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“Reika! Stop fighting it!” She screams at me, fur sprouting along my arms and I feel my ankle snap painfully. I grip the table, my claws sinking into the softwood as she fights to shift. Ryker walks into the kitchen growling and my head snaps toward his face.

“I said no shifting!” He growls. I grit my teeth against the searing pain.

“I am trying not to,” I tell him and I hear my wrist snap making me scream. ” I scream at her but she doesn’t listen, instead, a menacing growl escapes my lips and rumbles out of my chest. Ryker walks over gripping my arm tightly.

“Stop,” he says, and I hear my other ankle snap, my canines protruding from under my lip.

“It’s not me,” I tell him. He seems stunned for a second before I feel his Alpha Aura wash over me fast and hard bringing me to my knees. My wolf howls in agony.

“Give her back control!” Ryker bellows. And I look at him confused before realizing he wasn’t talking to me but to my wolf. My teeth clench as she tries to fight the command, sweat running down the nape of my neck when she whimpers, as his aura washes over me again making not only her cry out but me when she suddenly lets go. My wolf receded to the back of my head angrily.

My breathing evens out and Ryker’s grip lessens. “Why can’t you fight your wolf? She shouldn’t be able to completely force you like that,” he says, staring down at me.

I needed blood but if I told him that he would become angry, I had a little more strength against her with the blood but saying that she also becomes stronger being as if we are the same person.

“Sit!” He says and I do.

Ryker watches me from the kitchen while I sit at the table, my wolf falling silent and I could feel how angry she was with me. At this moment she hated me, hated that I didn’t do what she wanted. Ryker walks over with a bowl of something before sitting next to me with one himself.

“Cereal,” he says as I look at the colored little rings floating in the milk. I grab the spoon trying it, it was sweet-tasting and sugary. When I was nearly finished with the bowl Tyson and Ace walked into the kitchen and I almost choke on the milk in my mouth, coughing and spluttering. They both glare at me before grabbing the cereal and a bowl and sitting across from me. I look at Ryker who has a huge grin on his face.

Looking back at Tyson and Ace they only had bits of fluff for hair on their heads, their long hair is now gone and I could see their scalps which were so white they were almost fluorescent under the lights. A few patches of hair on their heads made them look like they had the mange. I snorted, trying to hold in my laugh.

“Traitor,” Tyson says glaring at me as he shovels some cereal in his mouth. Ace’s eyes watch me as he chews his cereal like he wants to attack me.

Looking at Ryker, he watches them and they both pull their eyes from me looking at him.

“I am not going to school like this,” Ace growls at him.

“It’ll grow back, it is only hair,” I tell them.

“So you won’t mind if I remove yours,” Tyson spits at me.

“Touch her hair and I will pluck every hair off your body with tweezers boys. Be grateful I only removed your hair because if she hadn’t told me you would have got a lot worse than bald heads,” Ryker tells them.

“But look at my head, I look like cottage cheese has been smeared across my scalp, it’s that white,” Ace says running his hand through his tiny tufts of hair that didn’t come off.

“My house, my rules, no more pranks, they aren’t funny,” Ryker tells them.

“And stay out of my room,” They both growl before sulking while eating their cereal.

“I need to leave for a few hours, I have to go into the city and meet someone.”

“Who,” They ask.

“None of your business, now eat you need to watch Reika, and you touch so much as a lock of her hair, I mean it I will tweeze your entire body one hair at a time,” Ryker tells them.

“We won’t touch her hair, okay,” But I could see the sparkle behind Tyson’s eyes as he said it.

“Can I come with you?” I ask, suddenly not trusting the two teenage boys with their smirking faces.

“Not today, they won’t do anything Reika, they do and they will deal with me,” he says looking at them. They both nod before hopping up and taking their bowls to the sink.

“Come on then, hurry up. You can watch us play video games,” Ace says waiting by the door. Ryker nods for me to go with them and I huff before hopping up.

“Oh and Reika, they try anything, you can smack them one,” Ryker tells me. Ace looks up at me before looking at his brother, while I smile back at the little t**d who I know was planning his revenge on me for dobbing, the smile slipping off his face at his brother’s words.

“She killed a bear, I wouldn’t p**s her off boys,” Ryker says hopping up and walking past us. I watch him leave through the front door before hearing it lock.

“Did you really kill a bear?”

“I told you yesterday I did, I ate one too, they are quite chewy,” I tell him and he steps away from me.

“What?”

“Wolves don’t eat bears,” he says.

“They don’t?” I shrug following Tyson to his room, Ace following behind me.

I sit on their bed making myself comfortable. My wolf returns but she doesn’t push against me this time, instead observing the two pups playing their games.

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Ryker POV – Leaving, I had this nagging feeling I shouldn’t leave her alone with them. Her wolf had more control over her than I thought. Reminding me of my aunt Lily’s wolf Layla. She used to be able to force the shift too before Lily reigned her in. I could tell Reika was warming up to me, especially with the fact she doesn’t jump every time I come too close or shy away from me. Her wolf however is something else entirely. I could almost feel her wolf when it was on the surface, her scent changing slightly and becoming stronger. Brax has been trying to communicate with her but failing.

At first, I thought it was because we hadn’t marked her. After all, she was a mutation but now I am not so sure. It is almost like pushing on a barrier, one her wolf put up, blocking Brax from her. Driving to work I pull up in the underground parking. Zane is waiting for me as I pull into the parking space.

“What are you doing here?”

“Come to give you warning Alpha ” He says, turning his head in submission and baring his neck to me. I press my lips in a line knowing whatever it is, he is about to say I won't like it.

“Your parents know about your mate, I swear I said nothing,” he says. I growl frustrated. Great just what I need is my parents meddling in my relationship with a wolf I am still not sure I can keep.

“That's not all,” he says, and my eyes snap to him. Zane steps back and I know he can see my wolf peering at him.

“Your parents are coming down in a couple of days to meet her.”

“How did they find out?”

“Arial,” He states. I should have known better than to trust her not to open her big mouth. Mum knows I won't travel around with she-wolves; she must have figured it out when Arial told her I was seen with another woman.

“We will deal with it later, I have a meeting,” I tell him.

“Want me to attend?” He asks and I shrug. Zane follows me to the lift and up to my office.

“Who are you meeting with?” He asks.

“A rogue named Tim, I have alerted the northside to allow him in,” I tell him and he nods. Zane knows better than to question me, I wait in my office. Tim is meeting me at 10 AM. As the time draws nearer though I start to feel anxious. When he is half an hour late, I decided to ring him. The phone rang out. I look at the clock.

”You sure he was meeting you at 10,” Zane asks looking at his watch. I nod.

“He is supposed to have information on the humans, helping the hunters,” I tell him and he nods.

“Maybe he has been captured, it's nearly 11,” Zane says.

“I will give him half an hour more,” I tell Zane.

“I will contact the border patrol to see if they have seen him yet,” I nod, also trying his number again. The phone doesn't even ring like it was turned off, Elias specifically told him to keep it charged and on when he gave it to him for me.

Zane walks back into my office, alarm on his face.

"They said they haven't seen him, that no one has requested to cross the borders. I don't think your rogue is coming Alpha."

Pulling my phone from my pocket, I call Elias. He answers after a couple of rings.

"Hey Ryker," He answers.

"Has Tim left yet?" I ask him and the phone goes silent.

"What do you mean?" he asks.

"Tim was meant to meet me today, didn't he tell you."

"He said the meeting was yesterday, he left yesterday morning, haven't you seen him."

"No, it is today, he should be staying with you."

"Ah Alpha, Tim was quite adamant that he had to see you yesterday after he heard from the humans, he should have reached your pack last night," I hang up, what was this rogue up to, but more importantly where was he, he hasn't stepped over the border I would have been alerted, does that mean the humans got to him before he could inform me of their plans?

"What do you want to do, Alpha?" Zana asks and I look at my father's best friend.

"Alert patrols to remain alert, I have a feeling something has happened to him, tighten security. I need to go home and check on my brothers and mate," I tell him getting up and walking out. Instead of waiting for the lift, I take the stairs racing down them. Brax pressed against my skin, and I could feel he was on edge. Something felt wrong, yet no one had noticed anything out of the ordinary, or I would have been alerted.

Getting in the car, I start the engine tearing out of the parking lot so fast, that the car slides out as I pull onto the road heading home. Pressing my foot on the pedal harder when I leave the city limits. I was halfway home when I heard my brother's voice flit through my head, panicked.

"Ryker, Reika," He mindlinks before the mindlink drops. Pain radiates down my limbs as I feel my brothers drop, feel searing pain through my body making me pull over. "Reika," my brother said and I knew that she did something, I should have known better than to trust her with them.

I could feel my brothers growing weaker as I tried to mindlink them, get something from them as I jumped from my car shifting before tearing through the forest racing home. I feel my brothers growing weaker before feeling nothing from them, my blood boiling with intense rage. I was going to f****g kill her.

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Reika POV – We watched them play video games, and they seemed to be very good at it. After about an hour though they became bored. Tyson gets up off the ground and stretches his back and Ace turns the TV off.

“Want to go for a run,” Ace asks me.

“I don’t think I am allowed to leave the house, and he locked the doors,” I tell them.

“You are with us, you will be fine. And I have a key,” Ace says, holding it up. I feel my wolf stir to life.

“This is our chance, we go outside and we can easily outrun them,” she tells me.

“Maybe we should ask Ryker first,” I tell them. My wolf growls at me and can tell I didn’t want to leave the house. I didn’t if it meant leaving. I wanted to stay with my mate, stay here. I didn’t want to go back to that place.

“Just remember your promise, you can’t go back on your word Reika. We promised her,” My wolf tells me. She was right, I had to keep my promise, she was my only friend and I promised I would get her back if I could.

“Let’s go,” I tell them. They smile excitedly and Ace grabs my hand pulling me down the stairs. He takes me to the kitchen before putting the key in the door and twisting it. The double glass door opened and I felt the cool breeze move over my skin. I sniff the cool crisp morning air. Ace and Tyson start stripping their clothes off before staring at me waiting expectantly. I start pulling my clothes off and dump them on the outside table. Turning around I find them both staring wide-eyed at me.

“What?” I ask, and I watch their eyes trail down my body, Tyson smirks and I suddenly feel weirded out by them staring at me. I never feel self-conscious but their looking at me made me feel dirty like it was wrong the way their eyes lingered on my b****s. I shift, feeling uncomfortable. I didn’t feel like that in front of Ryker or his family yet two young boys creped me out.

Both of them shift, and I see both their wolves are a dark grey color. They were pretty big for teenage wolves. “They have Alpha genes that’s why,” my wolf says, answering my thoughts.

Both of them take off across the back lawn which looked more like a paddock, only well-manicured and maintained and had gardens edging around the perimeter, and on the far side was the forest. I chase after them following them. Ace pouncing and pulling on

my tail as I overtake them. We zipped in between the trees as their wolves tackled each other. My wolf laughed at their playfulness as they tried to catch up to us. We were a lot faster, and more agile than them. Jumping logs effortlessly.

I run ahead before I feel my wolf start running harder making a break for it, leaving them lagging behind further with each step. The soft earth mushing under our paws. My wolf suddenly starts to slow sniff the earth when she picks up a scent she recognizes. She stops, sniffing it when Tim the rogue I was living within the cave steps out from behind a tree.

“I have been looking for you,” he says, and I turn my head looking him up and down.

“They want you home, they aren’t too happy with you running off,” he tells me and I shift back.

“Are they here?” I ask him and he shakes his head.

“No, but I have been sent to retrieve you, bring you home.”

I hear Ace and Tyson catching up behind me making me look back but they were still out of view.

“I will distract the pups, keep heading north, I will catch up with you,” he says before shifting and running the way I just came from.

“Come on, let’s go,” my wolf says, feeling my hesitation. We start heading north, running through trees following his lingering scent when I hear growls from behind me.

I pause, forcing her to stop. “We need to go back,” I tell my wolf, my wolf urges me on before her head snaps back looking in the direction Tyson and Ace were. I hear a high-pitched whimper. The feral sounds of fighting and wolves tearing shreds off each other, but even I knew Tyson and Ace were no match for Tim, their wolves were strong but young, weaker.

“He’s going to kill them” I squeal and she takes off racing toward them. The snarling and growls grow louder as we race toward them. Ace’s wolf lay on the ground and fur-covered the ground while Tyson fought Tim, trying to protect his brother who was badly injured.

My wolf became enraged, he was supposed to put them off our scent not attack them. We lunge at his brown malted colored wolf tearing into his flank and jerking him back.

Tim pivots biting into the back of my neck and tearing the flesh off. I see Tyson collapse being forced to shift back, lacerations covering most of his body.

Tim rips into my back leg at my distraction and we spin biting down on his tail. He yelps, jerking back before lunging at me. Biting into my limbs while we defend and try and attack. His wolf was savage from the steroids the humans pump into him, attacking blindly in his rage.

In the distance, I hear paws on the ground racing toward us and Tim looks in the direction. I sink my teeth and claws into his front leg before shaking my head. He makes an agonized howl before taking off. I chase after him when I hear Tyson whimper, making me stop and go back to check on him.

I nudged his swollen face which had a laceration going from his eyes to his chin. I lick it trying to stem the bleeding as his wounds slowly heal. Both boys are completely unconscious while I try to rouse them awake. We couldn't stay here in case Tim returned with backup.

Moving to Ace, he has huge claw marks down his chest. I lick them sealing the wound to stop it from bleeding. Hearing a low growl I spin in the direction of it and drop my head and snarl at the intruder, protecting the two pups.

A huge black wolf steps from between the trees, his teeth bared as he stalks toward me.

"It only mates," my wolf says and I feel my wolf relax I turn to look back at Ace underneath me when I am hit from the side. Claws rip into our flesh making us whimper. We jump to our feet only to be attacked again, teeth slicing through my side painfully as I try to escape from the attacker. Only able to see black fur when I realize it is our mate attacking us.

We try to shift back to let him know it's us when I feel his teeth sink into the back of my neck and we are flying into a tree. The last image I see is his silver eyes glaring at me, my blood dripping from his muzzle as he stalks toward us with his teeth bared. My vision is going hazy as I try to stand. Wobbling on my feet before I collapse in a heap feeling his teeth slice through my arm painfully.

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