

10 - Entangled With The Savage Alpha - Berrybloom

10

Dawn

A crowd was gathered outside the pack house. From within it, I heard snarling sounds that seemed to be coming from a young werewolf.

The crowd parted for Kaden, Lex, Princess, the triplets, and I. Noting the way the crowd regarded them, I made a mental note to find out what exactly the Triplets do and who Princess is.

A boy was in the middle, baring his teeth and lunging at anyone who moved an inch closer to him.

Kaden and Lex exchanged a glance and then shook their heads.

"This is the 6th time this week alone," Princess complained beside me. "We don't even know what it is that possesses these kids."

Apart from the deranged look in his eyes and the purple stain on his lips, the boy in question looked harmless.

I raised a brow, wondering why they were all so concerned and more importantly why they were all gathered.

"Why not inject him with a sleeping tab or something," I murmured, not understanding what the fuss was about.

Princess shot me an incredulous look. "That boy will not think twice before ripping your heart out or damaging something serious. We tried injecting them with potions before but it only made things worse. What all of us are doing now is trying to keep him from doing any of that until Rhys comes. He's the only one that can handle them when they're like this. He uses his dominance to get them to submit. Then we chain them up. We have 5 kids in an induced Coma because of whatever this is."

I nodded. Something about what was happening was familiar. I tried to dig into my memories but nothing came to mind.

The boy let out a growl and began to shift.

"Spread out!" Kaden instructed.

He then nodded at the triplets who nodded back then began to shift.

“Princess, get her out of here. Shit is about to get ugly.”

Princess grabbed my arm and cursed, “Where the hell is Rhys when we need him.” She screamed as she tried to tug me away.

I didn't budge. I was still trying to pinpoint where I'd witnessed something like this. My eyes fell to his lips and it hit me.

Purple. That was the color of the Nightshade herb. A herb used for intoxication. He must have ingested the herb or the fruit. It wasn't deadly, but it led to psychosis and suicide. It also had a natural antidote in its root.

“Wait!” I screamed.

“Get out of here!” Kaden screamed.

But I couldn't. Not when I knew how to stop this madness. The young werewolf sniffed the air and then locked eyes with me.

Then he lunged at me. I leapt out of the way barely missing his attack. He fell, rolled, and growled at me. I could see why he chose to attack me, I looked like the weakest among everyone.

“What the hell!” I heard Kaden scream.

But I was too busy trying to remember if and where I'd seen a Nightshade since I came to Golden Crest. I closed my eyes.

“Get out of the way!” Princess screamed.

I had a thing with herbs and nature. Years of roaming through the forests at first with my mother and then to find food and succor had taught me a lot.

I allowed myself to imagine the scent of a nightshade, and then an image of it. And it came to me.

I took off, allowing the very faint scent of what was the closest Nightshade to lead me. As I ran, I allowed my wolf to come to the forefront. I shifted with ease into my silver-furred wolf and leaped into the air.

I wasn't afraid that he would catch me. I was undeniably fast in both my human and wolf form. I was yet to meet any wolf who could match my speed.

I felt behind me, accompanied by what I realized were Tayla, Layla, and Kayla's wolves. They tried to distract him, taunting him. But his psychosis made him focused and strong.

We were deep in the forests now. I felt as if I was at home. Every forest was my domain. They were all the same to me. I loved it.

The plant I sought was close by now. I needed to change back to my human form so I could carefully uproot it without poisoning myself and others.

I looked back to find them miles behind me. I skidded to a stop, crutched in, and shifted as fast as I could. Then carefully uprooted the nightshade bush.

He was close. Very close now.

“Get the fuck out of there.” I heard Kaden scream in human form.

I needed water. Hurriedly, I detached the balls of the roots and flung the nightshade as far as I could, then began crushing the antidote in my palm.

The deranged wolf was close by now. He let out a growl as he leaped at me. I needed more time but I'd already crushed it up a bit, so It would have to do.

I hurled the crushed mixture into his gaping mouth before he crashed on me. We fell with a large thud and by the time I tried sitting up, he was knocked out and already shifting back to his human form.

The three wolves surrounded us, sniffing us for danger and trying to drag him out of my arms. But I cradle him gently. My heart beat against my chest as I watched him snore softly.

Kaden arrived a few moments later alongside the pack members. He looked pissed. But he immediately threw a blanket around me and handed spare clothes to the triplets who had changed back to their human form.

Princess burst forward and collapsed by my side. “Are you okay? Are you injured?” She gasped.

The triplets eyed me skeptically. And pack members watched us with curiosity.

“Is he okay?” Kaden gritted out.

“Yeah. He's sleeping like a baby.”

Just then a terrible growl resounded around us. Pack members shrunk back in fear.

“Oops. Rhys sounds pissed.” Princess said.

“Can you stand up?” Kaden asked me, “Remember he cannot see you. We need to move fast. He's close.”

I tried to move but my feet were tired. I hadn't run like that in years. Plus I'd just exhausted all the energy I'd managed to gain in the past few days. Another thing was that while the nightshade root was an antidote to the poisoned, it had a similar effect on someone who wasn't poisoned.

Once its sap came in contact with anyone, it weakened their systems so it could detoxify it. I wasn't supposed to handle it without protection.

I shook my head. “I'm afraid I cannot move,” I whispered.

My body felt heavy. I needed the effects of the roots to wash off and I needed food.

Kaden growled and began pacing around.

“What the fuck is happening here!” Rhys' voice boomed.

The crowd surrounding us parted. I could feel his anger from a mile away.

“What the hell was that?” He growled. As soon as he set his eyes on me, his anger tripled.

“Why on earth is she here? Where's the boy?”

“He's fine,” Princess said getting up.

Rhys looked at me then at Kaden and Lex.

“Is she hurt? Why is she pale?” He asked.

“No. No. She isn't, she-” Princess said then looked at me.

My breaths were short and rapid. Her eyes widened. “Dawn.”

“I'm fine. I just need the effects to-” I started to say, then lost my balance.

A hand shot out to stop me from falling. His beautiful scent surrounded me. I believed that I was the fastest, but maybe he was because how the hell did he move so fast? He was standing before me less than a minute ago.

“Get the boy.” He commanded.

Kaden lifted the boy from my lap while Princess tried to make sure that the blanket stayed wrapped around me.

Rhys grunted and lifted me with ease. It was too reminiscent of our night together. That was the last thing I thought of before drifting off into oblivion.

I woke up to a start from another weird dream. The shadow was bigger this time. Throughout the dream, it siphoned energy to me. I didn't understand what it meant. But it reminded me of the Old Alpha. He was the Alpha Prime and had a special ability to strengthen anyone he chose to. I remembered the last time I saw him and the attachment I developed to him. It didn't make sense.

"Finally. She's awake." Rhys grumbled. "Get her out of here."

I immediately became self-conscious of where I was. This wasn't my room and multiple eyes peered at me. I tried to sit up but I fell back still weak. I needed food.

Princess dashed to my side. She looked terrified. "Dawn, are you okay?"

I gave her a weak side and wondered why I wasn't in my room instead.

"You've been out cold for 48 hours!" She whispered.

"How's the boy?"

"Is that all you can ask of?" she frowned. "He's fine. He was up and normal in 30 minutes."

"That's about right," I murmured. "You'll take me to see the other children later. I can make them better."

"Are you insane? You look like you almost died." She scolded, "You're supposed to tell us what you need."

I chuckled. "Why am I here? Why am I not in my room?"

The air in the room became tense. Princess looked at Rhys who looked like he was going to kill all of us then back at me.

"Forget that. Just tell me what you need."

"I need food and a nap, plus I need to go to my room now."

"You're not fucking going anywhere." Rhys barked, "Princess go and ask Mimi to whip up something for her. Lex, get the pack doctor. Kaden let the pack members know that she has finally woken up."

They nodded and hurried out, leaving the both of us.

I shifted uncomfortably, shut my eyes, and opened it. He didn't say anything. Instead, he paced around. He looked like he had something to say.

I didn't think I wanted to hear it.

"Don't play any stupid stunt like that ever again." He growled.

"I don't know what you were thinking. Why'd you go through all that if the antidote was so damn dangerous? What were you trying to prove? Don't fucking do that again."

His words stung me. I wasn't expecting praise, I never got those. I didn't even know what I wanted.

I shut my eyes and pretended to ignore him. When I opened my eyes again. I was alone.

Princess burst in a few moments later, holding a tray of food and the doctor trailed in after her.

He asked me some questions and checked my vitals as I wolfed down my meal. When he was done I went back to sleep and when I awoke the next time, I was in the comfort of my room.

I felt a lot better and more energetic. After an hour of soaking in the bathtub, I put on one of the whimsical dresses in my closet and headed out the door.

I found Princess and Kaden playing poker in what assumed was the game room.

"Finally!" Princess exclaimed, dropping her cards.

Kaden gave me a small smile, "Don't do that again." He warned. "You gave all of us quite the scare."

"Cross my heart," I promised. "Now where can I find Nightshades or do I have to go as far as I did the last time?"

Kaden raised a brow, "You just promised, Dawn."

"I meant it," I said, patting his arm. "I was only affected like that because I handled the plant with any protection. Plus it was in the heat of the moment."

"You were so cool. How'd you know all that? All the physicians that Rhys paid a ton of money couldn't even figure it out." Princess said.

"You'll be surprised at what I know," I smirked.

“Nah. After today, nothing about you can surprise me,” Kaden added, shaking his head.