. How could Tyler allow Jessica to get that close to him when he just found Lilly? Lilly was perfect and Tyler was screwing it up. He looked down at Lilly, his face conflicted. He was angry and feeling apologetic towards her.

"Can we go for a walk instead?" Lilly asked quietly. She did not look back towards Tyler and Jessica again. Instead, she looked off in the far distance. She had not had a chance to explore and she had always loved the woods. She used to walk with her mother every day and it was something she tried to continue.

"Sure, let me grab a bag and a couple bottles of water." Kade left and returned within a minute. "Let's go."

"What is in the bag?" Lilly asked as she saw the small backpack he swung over his shoulder.

"Routine things. Always like to bring shirts and shorts. You never know when you need to shift, and you don't want to end up in a situation with no clothes. I'd never be able to keep the girls off me." Kade grinned and Lilly laughed in amusement.

"Especially now that you have a good shoulder." Lilly gave Kade a wry smile which he returned with a wide grin.

"You know rose bud...-" Kade started.

"Rose bud?" Lilly arched her eye and looked up at Kade.

“Yeah, your name is Lilly, so I decided that I am going to call you different types of flowers as your name. Anyways, I would not over think what you just saw. I know that he wants you. He did not even hesitate to break up with Jessica and call off the wedding. The moment we came back after meeting you, he called it off. He is just feeling guilty towards her is all. She did not exactly take the news well. She was hysterical.” Kade smiled as he thought of Jessica’s reaction. It was one of the top moments of his life. He loved her getting the boot because he did not like her at all. He only tolerated her because of Tyler.

“She seems like a piece of work. I only met her once, but I peg her for lying, manipulative and sneaky. Not to mention a downright bitch.” Lilly did not often speak ill of people, especially someone she barely knew. But she was messing around with her territory. Tyler was her mate, and the bond made her possessive over him. It was enough that it made Kira want to kill Jessica.

“Nailed it. She is whiny, needy, demanding, and a sketchy person. She always hid her true colors from Tyler, and he was so blinded by needing a mate that he ignored the red flags. Thank goodness we found you. I will always have your back especially since you repaired mine.” Kade chuckled as he made his lame joke.

“So, what about you, Kade? No girlfriend or mate?” Lilly was curious about him. He was really the only friend she had there. She met Caleb and Avery last night and was certain they would become friends after spending time together, but as of now, it was just Kade that she felt that relationship with. She could tell that Kira liked him too, which was a bonus.

“No, not yet. But she is out there. I’m nineteen, so I still have time. Tyler was getting worried though since he is twenty-two. I tried to tell him that it did not make a difference. Just because a lot find their mates young doesn’t mean you age out of your mate.” Kade kept the slow walking pace on the well beaten trail. “I do have a girl who is my date girl. We have fun and go out on dates. We both agree it is just for fun until we find our mates though. It is a good deal for me. She is going to be my date for the banquet coming up tomorrow.”

“Banquet? One of those multi pack ones? I never went to those before.” Lilly felt a little bit sad at the things she missed out on in life.

“There are going to be three to four other packs there. It is something that is held periodically to keep up relations. It also helps wolves find their mates. You know, had you gone to these things in the past, then Tyler would have found you sooner.” Kade gave her a smirk.

“You mean he never would have ended up with Jessica, so she is technically my fault.” Lilly chuckled as she read the undertone of his meaning loud and clear. “Will my pack be at the banquet?”

“No, not this time. They try to keep it down to just a handful of packs at a time. They normally have good food and, of course, dancing. You’ll see what it’s like tomorrow.” Kade mentioned casually.

“Me? I don’t plan on going.” Lilly waved her hand in front of her in a big X shape.

“Umm Luna, you can’t not go. Sorry. You are the luna of our pack, so you have to go.” Kade grinned at her as she groaned in annoyance.

“This up here is the edge to this side of our territory.” Kade pointed to the near distance where the tree line broke. The sun was shining brightly through the trees that were hiding the open land behind it.

“Whose territory is that?” Lilly asked.

“It’s a mixture. Rogues often wander there. It has always been known as a magic land though. It is where they say the fairy’s and witches’ dwell.” Kade said with an air of mysterious play.

“You say dwell like they are stone age and do not know what electricity and cars are.” Lilly giggled.

SNAP

Lilly and Kade froze as they both heard the sound of twigs and leaves crunching. They turned to the direction where the sound came from. Their stomachs dropped at what they saw.

## **Chapter 9 - Dr.Luna |**

Lilly and Kade froze. Coming into the Diamond pack territory were five unknown wolves. Probably rogues who packed up together. They were staring at Kade and Lilly, snarling as they closed in.

Kade sent a quick mind link to the pack about the intruders telling them that he had Lilly with him and to hurry. “Lilly get out of here.” Kade barked and then jumped in front of her transforming into his magnificent red-colored wolf. His wolf was bigger than each of the individual rogues, but there were five of them. He was strong as a beta, but the odds were not in his favor. He strategically placed himself between the rogues and Lilly. His ears laid back flat as he growled at them aggressively.

In sync, they leaped on him. The five wolves using their numbers to take down the large beta in front of them.

Lilly froze momentarily, unable to react. She could not run and leave Kade there. She had to help him. We have to help him Kira! Lilly ordered. Lilly shifted into Kira and

plunged into the fray. Kira grabbed one of the wolves by the back of the neck and she bit down hard. The other wolf shrieked as its blood pooled to the ground. Kira felt a sharp, intense pain in her shoulder as another wolf attacked her. The pain angered her, and she turned and grabbed the other wolf. She shook the wolf and launched its body into a tree. A loud crunching noise was heard, and the wolf laid there lifeless.

The other four wolves backed up and seemed to eye up Kira cautiously. Kira's large size, tenacity, aggression, and natural commanding aura had the rogues double thinking their actions. She looked like an Alpha and acted like one, but she was not the Alpha.

Kira stood protectively in front of Kade and bared her teeth at the rogues. She was not backing down; in fact, she took an aggressive step towards them. The rogues had already lost one member and they began to further retreat. When the sound of incoming running was being heard, the four wolves quickly turned tail and retreated from the area.

Kira turned and looked at Kade's wolf. She walked up to him and looked over his wounds carefully. He was chewed up some, but nothing serious. He would heal soon enough. She turned and looked over at the dead wolf a few feet away. It was her first time killing another wolf, but she did not feel overly remorseful.

She was dripping with blood from her jaw and oozing red liquid from her shoulder. Lilly was thinking how Kira must really look a sight right now. The sounds of running stopped near them and she looked up at the wolves that had assembled nearby. She was a stranger to them, since she was not an official member of the pack.

Kade's wolf stood in front of her protectively, his wolf was a bit smaller than Kira's. He must have mind linked the others and told them who she was because they quit looking at her threateningly. Kira watched as a huge silver wolf made its way to the front. She knew immediately it was Tyler's wolf. His wolf was massive, and the other wolves showed him reverence as he walked past them. He walked with confidence and held his head high, there was no arguing it, this was an alpha wolf.

The large silver wolf eyed the dead wolf curiously. His eyes scanned over Kade's wolf and then rested on Kira. His ears perked up and he took a few steps forward seeing his mate. Kira's ears went back, and she let out a low growl warning him to keep his distance. This, of course, set off a domino effect of rippling growls throughout the wolves there at the aggression towards their alpha.

Tyler must have mind linked the others because the wolves quieted down instantly and left the area. Kade was the only other wolf remaining and he had kept his position in front of Kira. Until the silver wolf eyed him down. Whatever he said made Kade shrink down and stand aside slowly, leaving Kira and Tyler's wolf with no one in between them.

He took another step towards Kira and she growled at him again lowly, not showing her teeth this time. Kira watched as he laid down and began to crawl his way up to her. Lilly giggled, forgetting she was still mad at Tyler. You have to give him credit, Kira. Kira sneezed and shook her head and let out a small yelp from the pain in her shoulder. She forgot that the wound was there.

Tyler's wolf hopped up immediately and rushed up to Kira's side when he heard her whimper. He began to look her over intently and he seemed confused at her wound not healing. He lifted his head up and he looked at Kira. She had let him close the gap and seemed to be curious about her mate. He was bigger than her, which she was happy over. His tail wagged as he nuzzled his head into her neck. The two seemed to accept each other as mates. Lilly was happy for Kira. Kira had not had a lot of interaction with other wolves and it was something she was craving. She was really hoping that they could successfully be part of a pack, for both of their sakes.

Kira, we need to get this bandaged up. Since it takes us longer to heal. Lilly did not want to interrupt Kira's time with her mate, but knew they needed to tend to the wound. Kira looked at her mate once more before she walked over to the backpack that Kade had brought. She nosed through it until she found a large t-shirt. She did not bother going to hide behind a tree, she went ahead and shifted back into herself and eased the shirt over her head.

Lilly assessed the wound on her arm. She was happy that it was the only wound she ended up with. It wasn't a pretty wound, but it wasn't life-threatening. She would be able to wrap it up for now. She reached back in the bag and tossed a pair of shorts over to Kade and Tyler. Then proceeded to rip the bottom off of a shirt to use as a bandage. Kade came up to her and knelt by her side to look at the wound. He leaned his head to her ear and said softly "You know you would heal better if you took that off."

Lilly jumped and turned to look at him in shock. He knew... he knew why she wasn't healing. She lowered her eyebrows down at him. "I-I-... Could you tie this off for me? It will heal soon enough." She felt like the moment she took her necklace off it really would be over. She would never be able to return to her old pack once the necklace was removed.

"What is going on? Why aren't you healing?" Tyler looked down at Lilly looking perplexed and worried. Her wound had not begun to heal at all.

He didn't know. Kade did not tell him. Lilly looked up at Kade and she felt an appreciation for him. Tyler was his alpha, but he did not tell him about her necklace. He was letting her tell him.

"There is nothing wrong... My magic is being suppressed. I will explain it more another time." Lilly answered truthfully but did not give the whole truth.

"Wait, WHAT?" Tyler was furious. His mate fought with her powers suppressed?

Lilly chose to ignore him and instead stood up and turned to the wolf she had killed. “Do they stay in that form or will they return to their human form?” She wasn’t sure how it worked in battle.

“They will eventually change back. I told you to run, Lilly.” Kade said, looking at her bandaged wound on her arm.

“I couldn’t leave you there with all those wolves. You would have been dead before help arrived.” Lilly would not be able to live with herself if she had left him alone. “Besides, Kira was more than ready to take her frustration out on someone. It’s unfortunate how that wolf there got the brunt of it.”

“Your wolf is magnificent. Those rogues were ready to run as soon as your wolf emerged. She really is something special. Even though you should have run, thanks for staying and helping me.” Kade knew that she saved him. He would have been beaten pretty badly if not killed by the time reinforcements arrived.

“I was not sure how much help I would be. I have never fought before... I have never killed another wolf or even injured one. I guess there is something to be said about animal instincts.” Lilly glanced back at the dead rogue one last time. Animal instincts or being angry about a slut wolf who keeps touching our mate. All I had to do was envision her face there. Kira beamed happily. Lilly giggled as she listened to Kira. Kade and Tyler looked at her curiously. “Sorry, private conversation with Kira.”

“It seems that your wolf has accepted mine.” Tyler said with a smile. He admitted her wolf was large and had a dangerous aura, but she was perfect to him. “You really should not be all the way out here. You were supposed to be safe near the pack house.” Tyler walked up to Lilly and placed his hand gently on her shoulder.

Lilly stepped out from him and walked to the other side of Kade. Tyler frowned at her in confusion. Everything had been going so well and now she was acting distant again.

Lilly needed to walk away from him, he was not going to shoot his crazy drug into her already. Not when she was still angry with him. “Maybe if you were not gone so long on “pack business” then I would never have left.” Lilly used air quotations on pack business.

“What is that supposed to mean?” Tyler felt agitated with her tone and replied with an edgy one of his own.

Lilly sighed angrily. Then a jingle was heard. She heard the sound of something. She turned her head in the direction of the field. She could hear a muffled sound; something was calling to her. It felt vaguely familiar. Something shimmered in the distance or so she thought. She looked again but did not see anything. She could feel it though barely. Whatever it was, her necklace was suppressing it. The sounds began to fade, but she

could still feel the presence. Who was calling to her? Why did she feel like she needed to go? She felt like she was forgetting something, something important.

“Lilly?”

She felt Tyler’s arm on her, and she blinked and stared up at him and Kade. Didn’t they hear it? Couldn’t they sense it?

“Did you... a moment ago, did you feel or hear anything?” Lilly searched their eyes and the two looked up at one another and shook their heads no. Why was she the only one who could hear it? She felt it too, but what was she feeling.

It’s time for you to remove that necklace. It has been a leash to us for too long. Kira spoke calmly in Lilly’s mind.

Do you know what that was?... Kira? ... You aren’t going to tell me? Lilly felt agitated. Her wolf, HER wolf was keeping something from her.

The necklace, Lilly. Just take it off. Kira said quietly.

“NO!” Lilly shouted out loud causing Tyler and Kade to jump at the unexpected outburst.

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## **Chapter 10 - Dr.Luna |**

“Lilly...” Kade patted her head and he smiled down at her. “Everything is okay, little Tulip.”

Lilly relaxed and smiled at her goofy friend. She considered him a friend and he has proven that she could trust him. “Kira is keeping secrets from me... it’s frustrating.”

“I’m sure she will tell you when she is ready.” Kade reassured her. Your wolf would not purposely do anything to hurt you, since you are their vessel.

“She wants me to...” Lilly grabbed her necklace and then frowned. Her tie to her pack. By taking the necklace off it would sever it. Not that she had much of a relationship with them anyways. How would it affect things with Aaron and her father? And Mattie?

Tyler watched the two and felt jealous over the closeness they seemed to have developed. “When did you two become so close?”

“Probably during the time when you were making out with your girlfriend.” Lilly glared at him. She felt her chest tighten as she remembered how Jessica’s arms were snaked



around Tyler. And the way she tip toed up and kissed his lips. She could feel the burning in her chest as it tightened.

Tyler looked and saw the hurt in Lilly's eyes. He never meant to cause her pain and seeing her on the verge of tears crushed him. "Lilly, it isn't like tha-

"Save it. I saw you. I saw her arms around you. I saw her kiss you and you did nothing. Just give me space." Lilly stomped away from him and Kade, walking back to the pack house on her own. She did not want to hear his reasonings. 'She kissed him' or the 'it is still so raw' for Jessica thing. She did not want to hear any of it. She had never been kissed before and felt that it was something special. She wanted to share it with her mate. She was not about to kiss lips that keep being kissed by another woman. He couldn't have both of them.

Tyler and Kade watched Lilly storm off. Tyler turned to look at Kade who gave him an angry gaze.

"What the hell Tyler? You trying to screw things up with her? What are you doing?" Kade was angry. Lilly deserved better.

"Ugh, I know man. I did not mean for Lilly to see that. Jessica was crying and she was saying how everyone was teasing her for thinking she would be my luna. I felt bad and was trying to console her and then she kissed me. I didn't kiss her back. I guess I should have shoved her off of me, but we were just engaged yesterday. I feel like I wronged her." Tyler and Kade began to walk after Lilly. She was far ahead of them, but they were keeping her in their sights.

"Well you wronged Lilly. Who do you want to wrong more? You better make things clear with Jessica or you are going to lose her, Ty." Kade softened as he said the last part. He knew Tyler did not want to lose Lilly.

"Damn..."

"What now?" Kade asked in a groan.

"I told Jessica she could still be my date tomorrow at the banquet. She already has her dress and we had planned to go together..." Tyler sighed out in irritation. He felt torn. He wanted to go with Lilly as his date. She was his luna, but he had promised Jessica first. He at least owed her this much.

"Man, you are an idiot. So, what is Lilly supposed to do? She supposed to stay here? Or tag along and sit at a table by herself all night."

"She is the packs luna. She has to come." Tyler felt bad thinking about the situation he was going to be putting her in.

"I see. So, she is supposed to sit at a table and watch her mate dance with someone else all night. Unless you want to pair her up with a date for the evening?" Kade asked and Tyler growled at the mere suggestion. "I see. So, it is okay for you but not for her. Tyler... you are a jerk man. You need to think about her before you make decisions. That is what having a mate means."

Lilly was walking back up to the pack house when she heard "Luna." She turned and saw Cedric walking up to her.

"Luna you know how to make a man blush, that's for sure. You are breath taking." Cedric smiled at her as he looked her over. She was wearing only a men's t-shirt and her upper thighs were exposed.

"Can I help you?" Lilly turned to face him, and her voice dripped in irritation. Her head started to buzz lightly as she faced him.

Cedric laughed and shot her a genuine smile. It was a real smile and Lilly felt his fake act slide with it.

"I knew I liked you from the start. You are not only beautiful, but are honest with your feelings, aren't you? Look, I heard that Jessica is going to be Tyler's date tomorrow. I think Tyler is insane for not jumping off that crazy train... anyways I was hoping you would do me the honors." Tyler looked at her hopefully.

Lilly felt the crushing pang in her chest again. Wow, did it hurt. He was not going to take her as his date. So, what was she supposed to do? Lilly looked past Cedric to see a group of young ladies waiting nearby. They were obviously wanting to be his date.

Lilly smiled and looked up at him. "I'm trying to make friends here. I think if I go with you, I will be inheriting a harem of enemies."

Cedric chuckled and then frowned at her. "What about you? You can't go without a date. That is just too sad for our new luna."

"Apparently your alpha doesn't think so." Lilly shrugged with a pained look in her eyes.

"Well, obviously thinking can't be a strong suit, he chose Jessica as his bride before he met you. I never went near that crazy chick." Cedric looked annoyed as he thought of Jessica.

Lilly giggled and smiled up at him. "You are not a slimy guy, are you? It seems to me that you like to put on an act to hide yourself." Lilly was sensing a whole other side of him; one he was not showing before. She felt like a veil was beginning to be lifted. As if she was stuck in a fog, but what was she trying to see?

"You are quite perceptive, luna."

“Lilly.”

Cedric smiled and held out his hand. “I think we are going to be good friends.”

Lilly smiled and reached for his hand. The moment she touched his hand she felt a warm tingling sensation in her hand and the buzzing in her head intensified. She drew her hand back quickly like something had bitten her. He stared at her with wide eyes, like he had a sudden realization. Cedric leaned back on his heels and then smiled at Lilly warmly. “Well... I’ll be damned.”

Lilly was still gripping her hand when she heard a deadly growl rip through Tyler’s throat. Within seconds he had grabbed Cedric by his neck. “What did you do to her?” He growled out accusingly.

“Stop!” Lilly grabbed onto Tyler’s arm and he let go immediately at her touch. He turned and looked her over carefully.

“Did he say something? What happened? What did he do to your hand?” Kade was at her side asking questions while eyeing Cedric.

Lilly did not even know when Kade appeared at her side or from where Tyler showed up at. The buzzing had quieted down, but she could feel something stirring in her mind, like she recognized the person in front of her.

“He didn’t do anything... I-- ...” Lilly looked down at her hand and then met with Cedric’s eyes. “I feel like I am forgetting something... important... Why do I feel like I know you?”

Cedric smiled widely at her. “It’s because it seems that you have, and in a sense you do.” He looked at Tyler and then back to Lilly. “This is interesting.”

“Are you going to say what is so interesting?” Tyler growled in annoyance. He hated guessing games.

“Alas, I am not at liberty to say. See you around princess.” Cedric grinned and began to walk away towards his crowd of adoring fans.

“Wait.” Lilly took a few steps towards Cedric. She felt like she was trying to break through something. It felt like some sort of barrier and when she touched Cedric, she felt like she was almost able to see. He turned and looked at her seemingly conflicted and then caught the glaring eyes of Tyler staring him down.

“Cedric!” One of the love-struck girls called out.

“We will talk another time.” Cedric turned and walked into his groupie of girls and headed off.

Lilly was beginning to feel uncomfortable. She was missing something and did not know what it was. As if her life was not a ball of mystery enough. Something was beginning to stir within her and was awakening. She was feeling uneasy and she wrapped her arms around herself protectively.

"Can I go home?" Lilly asked quietly.

"Yeah, let's get you inside." Kade responded.

"No, I want to go back to my home." Lilly looked up at Tyler whose eyes turned dark as he stared back at her.

"This is your home." Tyler's voice was dark and angry. The fact that she mentioned leaving made him infuriated. "You. Are. Mine." His wolf paced around possessively in his head. Lilly was his mate; his territory and his wolf did not share. He would not let go of what was his.