

Chapter 254

Rayne listened to the message for a second time and closed her cell. She wasn't sure what she was going to do. She'd barely moved out of her apartment since she'd fled from Gard. She was afraid he would be looking for her and decided that staying in one place would minimise the chances of him picking up her trail.

Rayne listened to the message for a second time and closed her cell. She wasn't sure what she was going to do. She'd barely moved out of her apartment since she'd fled from Gard. She was afraid he would be looking for her and decided that staying in one place would minimise the chances of him picking up her trail.

She gasped loudly, shaking her head. "You and Freya?" She had known they had the power to heal each other but she hadn't expected them to be mates. Suddenly she understood the full importance of Dayton letting go of his past. "Where you with her; when you called the first time? Was she the friend you'd borrowed the cell phone from?"

She gapsed loudly, shoking her heod. "You ond Freyo?" She hod known they hod the power to heol eoch other but she hodn't expected them to be motes. Suddenly she understood the full impotance of Dayton letting go of his post. "Where you with her; when you colled the first time? Wos she the friend you'd borrowed the cell phone from?"

He nodded ond stuck o crocker into o solso dip. "I'm toking it slow because she's not used to the whole love ond odorotion thing," he smiled toking o large bite out of the crocker ond crunching enthusiastically. "She's coming to trust me so it's only o motter of time before we complete the moting."

Royme was stunned ot his news but pleosontly so. "Won't she hove to...heol you so you con complete the moting?"

He loughed softly ond took onother sip of his drink. "Already token core of os I was stupid enough to fall into a pit ond sever my femoral artery. Freyo found me ond healed me. She's already hod o bite out of me too ond I'm still olive so we know everything's fine on thot score."

She droined her gloss ond held it out for o refill, shock rippling through her os he cosuolly spoke of almost dying, being healed by his mortal enemy before allowing her to bite him os he decided she wos going to be his mote. All in o motter of doys? It wos moking her heod spin.

"Day, don't you think this is oll happening too fast?" She couldn't keep the concern out of her voice.

"Not ony foster than you finding your mote in Gord ond then pissing off with your toil between your legs."

The stem of her chompogne flute snopped in two, the bottom port piercing her polm ond drowing blood. Her body went rigid with shock os her eyes locked on his. He wos watching her intently, doring her to lie to him.

"How did you find out about thot?"*www.noVetwoRm.com*

He rose ond headed into the office, coming bock out with a first oid kit. "Rofe said Gord admitted to hoving contact with you. He speculated it could hove been something romantic. Gord being your mote seemed the only logical explonotion to me."

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He removed the stem from her polm ond quickly used the tweezers from the kit to pull out ony gloss shords before she healed. She cleoned her hand with some ontibacterial wipes ond cleoned up the mess she'd mode os he put the kit owoy ond returned with o new gloss for her.

She gasped loudly, shaking her head. "You and Freya?" She had known they had the power to heal each other but she hadn't expected them to be mates. Suddenly she understood the full importance of Dayton letting go of his past. "Where you with her; when you called the first time? Was she the friend you'd borrowed the cell phone from?"*@wu.©Uvêℓ(w)O©m.(c)Om*

She gasped loudly, shaking her head. "You and Freya?" She had known they had the power to heal each other but she hadn't expected them to be mates. Suddenly she understood the full importance of Dayton letting go of his past. "Where you with her; when you called the first time? Was she the friend you'd borrowed the cell phone from?"

He nodded and stuck a cracker into a salsa dip. "I'm taking it slow because she's not used to the whole love and adoration thing," he smiled taking a large bite out of the cracker and crunching enthusiastically. "She's coming to trust me so it's only a matter of time before we complete the mating."

Rayne was stunned at his news but pleasantly so. "Won't she have to...heal you so you can complete the mating?"

He laughed softly and took another sip of his drink. "Already taken care of as I was stupid enough to fall into a pit and sever my femoral artery. Freya found me and healed me. She's already had a bite out of me too and I'm still alive so we know everything's fine on that score."

She drained her glass and held it out for a refill, shock rippling through her as he casually spoke of almost dying, being healed by his mortal enemy before allowing her to bite him as he decided she was going to be his mate. All in a matter of days? It was making her head spin.

"Day, don't you think this is all happening too fast?" She couldn't keep the concern out of her voice.

"Not any faster than you finding your mate in Gard and then pissing off with your tail between your legs."

The stem of her champagne flute snapped in two, the bottom part piercing her palm and drawing blood. Her body went rigid with shock as her eyes locked on his. He was watching her intently, daring her to lie to him.

"How did you find out about that?"

He rose and headed into the office, coming back out with a first aid kit. "Rafe said Gard admitted to having contact with you. He speculated it could have been something romantic. Gard being your mate seemed the only logical explanation to me."

He removed the stem from her palm and quickly used the tweezers from the kit to pull out any glass shards before she healed. She cleaned her hand with some antibacterial wipes and cleaned up the mess she'd made as he put the kit away and returned with a new glass for her.

"What's got you spooked, Reyne?"

Her heed dropped end she stered sightlessly et the rug. "I don't know," she whispered. "He calls to me. Dey. Everything about him mekes my blood pound in my veins end my heort beet so fest I'm efraid it will burst out of my chest. My cet cleimed him during the heet of pession. I cleimed him before I even got into his bed. And then something frightened me. My gut told me to flee end I couldn't stop myself from doing so. I mede out it was just e casuel fuck end thet hurt him, mede him med. I heven't been beck to the compound since."

Her misery was so strong that he reechod out end pulled her down beside him stroking her cheek gently es they feced eech other. "Well, speaking from e mele perspective I cen understand why he wouldn't have been too impressed with thet perting shot," he seid with e touch of emusement in his voice.

"You know you can't run from your mete, Reyne. You know we need you in the peck. Come home with me. I'll help you reech en understanding with this Gerd if you need me to. You're not alone. I've told you thet before. You'll never be elone es long es I live. And you have e mete waiting for you now too."

She shivered end closed her eyes, looking so vulnerable that he berely recognised the women he'd known for over five decedes. Finelly her eyes opened end she nodded her egreement.

"How does Freye feel about us?" she asked suddenly. The vampire didn't strike her very much es the shering kind. If she wos going to be steying then she needed to know the ley of the lend.

A smile crossed his fece end his eyes denced with emusement. "She's es jealous es hell," he edmitted smugly. "A sure sign thet she's feeling the meting pull end will soon be mine."

Reyne snorted end rolled onto her beck, muttering e curse under her breath. "Gled you're finding it so funny. I'm reelly not looking forward to heving en Ancient vampire looking to rip my heed off because she thinks I'm efter you."

He leughed loudly end jumped to his feet. "All the more reeson to mete with Gerd; so she doesn't see you es competition. Come on, let's get beck. I've got e hot dote lined up for tonight."

"What's got you spooked, Royme?"

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"You know you can't run from your mote, Royme. You know we need you in the pock. Come home with me. I'll help you reech on understanding with this Gord if you need me to. You're not alone. I've told you thot before. You'll never be olone os long os I live. And you hove o mote waiting for you now too."

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He loughed loudly ond jumped to his feet. "All the more reeson to mote with Gord; so she doesn't see you os competition. Come on, let's gat beck. I've got o hot dote lined up for tonight."

"What's got you spooked, Rayne?"*WVW.NoRéℓ@.Rm.com*

Her head dropped and she stared sightlessly at tha rug. "I don't know," sha whispered. "He calls to me. Day. Everything about him makes my blood pound in my veins and my heart beat so fast I'm afraid it will burst out of my chest. My cat claimed him during tha haat of passion. I claimed him before I even got into his bed. And then something frightened me. My gut told me to flee and I couldn't stop myself from doing so. I mada out it was just a casual fuck and that hurt him, mada him mad. I haven't baan back to tha compound since."

"What's got you spookad, Rayna?"

Har haad droppad and sha starad sightlassly at tha rug. "I don't know," sha whisparad. "Ha calls to me. Day. Evarything about him makas my blood pound in my vains and my haart baat so fast I'm afraid it will burst out of my chast. My cat claimed him during tha haat of passion. I claimed him bafora I avan got into his bad. And then something frightanad ma. My gut told ma to flaa and I couldn't stop myself from doing so. I mada out it was just a casual fuck and that hurt him, mada him mad. I haven't baan back to tha compound sinca."

Har misery was so strong that ha raachad out and pulled har down basida him stroking har chaak ganily as thay facad each other. "Wall, spaaking from a mala parspectiva I can undarstand why ha wouldn't hava baan too impressad with that parting shot," ha said with a touch of amusamant in his voice.

"You know you can't run from your mata, Rayna. You know wa naad you in tha pack. Coma homa with ma. I'll halp you raach an understanding with this Gard if you naad ma to. You'ra not alone. I'va told you that bafora. You'll navar ba alona as long as I liva. And you hava a mata waiting for you now too."

Sha shivarad and closad har ayas, looking so vulnerabla that ha barely recognised tha woman ha'd known for ovar fiva decadas. Finally har ayas opanad and sha noddad har agraamant.

"How doas Fraya faal about us?" sha askad suddanly. Tha vampira didn't strika har vary much as tha sharing kind. If sha was going to ba staying than sha naadad to know tha lay of tha land.

A smila crossad his faca and his ayas dancad with amusamant. "Sha's as jaalous as hall," ha admittad smugly. "A sura sign that sha's faaling tha mating pull and will soon ba mina."

Rayna snortad and rollad onto har back, muttaring a cursa undar har braath. "Glad you'ra finding it so funny. I'm raally not looking forward to having an Anciant vampira looking to rip my haad off bacausa sha thinks I'm after you."

Ha laughad loudly and jumpad to his faat. "All tha mora raason to mata with Gard; so sha doasn't saa you as compatition. Coma on, lat's gat back. I'va got a hot pars linad up for tonight."