

Chapter 13

ELLE

I really had intended to tell him everything by now, but it was like the universe was keeping this conversation at a standstill. It was annoying, but there was nothing that I could do about it. We would discuss it once we got Jesse to safety. He was understanding despite the lack of an explanation.

'I had to wait until the proper time to showcase the truth of our power,' Faye said.

I always knew that Faye was a very special wolf. I did not realize just how special she was. We kept her away from everyone. Gabriel had been the only other person that had seen Faye because Selene advised me to keep her identity a secret from the pack. I was very surprised when the Council's warriors bowed towards Faye. She was not surprised at all though. Like I often said – she was privy to a lot that I was not.

'Why did they bow?' I asked her.

'We're descendants of Selene. Wolves are drawn to her aura, wishing to be in her presence. Their wolves could feel our power and recognized the same type of aura when they saw my form. This was why we had to hide it until now. The Council deals with gifted wolves all the time, so they're

more aware of these things than other wolves.'

That actually made a lot of sense even if it was a bit daunting to think about. I only knew that we were related for the past month. It was still hard to wrap my head around that fact. However, I had known her personally since I was a pup. It made me wonder how many relatives she had out there in the world.

Ever since the rejection, she had spoken to me quite a bit. There were times in the middle of torture sessions that I could not handle anything else. She would speak to me and comfort me. It always renewed me enough to handle anything they threw at me.

Despite the hostility surrounding tonight, it was absolutely beautiful out. No Omega dared to be outside during the night because it was a recipe for disaster. The warriors had no qualms with attacking us during daylight hours. Imagine what they would be willing to do during the nighttime. The trees were blocking out the moonlight, but it was bright and gorgeous outside of the woods, reminding me that there would always be light even in the darkest of places.

I could not wait to run free whenever I wanted to. There would be no more hiding. It would be a whole new life for everyone. Lives that they always deserved. Kade offering to bring in every single Omega to his pack if they wanted to leave made my heart burst with pride and emotion. He would never be able to fully understand what that offer

meant to me because both Gabriel and I had feared leaving them here and felt guilty as hell about it. He was offering them the chance at an actual life. One that was not filled with pain and fear.

Faye looked to her right and saw Tyre running alongside us. He had stunning golden eyes which stood out against his black fur. He was a work of art just like Kade had been. I wished we had gotten more time for introductions, but it would happen later. We both admired the strength and power of his muscles. Our mate was a god.

It truly felt like we had known each other longer than we actually had. It had to be because of the strength of our bond. That made me incredibly happy to hear. It was also amusing to see Eric's face redden when he got called out on our bond not even being like a real mate-bond. He also would never be able to have a mate again, which was good to hear because he was a horrible person, and I initially feared for his future mate's quality of life. Did I want him to be alone and suffer his whole life? No. That was no life for anyone to live. True to Eric, he blamed others for his lot in life.

'Why is your fur glowing?' Tyre asked, amazed with what he was seeing.

She looked over and swished her tail at him teasingly. 'It shows that I'm harnessing my power or energy to track him. The Omegas are essentially a pack, so I can use that pack

bond to track him,' she explained.

It was something that I realized I could do a couple of years ago when one of the pups went missing. I did it in human form at that point, but it still worked. It was a blessing then and was one now. There would not have been another way to find Jesse had it been without it.

'And you're their Alpha,' Tyre mused.

Faye tilted her head as she thought about that. It was not something we really consciously even thought about.

'I guess so. We never took a title or anything, but Elle and I try to do what's right by them.'

There were so many times that I felt helpless with it all because there was only so much that I could do. Their lives would always be shit here. They would be abused and mistreated for the sick enjoyment of others. It was disgusting, but it was a reality we all had to face. I did what I could in order to protect them. I often was able to talk my way into taking their punishments upon myself instead of on them. It always caused the punishments to be twice as hard, but that mattered not.

Being able to get all of them away from here would be the absolute best thing possible. I would be eternally grateful for Kade accepting them.

'You're a true Alpha from what we've seen so far. We're proud of you both. Not everyone can handle it, but your

people thrive because of it,' Tyre said proudly.

His praise caused butterflies in both of us. It was a big deal to hear those words from an Alpha such as himself.

Everyone knew of Alpha Kade and the Nightshade pack.

Selene chose the best partner for me. My heart opened up to him more and more as the night wore on. I could easily imagine spending the rest of my life happy with him.

Kade showed me so much thoughtfulness and consideration tonight. He did not push for affection one bit. He did not push for answers. I was his mate, but he still turned his back to give me privacy while changing. Then he went to the partition to ensure that nobody else came by. He showed me the man that he was in the few hours that we had known one another. He was the kind of man that I was proud to call mine. Despite the craziness surrounding our mateship, he did not turn away from me at all. That also spoke volumes.

More Blue Crest warriors crossed our path, but they were no match for the three of us. We did not have time to waste, and they were dealt with quickly. The warriors did not know it was me which was good because that would be a damn death sentence as we waited for the tribunal. They always saw me as a 'weak Omega' but was not accurate at all. It was safest for them to think that because it kept me off Alpha's radar.

I felt the bond start to flicker which was not good. It had

been solid this entire time, so something was happening.

'He's in trouble. We've got to hurry,' Faye told everyone.

She never tested her speed out but would tonight. The muscles in her body stretched and coiled as she pushed herself as hard as she possibly could. Her paws thudded against the ground in her haste, but everyone's paws thundered as they worked on keeping up. Tyre was the only one who could. He was an incredibly fast wolf, and she could not wait to test it out in a situation that was not dire. Vince was almost able to keep up, and Apollo's wolf ran beside him.

The bond was pulling us to him, guiding us in the right direction. I could make out a body on the ground about two hundred feet away. Before I could process being happy that we found him, my blood ran cold when I saw a group of wolves up ahead. I was able to identify them as rogues once we got closer. How did rogues even get into the boundary? Why were there no warriors out here? The entire area was bare sans us, the rogues, and Jesse.

Faye looked at Tyre and a mutual understanding passed between them that this was our duty. They both headed straight for the rogues. Faye's lungs burned with the strain of pushing her body further than it ever had before.

'Someone needs to guard Jesse,' she called out as she jumped over him to get to her target.

Vince and Faye sparred together in wolf form all the time. He and Gabriel helped make both Faye and me stronger. Going for the obvious kill shot was more likely to get you hurt because you were putting your entire body within range of its teeth if you missed at all. That was why it was easiest to attack from behind or from the sides.

Rogues did not have recognized packs, but sometimes they formed their own so that they were not a lone wolf. Wolves were social creatures which was why a pack was important. Lone wolves became crazed from the isolation.

Faye pushed her body down low in order to springboard over the rogue. She turned her body mid-air and landed on its back, taking it down. Faye was much larger and stronger than the rogue, so it was not hard for her to pin the rogue down before snapping its neck. It was not the first life we had to take, but it still was not easy to do. Those emotions had to be pushed down and dealt with later.

Three of the Omegas were guarding Jesse, so I did not have to worry about that. They would keep him safe. We would tend to his medical needs once we got the rogues taken care of.

Faye bit into the flank of another rogue, but it was able to wrench itself away from her. It was limping, so she struck again. A harsh snap and howl rang out when she crushed its leg. She readied for the kill shot when another wolf bulldozed into her, tossing her away from the rogue. The

one that bulldozed her came up at the same time that another one did. Tyre jumped on the back of the bulldozer and snapped his neck before ripping a chunk out of the flank of the other one. Tyre growled dangerously as he stalked towards it. The rogue lunged at Tyre, but its throat got ripped out before it could attack.

Tyre looked Faye over to see if she was okay. She nodded and nuzzled his neck as a thank you for protecting her. He was a beast and there was no question about his reputation as one of the greatest fighters because he was deadly.

'There's another group of ten or so coming,' Vince warned. Faye relayed the message to everyone.

We fought them with everything that we had. The Council's warriors and those from Nightshade were very skilled with fighting. The Omegas were even holding their own because we taught them how to fight in human form and Vince taught them in wolf form. Everyone should know how to protect themselves.

Faye lost sight of Tyre when five of the rogues rushed him, Vince, and Apollo's wolf. Once we were done with our two then we would find them. The last rogue put up quite a fight. Faye got her front paw injured and her flank had a bite, but it was not deep and would heal within the hour.

She stood up to help the guys but was hit with a small intense pain in the side of her neck. It felt like her blood was on fire, and she could barely think. Something was wrong,

but she could not figure out what happened. Her body began receding until my naked flesh was all that remained. 1

I felt someone picking my body up before I succumbed to the darkness.

KADE

Tyre and I were completely fascinated by the strength and agility of our mate. Faye moved like a Warrior Angel. It was amazing to see her tap into her power because it caused her aura to burn brightly. It showed me a glimpse of the power inside of her, and I was shocked and humbled all at the same time. There was absolutely no way that anyone would not recognize that she very much was not weak.

I was worried when she went straight for a rogue, but my worry was wiped away when she catapulted over the rogue, twisting in mid-air to land on its back. It was dead before it knew what happened. I had no idea where she learned to fight, but the command she had was both lethal and sexy. Her goal was to protect Jesse, so she would do whatever was necessary to obtain that goal. It was the mark of a true Alpha. Tyre saw some rogues going after her and lost his shit. They were dead before they could even touch her. He made sure she was okay before they continued on.

We got rushed by a group of five rogues. They were decent fighters but nothing that we could not handle. Vince was

one hell of a fighter. It was probably where Faye learned her skills from or he from her. They both proved that they could handle their own very well. It was downright impressive considering that our pack relied heavy on security. Even the Omegas were holding it down. Vince probably taught them since nobody but him had seen Faye until now.

Tyre looked around for Faye but did not see her anywhere. The rest of the rogues were dead, so they were not a threat any longer. She stood out among this crowd, so it was bothersome that he could not see her.

'Have you seen Faye?' Tyre asked Vince.

'Not since that group rushed at us,' he said.

Gabriel and I both shifted back to our forms. He and I started scouring the entire area. We even moved rogues just in case she was caught underneath one. Her scent was faded in the air. My heart clenched with the uncertainty of what happened. Where the hell was she? Was she in danger?

"Kade, Gabriel, come here," Apollo said, waving us over.

He ran his hand along the ground, showing us the blood on his palm. I crouched down to run my finger through the blood and brought it up to my nose. It was undeniably hers. It was not much and should heal soon. Got to love shifter healing.

Apollo held up a syringe that he found in the same location. I gently took it from him and held it up to my nose. A growl

tore from me as my eyes met Gabriel's. Someone shot her full of wolfsbane. It would subdue her and knock her out without a fight.

I handed the syringe over to the Council's warriors. They took a whiff and came to the exact same conclusion as we did.

"This was a rouse to get her out here. They knew that she wouldn't leave Jesse. Whoever did it used rogues as the distraction. They must have been wearing a scent blocker and doused her as well. It's why we can't smell which way she went," Gabriel said, shaking his head.

I could see the emotions on his face as clear as day. He was pissed the fuck off that we all fell right into their trap. He and I felt the same on this one.

I failed her. I promised her that nobody would touch her or Gabriel. I could not even keep that one promise on our first day together. What good was I as a mate? I was meant to protect her.

Apollo grabbed my shoulders and steered me away from the group. We had been best friends since we met in the first grade. He knew me inside and out just like I knew him.

There were no surprises when it came to either of us. That was why he made the best Beta I could ever have because we were very much in sync.

Sometimes I hated him being an Empath. He was able to


sense emotions, auras, and such. That was how he knew that Elle was feeling guilty over everything that went down. She felt that she was complicating things for us, but it was not a complication. Us meeting was a gift from the Goddess herself. We had to find her.

"You've got to get your head in the game, Kade. You didn't fail her. You did everything right. She's a badass and would've come out here regardless if we were with her or not because Jesse is her family. They are her pack. You saw how she led us with courage and a fearlessness befitting an Alpha. Now, we have to focus on finding her. You might not have the sealed mate-bond yet, but you do have a very strong bond. Even Thompson said so."

Apollo was right as always, but I would never tell him that. I did need to push those emotions away so that I could focus on the issue rather than the storm brewing inside of me at the thought of my precious mate in the hands of whoever had her. They would die for this though. I would make sure of it.

I turned to our conglomerate group of people who were both tending to Jesse and trying to figure out what was going on. I had to give them the truth so that we could all focus on finding my mate.

"This was a setup to get Elle out here. The rogues were used as a distraction. Whoever did it knew her well enough to know that she would come for him. We would've come out

 +15 BONUS

regardless because he needed us. What I need is for everyone to spread out and see if we can catch her scent at all. It's clear that a scent blocker was used, but we just need to cover every possible base," I said.

Two Omegas stayed with Jesse while everyone else spread out on the off chance that anyone could pick up her scent.

Gabriel told me he needed to talk to me immediately about who Elle is because he felt that it had to do with all of this.



Shana Allen  Author

"
How is Kade going to feel about who Elle really is? Will they be able to find her in time?
"

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