

Chapter 8

KADE

I took a steadying breath to push away the anger at the entire situation because I did not want her to think I was upset at her because I certainly was not. What she and Gabriel went through angered me. What the Omegas went through angered me. Who protected them? Nobody. That was why they had to protect themselves. Gabriel and my mate protected one another, and that was a loyalty that I admired.

"Gabriel, I would like to extend the offer for you to relocate with us. It's up to you, but it would be our honor to have you join our pack," I said, holding my hand out to him.

He looked taken aback with my offer. His eyes slid to my mate before he nodded. "Thanks, Alpha Kade. I'd appreciate that," he said, giving me a firm handshake.

"Just Kade. Our pack is a bit different than you're used to, but I think you'll like it. The inner circle of people doesn't go by titles, and you definitely earned that spot."

He nodded and stepped away so that I could officially meet her. Her doe eyes looked up at me as if trying to understand why I would defend her like that. I supposed that she was not certain what to expect a mate to act like given the real piece of shit her first one was. He did not deserve to even look at her. It was clear to see that the dominance display earlier was because he was punishing her for her standing

up for herself after that rejection. Even still, she was unaffected in the face of his anger. I was proud of her for that.


I held my arm out to her, and she hesitantly linked hers with mine. I led her over to the other side of the room from where everyone else was. It would not give us privacy, but it would give us the illusion of privacy at least. Despite the circumstances, it felt great to have her arm around mine.

She was about four or five inches shorter than me, so it was not a truly significant difference at all. Her scent up close was so much better than it had been on the pillow.

"Would you like to sit?" I asked.

She nodded and sat down in the seat I pulled out for her. I took the one across from her. This was not the meeting I figured that either of us intended for, and I could tell that she was very embarrassed by it all. I hated that her privacy had been put out into the entire room, but none of us would ever think anything negatively towards her for what she went through. She was a fighter and a survivor. Only a person with true strength could go through all of that and not break.

"It's nice to finally meet you. I caught your scent in the guest bedroom and could not wait to find you. The name's Kade," I told her with a smile on my face because I was very happy in this moment.

"I caught your scent on Gabe when he came back into the kitchen. I'm Elle," she said. Her voice was velvety smooth. I bet she could even make a shopping list sound great. 

Elle was a beautiful name. I had never met anyone with that name before, so it was fitting for her to hold that spot.

Up close, I could see a small cluster of freckles on the top of her cheeks. Her skin looked like it would be silky smooth just like her voice. My fingers twitched with the anticipation of what it would feel like to caress her skin.

'Gabriel wanted to know if you guys would like any alcohol over there. He thinks it might help her with everything that got thrown out to the public tonight,' Apollo said.

I told him yes, so Apollo brought over some Whiskey and two glasses before setting them on the table. I knew that he was the one who brought it over because he wanted an introduction. Perhaps I could give him this one gift in life. 2

"Elle, I'd like you to meet Apollo. He's my best friend and Beta. He wanted to meet you for a very specific reason," I said, flicking my eyes over to him.

Apollo held his hand out to her which she shook and lifted one of her eyebrows in question since he had not explained anything.

He knelt down next to her chair and stuck her with a look between admiration and awe. He was totally fangirling right now. There was no way that he anticipated that the girl he wanted desperately to meet would turn out to be his Luna. She had the beginning of a fan club before she even knew about her title.

"I told the old man that I heard about this badass girl who

totally destroyed a birthday boy's precious image when she fucked him up after he rejected her. Tell me more. I wasn't given details by Demi who was here for that. Did you make him cry?" he asked.

Elle threw her head back and laughed. That laughter was like music to my ears as it wrapped around me. It was a laugh of pure entertainment and amusement which caused a smile to creep onto my face. Her eyes twinkled at the thought of the event.

"You obviously heard how Omegas are treated here. Once he realized that I was his mate, he pulled me up on stage in front of hundreds of guests to humiliate me. He had a few choice words to say since I was only an Omega and would never be worthy enough to be his Luna. He rejected me but had not anticipated that the pain would hit him too. I held in my reactions, but he was a pussy and couldn't. He tried to force me to accept the rejection because the pain would last for both of us until I did. He couldn't handle it at all which caused me so much enjoyment. He choked me, punched me, ripped my hair, and threw me down, but it didn't matter. Gabe said he cried, but I missed the tears. However, I did see the blood running from his nose because of the pain. Gabe begged me to accept it because he couldn't handle seeing me like that or else I would've kept at it all damn night," she said with a shrug. ①

Apollo's eyes went wide before looking at me. We both muttered "fuck" at the same time. We were both fangirling now. I wished someone had recorded it. I would have destroyed him for treating her that way, but I wanted to

watch as she broke him apart piece by piece. My mate was not weak, and that was for damn sure. 3

"Tell them about the next day. It's even better," Gabriel said as he jogged over. Better than that? We had to hear this.

Elle was a Luna because she did not cower or back down. She did not submit to the bastard, nor did she break. It was no wonder that the Goddess chose to touch her. I could not wait to get to know all about this mate of mine.

"That night I had a meeting with my special visitor. She took away the pain and negative emotions from the broken bond. It was like he never rejected me at all. There was no more pain or emptiness. Eric came in looking like absolute shit since his wolf kept him up all night because he was pissed off that he lost his mate. Eric demanded to know why I didn't just accept the rejection like he commanded. He claimed that his wolf wanted to reject me just as much as he did. It was a lie, and I called him out on it. I told him to let me talk to his wolf, and if that was true then I would willingly accept any punishment the pack deemed fit as well as apologize to every single pack member. He stormed off with a temper tantrum. Then his parents brought a she-wolf trying to hurt me by him claiming her as his chosen mate. I told them that I hoped they were happy together and had many heirs. He even went as far as to kiss her, thinking it would destroy me. It was interrupted when you called through to talk to them," she explained with a smirk.

I filled up the two shot glasses and slid one over to her before clinking hers with mine. We both tossed them back together.

The guys left us alone again, and I felt like I was drowning in her presence. This woman went through absolute hell but never let it destroy her. I was insanely proud of her spirit and the fact that she did not just give into his demand and accept it because he was the one in the wrong. However, I was insanely thankful that he rejected her because I would not have found her otherwise.

I also knew that my mate would complete me and be everything I needed. I needed a fighter that could help lead our pack with empathy, determination, and a true caring heart. Our pack was very talented because of it being a sanctuary for gifted wolves, but that just meant that my Luna and I had to be even stronger than a typical Alpha and Luna. I had no doubt that she would excel as ours. I also had no doubt that she would make the best mate. I just hoped that I could be what she wanted and needed me to be. We would work on that together. It would take time but would very much be worth the wait.

"Your special visitor bestowed me with a gift which I'll tell you about later. It was how I noticed that she was talking to you. I'm twenty-four and have been Alpha for six years now. Our Elders have been on me to take a chosen mate in order to strengthen our pack. I adamantly refused because I would only ever accept my fated mate. They struck a deal with me that they would lay off entirely for two years if I agreed to visit other packs in search of her. This is my third pack. Your special visitor told me this pack tour was necessary, and she was right because I finally found you and am very proud to claim you as my mate," I told her sincerely.

A beautiful blush blossomed across her cheeks with my declaration. That blush highlighted her beauty and stood as a contrast against her ivory skin. It made me wonder how easily she blushed and what I could do to keep that color coming.

She tucked some hair behind her ear and cleared her throat. She shyly reached across the table for my hand and clasped it. Those sparks shot straight through her touch, and it brought a smile to both of our faces. My grandparents and my father always said that the sparks were amazing from the first time you felt them until the very last time. You never grew tired of them.

Her hand was also incredibly soft and warm. I would welcome her touching me whenever she wanted to if it felt this amazing. It was now easy to understand why many mates always seemed to be touching in one way or another. The feeling was incredible.

"I always dreamed of finding my mate. It's supposed to be that fairytale moment when you meet someone who was hand-selected by the Moon Goddess to complete you in a way that only they can. When I smelled Eric last month, I was ecstatic until I saw who it was. That fairytale turned into my nightmare during the span of a single moment. That night she took away the pain and promised me that things were going to change and to stay strong. I was confused when I smelled you earlier because I didn't know this was her plan. Part of me was afraid that you'd also despise me, but Gabe told me that you were different. I finally got that fairytale because this was how it should've been the entire

time. Tonight, she told me that it had to happen this way for a reason. You're not a second-chance per say. You're my true mate, but I had to be rejected by him in order for something to occur. She didn't elaborate on what that is just yet. I'll tell you everything once we're in private," she promised me.

Her words brought a smile to my face. I was not an overly sentimental person by any standard, but she just seared herself into both mine and Tyre's hearts.

I brought the back of her hand to my lips. I could not wait to hear everything. She seemed to have a very close relationship with the Moon Goddess, so I was eager to find out how close that relationship was.

'Council is pulling up,' Apollo informed me.

I filled up one more shot for each of us and pushed hers over. She nodded in understanding before we downed them. I hoped that we could get this sorted out quickly because I wanted to take her away from here permanently.

"I'll be right beside you, darling. Okay?" I asked, holding my hand out to her. She grabbed it without hesitation. She smiled at the pet name, so I figured I just found a keeper.

"Let's do this," she said with a smirk.

She laced her fingers in mine instead of letting go. I liked the initiative because it certainly showed that she was just as happy to have found me. My mate walked over to our group with her head held high.

Gabriel smiled at the two of us, and I could see how legitimately happy he was for her. He and Apollo seemed to be hitting it off, so that was great too. I was glad that he decided to come back with us. I knew she was also appreciative of that too. I would have offered it even if he had not gone to bat for her because they meant a lot to each other.

The Alpha family came into the room, and you could see the hostility aimed at me for getting the Council involved. That involvement would never have been necessary had they allowed me to leave with my mate. They would not, so this was their own fault. They would hopefully realize that I was not one to mess around with. I would burn their world down for what they did to my mate.

"Alpha Kade. It's very nice to see you again," Thompson said to me, shaking my hand.

"It's good to see you too. Thank you all for coming to sort out this matter. Let me introduce you to Elle," I said, nodding to her.

Just like the Luna that she was born to be, she extended her hand first, and maintained eye contact.

"I appreciate you coming all the way over here this time of night," she said to him before also shaking everyone else's hand as well.

The other four members all introduced themselves individually. Thompson was the only one that I knew personally. He always reached out to me whenever they

came across gifted wolves in need of sanctuary. He knew my character very well and knew that I would not claim that someone was my mate if they were not. He knew that I would only ever accept my fated mate because it was a topic of discussion just two months ago when he brought me Lucinda, a wolf with the gift of astral projection that she was quickly learning to control.

"How long ago did the two of you meet?" he asked.

I checked my watch to verify the time. "Two hours ago. I caught her scent after we sat down for supper."

His eyebrow raised up with that bit of information. Apparently whatever he saw was surprising to be within that timeframe. His gift worked very specifically. He was able to tell if a bond was fated or chosen as well as the strength and intensity of it. It was a family trait, and his daughter was already showing signs of the same gift at the age of fourteen.

"Fascinating. This is the strongest connection I've ever seen for such a short amount of time. It resembles one you would find with mates who have been together for years. This is indeed a fated mate-bond," he said for his colleagues' information. Thompson did not make mistakes, so they never questioned the validity of his readings.

He turned towards the Alpha family who still looked like they were in denial. "I need the ex-mate to come over here please," he said.

Thompson turned back around and looked at us again. I was ecstatic that our bond was so strong. That was certainly

reassuring. She had squeezed my hand when he said that. It made her happy as well. What it meant was that it would only grow stronger. It had to have been the Goddess that made it so.

His eyes trailed over to Gabriel before gesturing for him to come over too. That was the part that really confused me. Why did he need Gabriel? Gabriel also looked confused but stood beside Elle.

"How long have you two known each other?" he asked gesturing between them.

"Ten years," they said in unison which just caused them both to smirk at one another. That would explain why they were so close. They had each other's backs for an entire decade.

He turned to Gabriel and asked to see his hand before encasing it with both of his. His eyes closed for a solid minute before he blew out a shaky breath and opened his eyes to peer at him with wonder. Whatever he saw or realized meant something important to him.

"I don't just see mate-bonds. I see bonds in general. I've never seen a familial type of bond as strong as yours. I didn't even know such a strength existed. It's been blessed and divinely reinforced. Take care in continuing to nurture it and keep it strong because there's a reason why this bond was chosen for you two," Thompson advised them.

They nodded to him and did not seem that surprised, so I would be eager to find out more about their relationship. I was not jealous or anything. I was happy that they had a close connection like that. For the Moon Goddess to

specifically bless and reinforce it meant that there was a specific reason why they had it. I would be a damned fool to be upset by that. 2

The idiot ex-mate glared daggers at Gabriel. He apparently did not like being put in his place by someone he felt was inferior to him. He would make a terrible Alpha, and I prayed that he would never become one.

Thompson observed him for a couple of minutes before flicking his eyes back and forth between Gabriel, Elle, me, and him.

"First, your bond with your wolf is destroyed. He gave up on you, and you'll be the one suffering for what you did to him and Elle. You took his mate away from him, so he'll take away the one thing that would complete you. I'll leave it up to you to figure out what that means," Thompson said bluntly and without sympathy. 1

What that meant was that he would never become Alpha because his wolf would be dead soon. He took away the wolf's mate and completion, so the wolf chose to take away the only thing the boy cared about which was being Alpha. That would also explain why he was deteriorating so quickly. I thought it was just the rejection hitting him hard, but it was because his wolf was dying. He would be human after that. He could never be the Alpha of a shifter pack as a human. 1

'Her wolf said that the Moon Goddess granted Elle's wish for the wolf to not suffer for his human's stupidity. He will die soon but will be given to a new human counterpart


entirely so that he can have a new life,' Tyre explained.

My eyes slid over to my mate, and I praised the Moon Goddess for her. She asked for that wish because his wolf was innocent in all of this. I could tell that her heart mourned for the wolf's misery. It was a completely selfless wish. Every new thing I learned about her made me appreciate this bond. She had a genuine and pure heart despite the pain and torment others put her through. It just made her stronger.


"Second, your bond to her spanned no more than a single minute. It was not even a true mate-bond because it was destroyed before you even rejected it. However, that destruction strengthened Alpha Kade's bond with her as well as the bond between her and him," he said, gesturing to Gabriel. "Those who reject their mates can never be granted a second-chance mate since they spat at the gift the first time around. However, your toxic behavior and actions will make it impossible for you to ever take a chosen mate. There is only one being capable of doing something like that. The Moon Goddess has deemed this as your punishment. You'll never be able to have a mate for as long as you live. I hope that this was truly worth it to you," he said. 2

I held my amusement in because that was Karma in its finest. Perhaps this would teach him to be a decent person. It did not necessarily mean that it would, but one could hope that everyone was capable of redemption.

His jaw dropped open before he snarled and pointed his finger at Elle. "This is all your fault," he hollered.

 +5 BONUS

There was fire in his eyes, and I was certain that he would strike her dead if he could. It was something that would never happen though. Not to mention that the Council was witnessing all of this.

“No. This is your fault. You chose to be a vile bastard. You chose to embrace that toxicity every single day of your life. You chose to rid your wolf of his mate. Why did you do it? Because I was an Omega, and that’s nothing but a sin to all of you. Who made me an Omega? Your father did. It was his choice. You’re the only one to blame for this. It was you. Take responsibility for your damn self for once in your life, Eric,” my mate said with a strong and clear voice. 

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