

Chapter 35

AZALEA

Rattled by what has happened, Kade shakes his head. “You stupid girl,” he snarls, lunging at me. Dustin is quicker, however, and punches him, sending him flying backward when all the wolves suddenly run toward us menacingly.

“Run!” Dustin screams as he starts fighting them off and keeping them from us. The sound of flesh tearing mixes with the horrible sound of whimpers and broken bones as Dustin grabs any wolf that gets too close. The sounds are savage, but as he gets rid of one, another comes in its place.

My heart thuds painfully in my chest, and I grab Abbie, pulling her to her feet and nearly passing out, the act straining my abdomen. We run for the trees, and I hear Dustin fending them off. Wolves start dropping like flies as he takes them out. We start racing up the hill, only for one to slip past him, pounce on us, and knock us down.

The moment we both hit the ground, the wolf's weight lifts abruptly, and a furious growl rings through the air; pain rattles through me from my wound that is bleeding everywhere. His feet are next to my face, and I gasp, staring up to see Kyson in his Lycan form. The wolf who attacked is held off of us by his hand wrapped around its throat. Kyson squeezes his hand, and I grit my teeth when I hear the sickening crunch of its neck breaking before he flings it away. The wolf hits a tree, Kyson tossing him aside like he weighs nothing.

Kyson glares at me, and I drop my gaze to the ground at the angry expression on his face when he steps over us. Gannon is right behind him, and he grabs both Abbie and me, pulling us to our feet and away from the fighting.

"Thank god," I hear him murmur, clutching us tightly in his arms. I peer down toward Dustin, who is now fighting the wolves. Suddenly, Kyson's aura ripples out of him, and his voice booms around us, echoing through the night.

"Enough, now stop!" he bellows, and everyone freezes under his command. Dustin clutches his knees breathlessly. Kyson stomps past him and shoots him a glare as he makes his way to Kade.

Kade backs away from Kyson, hands up in surrender. At this moment, Kyson truly looks like a Lycan King. He towers over everyone, standing tall and intimidating. Power oozes off him in waves, and his aura feels deadly, suffocating the wolves pinned to the ground by it.

“I have done nothing wrong; I was merely getting my mate,” Kade chokes out. He falls backward as Kyson’s massive Lycan form growls menacingly, stalking toward him with calculated steps.

“Wrong!” Kyson says with a deadly calm. Somehow, that makes him even more sinister as I watch him approach Kade. Kade shakes his head, and the wolves all look away from him, cowering and whimpering.

“I hereby sentence you to death for treason!” Kyson tells him, stepping on Kade’s foot and making him fall on his ass.

“Treason? But I didn’t commit treason,” Kade stammers, his voice more of a petrified squeak.

“Wrong, you touched my queen. Your pack just tried to kill her!” Kyson snarls, grabbing the front of his shirt and jerking him forward.

“And for that, I sentence you to death,” Kyson snaps before punching him square in the face. Or I thought he hit him until I heard Kade gasp and the sickening sound of flesh on flesh and a gross tearing noise. The wolves near him wail, writhing on the ground in what looks like pain. Kyson shoves him backward, letting him go.

His back is tense when he drops something on the ground, his breathing loud while the muscles of his back flex. Kyson glares around at the wolves as they all run for the trees, and then I notice a woman standing out in front of the service station. I can’t make out her features with my

blurry vision but seeing her for some reason makes goosebumps rise all over me as she watches. She then simply turns and walks away, disappearing into the night.

Bile rises in my throat when I realize what Kyson dropped is Kade's heart. Kyson then turns toward us, and his eyes go to Dustin. I struggle in Gannon's grip when I watch, horrified, as Kyson stalks toward him like a predator hunting its prey.

Dustin doesn't even move; he simply accepts the repercussions. Lycans burst from the tree line, forming a circle around us, looking for any threat, having caught up with their king. Damian is among them. I turn my attention back to Dustin.

"You fucked up!" Kyson snarls furiously. Dustin swallows and nods once while my heart beats like a drum. I struggle against Gannon's grip, trying to escape him. Kyson merely nods once before Damian grabs me around the waist. My legs flail in the air as he pulls me against him.

"He disobeyed his king," Damian warns me.

"No, he didn't do anything wrong! Kyson, please!" I scream.

"I'll deal with you once home," Kyson growls, just as I am handed off to Gannon, who grabs me. This time, his grip tighter, ensuring I don't escape his clutches again.

“No, let me go, please, Damian! Don’t let him...” only my words are too late, and I turn my head to see Kyson punch Dustin so hard it knocks him out cold. Dustin drops at Kyson’s feet and just takes it. He doesn’t even fight back.

I whimper, seeing my friend hurt, and Kyson’s head snaps in my direction. He snarls, his upper lip pulling back to reveal his razor-sharp teeth. He moves toward me, and I press closer to Abbie, who cries hysterically while Gannon tries to soothe her.

“Grab him,” Kyson snaps at Damian as he passes him on his way to me. His eyes do not leave me, and my heart beats faster as he draws closer. Damian rushes to do his bidding and grabs Dustin, tossing him over his shoulder. Kyson nods to Gannon, and he lets me go as the king approaches. His eyes look me up and down, and a furious growl tears out of him. I stumble backward, trying to get away from him, but Kyson grabs me. Despite his fury, his grip is surprisingly gentle, though his next move isn’t.

“You disobeyed me!” Kyson growls. “And now you’re injured!” he snaps. I groan in pain and try to defend myself.

“But Abbie,” I try to say before he cuts me off.

“I don’t want to hear it,” he growls before his teeth sink into my neck. I grip his shoulders and choke on a sob when I feel them pierce and slide through my skin. My eyes burn with tears before they roll into my head as I am sucked under. Kyson forces me to submit, and I have no strength left to fight him.