

Chapter 80

Maxine

I wasn't sure how long I sat there knew I needed to get up and move but the heavy feeling of guilt weighted me down.

Laura, she didn't even hesitate to protect me and now I have no idea if she alive. Why would she throw herself in danger like that for me everyone here keeps protecting me and I've done nothing to protect myself. Well, no more I can't just sit by and let everyone be in harm's way.

With those thoughts I wipe my face standing up taking a deep breath I start walking back towards the cabin.

I know how I can stop all this no more fighting no more hiding no more people I love getting hurt.

I keep my pace steady I don't really remember how far I managed to run I had stopped when I didn't hear any more fighting. Just as I pushed through some branches, I hear the voice of the person I'm looking for.

"Going somewhere?" His voice is full of sarcasm. I stand up straight squaring my shoulders he will not intimidate me I will not back out now. So, putting a smile on my face I look right at him.

"Yes, actually I'm looking for you,"

He gets this smirk on his face he cocks his head to the side.

"Are you now! Just a few minutes ago you ran from me,"

He says as he walks closer to me standing right in front of me.

"Well, I want to make a deal with you," I keep my voice strong not wanting to show any fear.

"You do! Hmmm and what is this deal?" He runs his fingers along my cheek. I close my eyes for just a moment calming my panicked nerves. I open my eyes looking up at him.

"Yes, I'm pretty sure you will like my deal,"

He steps closer dipping his head placing his face in the crook of my neck I feel him take a breath in.

I couldn't help the shiver that ran down my spine it's wasn't a good shiver like when Dexter touches me this shiver made my skin crawl.

"What is this deal you want to make my little dragon,"

"I will come with you willingly, I won't fight you I won't run from you I will become your mate but I have one condition,"

He picks his head up looking surprised at my words I knew he wasn't expecting me to be so willing he probably thought I'd fight him and not go peacefully.

"What's your condition?"

"You leave Dexter and his family alone no one else is to get hurt,"

He chuckles at my words I lift my brows at him.

"What's so funny?" My voice a little deeper I know my dragon is restless and pushing to come forward she's not liking my decision on going with him and letting him claim me as his mate but it's the only way to stop all this fighting I can't handle anyone else getting hurt because of me.

"Oh, nothing it's just you're so quick to worry about your so-called mate,"

"What does that mean?"

"Have you wonder what your mate has been doing this last month?"

"He's been held captive by you!" I couldn't help but start to get irritated by him.

"Oh no no he's has been free to leave on his own but he chooses to stay at the palace on his own free will, would you like to know who he has been staying with?"

Before I could say a voice cut me off.

"Get away from her!"

I turn to see Dexter standing there on instinct I wanted to go to him but then I remember what I told Drake. But Drake was quick to move behind me wrapping his arms around me pulling me flush against his front. He slides his hand up grabbing my throat letting his claws come forward so they were pressed against my skin.

"Far enough,"

Dexter let's out a hard growl his eyes going from yellow back to normal. His dragon is pushing to come out I can feel my own dragon scratching at me but I keep pushing her back.

"Let her go," Dexter voice was deep and held a threatening warning he wasn't here to talk or play any games.

"Now why would I do that when she just agreed to come with me,"

Dexter's eyes snap to mine I could see the question on his face.

But before he could ask Drake cut in.

"Before you get all bothered by her decision maybe you should tell her where you have been for the last month or better yet who you have been with,"

I tilt my head a little looking up at Drake.

"Who?" was all I said.

"Max," Dexter voice was softer. I look at him I see he wants to tell me something but he seems hesitant to.

Drake leaning down close to my face but keeping his eyes on Dexter.

"Yes, Dexter tell her,"

"I wasn't with anyone he kept me locked in a cell but there was someone would help me escape,"

"Oh, come on now Dexter don't drag it out," Drake scoffs at him.

"Dexter," My voice trembled a little was he really locked up or was he with someone. It wouldn't be the first time he was with another.

"Max no before you even think the wrong thing."

Once again Drake cut in.

"Tell her Dexter you are avoiding it,"

"Shut it, Drake!" Dexter yelled at him.

"Who!" I yelled at him.

He looks at me he's face softens.

"Brenda, but before you get the wrong idea..."

"There you see he was with her instead of coming for you even his parents kept you busy thinking he was being kept prisoner when he wasn't he has been with her," Drake cut Dexter off.

"NO!" Dexter yells he takes a step forward but Drake pulls me back a step he tightens his hold on my throat cause me to gasp a little. Dexter stops moving holding his hands up.

Brenda, I remember Jon telling me she was helping them she even told them where his father warriors were. She helped Jon escape so he could come get Charles.

"Max please look at me," I hear Dexter voice.

Lifting my eyes to meet his he stares right at me.

"Please believe me Max I wasn't with her, yes she helped me escape she helped Jon get out but I wasn't there with her, you are the one I want no one else but you," He then looks down at my stomach did he know? How could he know,

I hear movement looking away from Dexter I see Hank and Jon coming around the tree stopping to look at the situation in front of them. Jon goes to make a move but Dexter holds his hand up making him stop.

"That's right I wouldn't I'll snap her neck," Drake's yells at them.

I look to Dexter his eyes pleading for me to believe him. I wasn't sure if I should or not but then it hit me when he left for all those months every time he was with someone the pain, I would feel was almost unbearable. But I never felt that this last month I felt pain yes but nothing like before. It was pain of him being hurt no him cheating on me.

I smile at him knowing he's telling me the truth. His eyes get bright knowing I believe him.

"Now if you three will excuse us we will be on our way," Drake's tells them he's wanting to retreat knowing he's now out numbered.

"You will go nowhere with my mate!"

"Ha Didn't you listen earlier she has agreed to go with me so she has chosen me," Drake leans down placing a kiss on my cheek causing a growl to leave Dexter.

"NO, SHE DIDN'T, SHE IS MY MATE!"

"Dexter," I say through the link. His eyes look down to me.

"Please know I love you and I believe you I'm sorry I didn't get to tell you about our child and I'm sorry for what I'm about to do but this needs to stop,"

He shook his head.

"Max," He calls my name. but I don't answer I lean back into Drake reaching my hands up running them along his arm placing my hands over his. He loosens his hold I slowly turn stepping up against him standing on my tip toes so I could get my head next to him.

"Take me away," I whisper in his ear I feel him grin he snakes his arm around my lower back pulling me even closer.

"Hang on tight," he says to me before I could say anything he shifted holding me in his one claw.

"MAX! DON'T!" I hear Dexter voice.

Drake roars launching himself in the air.