## **Chapter 103**

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I sat in my office trying to go over this paperwork but I couldn't focus. My thoughts were on Max It has been four days and she still hasn't spoken to me. The first night When I came to the room, she was already asleep and when I woke, she has already left the bed.

Now she is staying in her old room which is killing me. I know she is angry but I don't know how to explain the problem and the reason why I must go. She already doesn't want me to leave if she knew the whole reason she definitely won't want me to.

"Hey man, I've been knocking for the last five minutes,"

Lifting my head I see Jon standing at my desk.

He takes a good look at my face then pulls the chair out taking a seat.

"Dam dude you look like shit,"

With a humph, I look back down and try to read the paper I have been looking at for probably the last hour.

"Max still not talking to ya?"

Setting the paper down I rub my forehead and then pinch the bridge of my nose.

"No, she has even started sleeping in her old room."

"Ouch, she is pissed at you big time so what are you going to do?"

Sitting back against the chair keeping my hands on the desk letting out a sigh.

"I'm not sure she won't even stay in the same room as me, I don't want to leave with her being mad at me but I have to and I can't tell her the truth as to why I'm needed there because it will only fuel her anger,"

Shaking his head as he understands my position.

"Well Mr. Colton will be here tonight we are heading out at first light so you need to patch this up with her or you won't be any good out there,"

"Yeah, about that, Um I'm going to need you to stay behind for Max,"

He raises his eyebrows for a minute then his face becomes hard-looking.

"You're making me stay behind to deal with your pissed-off mate, which happens to be pregnant and is extremely moody!"

Rubbing the back of my neck.

"Yes," I simply say to him.

"NO!" He growled at me I could see his eyes starting to glow just a bit.

He stood up his body tensing up.

"I will not stay behind you will need me for this. Just because you haven't told her the truth as to why you are going doesn't mean it gets pushed on me. I love Max as a sister as much as I do you as my brother but this is something you have to handle not me!

I didn't say anything I let him vent I couldn't say anything. I knew he was right. Even though I didn't mean to make a sound, as if I was pushing our fight off on him. I just wanted to make sure Max was protected while I was gone.

Holding my hands up to show him I was staying calm.

"Jon sit down, please I didn't mean for it to sound like that," I held my hand towards the chair.

"Please,"

I see him close his eyes take a few breaths then slowly sit down.

"I didn't want you to deal with my fight with Max, I apologize if it came out that way I was asking you to stay behind for her protection, With Hank being gonna as well there is no one else that I trust to look after Max,"

I see his shoulder slouch just a bit with my words.

"Dex I'm sorry for my outburst, you know I would protect her with my life if this is what you need of me then I'll do it,"

"Yes, Jon it is, I know I need to settle this with Max before I leave but I need to make sure she is protected at all times,"

"I understand I'll stay behind but if you need my help, you better call. I'll be there,"

"I know, I will Thank Jon,"

"When you gonna tell Max the reason that you have to go there because you have to fight to win Brenda's freedom?"

Before I could answer him, my door slammed open to reveal a very angry mate of mine.

She stood there breathing heavily I could see her chest rise and fall I swear her eyes glowed red for a minute. I quickly stood up.

"Max,"

"Don't you dare!" She said her voice was extremely deep which meant her dragon was present.

"Oh shit," Was all Jon said he stood as well and then tried to move by sidestepping away as my mate approached us."

"You don't get to move," she said while pointing her finger at him he froze right where he was.

"And you" She points to me "If you think I will sit by while my mate runs off to fight for another female you are very wrong my dear mate,"

"Max," I say while I hold my hands up,

"It's not what you think, I'm not fighting to keep her it's only for her freedom, Then I will come back to you it's always you that I will return to no one else,"

Her eyes changed colors to that golden.

She looked at Jon.

"How long did you know?" She asked him

I saw him swallow ever so shallowly.

"Jon!" She growled

"From the beginning Max," He said softly like he was defeated.

Her eyes slide back to me. She steps forward again till she is right in front of my desk.

"Everyone knew except me?"

Letting my arms drop to my side I knew I couldn't get out of this.

"Yes," "But,"

I couldn't even get my words out when she held her hand up.

"Don't! I am your mate we are to be there for one another to share the hard things in life I'm carrying your child I let you hide me away for how long while you were held captive and tortured, Then you left me for months alone while you slept with other women and I stayed with you, But this is the last I cannot stand here and watch you leave again while everyone knows why but I did not know,"

I watched as a tear left her eye slowly rolling down her cheek.

I could feel the sadness through the bond and the pain in my chest.

I started to move around the desk I just needed to hold her. Just as I was about to reach for her, she held her hand up and I stopped in place I couldn't move.

"Max," I growled

I kept trying to reach for her but I couldn't move.

She looked at me tears filled her eyes. I knew that look.

"Don't Max!"

She took steps back towards the door.

"Jon don't let her leave," I yelled to him

He went to take a step forward and her other hand came up and he stopped right in his spot.

"I'm sorry I wanted to tell you about this but we never got the chance to, I'm sorry for what I'm about to do but my heart can't take more,"

"Max," I could feel my dragon coming forward my claws were pushing out.

She stopped in the doorway she looked straight at me.

"Goodbye, Dexter," With those last words she pushed her hands forward throwing Jon and myself back against the wall.

The door slammed shut I scrambled to my feet rushing across the room and ripping the door open.

I Ran down the hall trying to find her scent but there was nothing.

Moving out the front door I stopped taking a deep breath.

"Max!" I yelled as I fell to my knees.