

## Chapter 16

Lily

Dimitri hadn't followed me back home. I assumed he went for another run after I left. Or maybe he went to find Jennine. I didn't really care. Most of my mind was still reeling from two shocking events; The fact that I was a Mother Wolf, and the out of body experience I'd had during my shift. I doubt Dimitri was aware of it. Lying on my bed, I closed my eyes and replayed the memory in my head.

I hit the ground and everything went black. When I opened my eyes, I wasn't in my wolf form. Disappointment flooded through me. I really wasn't able to shift?

"Hello Lily."

I spun around at the sound of my name and gasped. The most gorgeous woman I'd ever laid eyes on was standing in front of me, a sweet smile on her face. Her hair was long and black with a tinge of blue and a little wave to it. It swayed behind her and caressed her waist in the wind. She had a heart shaped face with well-proportioned features and plump red lips. Her body was incredible, even under the white dress she wore. Her eyes were a deep purple, but light and friendly. She was also the palest person I'd ever seen. Her skin could rival snow, but she was flawless.

"Who are you?" I asked.

Her smile widened. "My name is Celeste. But you may know me as Moon Goddess."

My eyes widened. The Moon Goddess?!

"Uhm..."

"I know, it's a lot to take in. Why don't we have a seat and talk?"

I looked around for the first time. We were standing in a meadow with tall grass and wildflowers. The sky was cloudless and peaceful. The meadow went on as far as the eye could see, seemingly with no end. Small hills rose up here and there. It was a beautiful place.

"Okay." I sank to the ground and Celeste laughed merrily. With a wave of her hand, a sofa appeared, looking very out of place in the meadow.

"Come sit, this is much more comfortable." She patted the cushion next to her. Awkwardly, I got up and joined her.

"You must have many questions, Lily." Celeste began.

I nodded. "Why am I here? Did I...?"

"No, you did not die. I called you here, but only temporarily."

"Why?"

She cupped my face in her hands gently and met my gaze. "You are extremely special to me Lily. I have chosen you for as great task. A dangerous one too. I cannot tell you everything, but I can tell you that I believe I have chosen wisely."

"Task? What task?"

Her hands dropped from my face to grasp mine.

"There is danger ahead Lily. A danger that could kill many, many of my children. I won't say they all deserve to live, because some of them do not. Some of them have chosen not to follow me anymore. All they care about now is attaining power and using my name to get what they want, killing mercilessly and without just cause. It needs to end."

"Okay. That's sad. But what can I do? I can't even make it up the stairs!"  
I said.

She laughed louder this time.

"I will help you with that Lily, don't worry. You will not be burdened by the effects of your past anymore."

A thought struck me with her words, and I took my hands from hers.

"Speaking of my past? Can I ask why? Why did you let me go through everything I did? Why did you let me suffer? You're supposed to love all your children, but you turned a blind eye to my abuse!" Tears sprung to my eyes while I talked, and by the end I was nearly shouting.

Celeste smiled sadly. "I am so sorry Lily. You are wrong though. I never turned away from you. Every mark inflicted on you was a hole in my heart. Would you believe me if I told you, it was necessary?"

"No. How could that be necessary?" I cried.

"I give all my children free will. I could not control your abusers even though I wanted to. If I step in every time, where does it end? It's also not fair. Those who do bad will face their sins when they meet me. That is all I can do."

"You're right. It's not fair."

"I am sorry."

We sat in silence for a while. Celeste was the one to break it.

"Your mate is not a bad person." She said.

"What?"

"Dimitri. Truly, he is not bad. He has a good heart. A good soul. But he is lost right now."

"Okay?"

"Lily, I need you to not give up on him. He may have only accepted you for the wrong reasons, but with time-"

"Wrong reasons? What are you talking about?" I interrupted.

"Oh, I thought Ajax would have told Aya by now. Dimitri accepted you to make himself stronger. A Luna makes their Alpha strongest when they are by their side." She said it as if the words didn't cut through me.

"What?! Are you joking?! I'm to kill him!" I yelled.

Celeste placed her hand on top of mine.

"Please do not. I am not saying do not be angry. But you and Dimitri are made for each other. I paired the two of you for a reason. When you are ready, you will find that nobody loves you more."

"Right. Is Dimitri even capable of love?" I asked.

"He is. As I said, he is lost. Help him find himself. Can you do that for me Lily?"

I thought about it. "I'll....try."

"That's all I can ask."

Celeste's image trembled in front of me. I blinked, sure I was imagining things. But it happened again, and again.

"It is time for you to go back Lily. Remember what I've said, and I hope you can forgive me for your past. I love you."

She cupped my cheeks once more and pressed her lips lightly to my forehead. My vision went white, then black. And then I was back in the clearing with my mate.

Opening my eyes, I stared at the ceiling. Celeste wanted me to forgive her. I had. I mean, she was the Moon Goddess. I couldn't hate her even if I tried. Her choices confused the hell out of me, but she was right. She couldn't bring down flames and fire every time someone messed up. I hated to accept it, but I did. However, her other request... was less complicated. I'd promised to try with Dimitri, but the way he looked at me

after my shift, as if I was everything he ever wanted? That pissed me off. Where was that look before? I was only good enough for him when I wasn't thin and weak? He was so shallow.

I knew I was different; I just didn't know how much. I was scared to look in the mirror. In fact, I'd been avoiding it. Taking a deep breath, I closed my eyes and got up from the bed. Slowly, and blindly, making my way to the bathroom, I stopped in front of the mirror. Grasping the sink for dear life, I peeked one eye open. Then the other. And then I just stared. Yeah, I should have avoided this a little longer.

"Is... that can't be me."

"Yup. That's you. You're fucking hot!" Aya chuckled in my head.

I was too stunned to answer her. My hair was the same shade of red, but it looked shinier, healthier. My breasts now didn't look so out of proportion with the rest of me, as I had every curve a girl could want. Hips, thighs, boobs and butt. Every part of me was thicker. My face was filled out, no longer skin on bone, and it made my features stand out.

"That's not all. Take off your shirt."

"Huh?"

"Just do it, and turn around."

I did as my wolf asked, in a kind of daze. When I looked over my shoulder into the mirror, I gasped.

My gasp was echoed from the doorway, along with a "Holy shit!"