

Batsh*t crazy

Nathan POV

Nathan closed his eyes as he basked in the scent of his mate.

"I missed you." He sighed in contentment.

"I missed you too, baby," Lauren responded, pulling back with a smile on her face.

"I'm so glad you're okay. When I heard about the rogues...I'm so glad Christopher was nearby to save you on time." Nathan stated, pulling his mate toward his chest again. "I don't know what I would have done if I had lost you." He swallowed the lump that had formed in his throat from just the thought of something happening to Lauren.

Nathan had gotten a call in the middle of the night from his father that his pack, Prescott Valley, was under attack by a group of rogues and that his Luna was missing. Nathan had dropped everything and had called his pilot immediately to get his private plane ready.

For a moment, his father had thought that she had been taken, but she soon reappeared, with Christopher by her side. He had found her out strolling by the border and had quickly brought her back to safety.

Nathan had asked Lauren many times in the past to partake in warrior training, but she refused every time, declaring that she would stay with the woman and children in the packhouse if the need ever arose.

"What were you doing outside at that hour anyway?" He asked her, again. His mind just couldn't seem to remember her explanation. The thought of losing her was just too much for him and his wolf to comprehend.

"I told you, I have trouble sleeping when you're not here. I take nightly walks." Lauren confessed in a small voice, her eyes on the oor.

"Hey, hey," Nathan placed a hand under her chin, lifting her face up to look him in the eye. "How about I wrap things up in my New York oce as soon as possible, and then I'll be here every day and night." Nathan smiled while smoothing out Lauren's hair.

"Are you sure, because your work is really important? I don't want to force you to do something you don't want to do." Lauren looked up at him with her big blue eyes, and his heart melted. Though his mind ashed to Madison for a second, nding her meant nothing, but his mate... she was everything.

"Shh," Nathan pulled her into his chest again, "Nothing is as important as you."

Nathan reluctantly left behind his mate to head back to New York after receiving a mysterious phone call from his beta, Robert.

"Yes, Robert?" Nathan answered his phone.

"Nate, how is Lauren?" Robert asked, concern in his voice.

"She's a bit shaken up, but other than that she's ne. But she's having trouble coping with me being gone all the time. I—I should rap things up in New York. Maybe you can lead the oce for a while? It's just until I hire a manager." Nathan began explaining before Robert interrupted his thought process.

"Nathan, I'm sorry to hear that, and I understand, but you should really come back here. We've discovered some interesting things that you will want to know and see for yourself."

"Can't you just tell me over the phone?" Nathan asked with furrowed brows, "How was the meeting at Matheus anyway?" Nathan had almost forgotten that he had asked his Beta and Delta to attend the important business meeting, that he had gone to great lengths to get, because of the emergency at his pack.

"That's' what we wanted to talk to you about. When do you think you'll get here?"

Nathan had been pondering what his men had discovered during the ight and car ride back to his oce building in New York. What could be so important that they didn't want to explain it to him over the phone? Could it be about Madison? Was it about the meeting? Did they make some kind of deal?

Nathan stepped out of the elevator and walked to his oce, greeting his secretary on the way in.

"Robert, Zachary, what do you have for me?" Nathan asked, looking from his Beta to his Delta while taking his seat behind his desk.

The way Zachary and Robert shared an uneasy look before turning towards him caused an unsettling feeling to form in his stomach. This was bad.

"Nathan, I would tell you to sit down, but since you're already seated, I'll just tell you." Zachery began. Nathan was starting to lose his temper. Why were they stalling?

"Could you spit it out already?! Is this about the meeting at Matheus Innovatech Solutions? Or is this about Madison resurfacing?" He all but snarled. Why were they acting so mysterious?

"Both," Robert let out a nervous chuckle, causing Nathan's attention to snap towards him. His Beta was usually very composed. What would cause this man to get agitated?

"Did you make a bad business deal or something?" Nathan asked, dread lling him.

"No, Nathan..." Zachery began, "We discovered something while we were at Matheus. The CEO is someone we all know. Someone we know very well."

Nathan looked from Robert to Zachery expectantly, who shared one of those looks again.

"Well?!" Nathan was getting angry now.

"The CEO is Madison..." Robert said, looking at Nathan with an unreadable expression.

"Madison who?," Nathan asked, still confused. When none of his men answered, Nathan's eyes went big when realization hit him.

"My Madison? But Madison's last name is Harper!? And I thought the CEO was a man?"

"No, we just wrongly assumed the CEO was a man." Robert explained, "But yes, your Madison." Robert emphasized.

Only then did Nathan realize that he had called her his. He quickly shook it off as more questions surfaced.

"Tell me everything. From the beginning." He demanded. Robert and Zachery both started recalling what had happened when they had set foot in Madison's oce. How Madison had acted and what she had said and promised.

When they were done, Nathan only had more questions.

"Could she possibly be married to the CEO?" he asked. Not that he didn't believe that women could be CEOs, but the way his men described Madison's appearance and behavior made her sound like a crazy person.

"No, I did a background check, an unocial one," Zachery began, unocial meaning that he went through the illegal route to get the information, "and she denitely is the CEO."

"She is probably married..." Robert said, causing Nathan to frown. He didn't like it if he were being honest with himself.

"Oh, and one more thing. We think she might have a kid."

That caught Nathan's attention. Madison had children?

"Before she ripped the phone out, I thought I heard her assistant telling her that the school had called..." Robert said, rubbing his chin.

"Or..." Zachery began, "She's hiding something." Causing both Nathan and Robert to turn to him with furrowed brows. "The way she acted could only mean two things. She's batshit crazy, which doesn't sound like Madison at all, or she's hiding something..." Zachery said, more to himself than the rest of the room. He remembered that she had also placed the photo frame that sat on her desk, face down.

"What could she be hiding?" Nathan asked, genuinely curious.

"That's what I'm going to nd out. Just give me a few days." Zachery stated, staring off into space, lost in thought.

"and eum, Alpha," Zachary added, a question in his eyes.

"You have my permission to use all means possible." Nathan nodded, answering the unspoken question, giving his delta permission to go through illgal means.