

Owe Me An Explanation

Addison

When I wake, Owen is gone. Trisha comes in and tells me she needs to discharge me.

“Alpha is upset I kept you here. Said you are ne and need to leave, so you aren’t taking up a bed. Owen brought you some clothes last night. Go take a shower and I’ll leave some breakfast so you can eat. I’ll drive you home.”

Home? Is the packhouse still my home?

I hurried to shower and eat before I got Trisha into trouble. She drives me to the packhouse, and I get out wondering if I should go into his oce. Before I can think about it more, I see Henry, the head warrior walking out. He walks over quickly and quietly speaks to me “Luna he wants to see you in his oce. Do not hesitate to contact me if you need anything. I will always help you. I do not understand how this can happen.”

I give him a grateful smile and hug him quickly. He walks away, and I sigh before trudging into the oce. I start to turn the knob before I remember he’s not mine anymore. I am only Luna until I rescind the title. Sighing, I knock and wait until the door opens. It’s Aubrey, and she is smiling nastily at me.

“Oh, Addison is here, babe.” She backs up to let me in, and I pass through looking around. Owen isn’t here, and Seth sits behind the desk with his laptop open.

“Ah, Addison you have been discharged. Let’s get right down to business shall we? You have been acting as Luna here, but you will now need to nd another way to contribute to the pack. I’ll give you a week to decide what you might like to do instead. You will need to move out of the packhouse. My mate does not feel comfortable with you here near me. Owen said he found a cottage for you. You can also leave if that would make you more comfortable. I will authorize your transfer no questions asked.” He stops his businesslike tone for one second and glances at me with a bit of pity, “I am sorry about how this had to happen, Addison.”

I speechlessly stare at him wondering what rabbit hole I fell into. His eyes lack all the warmth and love I am so used to seeing. Anger rises up suddenly though, and I barely contain it.

“You’re sorry?! That’s it? That’s fantastic!” I look at him feeling complete disbelief. “We’ve been mates for two years and yet you suddenly claim another is your fated mate right in front of me. And all you can say is you’re sorry how this turned out?! And I need to nd another way to contribute to this pack?!” My voice is steadily rising as the fury builds within me. “Where is my Seth? The man who was in love with me, who cherished me and treated me like his most precious gift? What happened to you two nights ago?!” I slam my hands on his desk demanding an answer.

He gives me a coldly appraising look as I hear a growl behind me. I glance over my shoulder and see Aubrey with her claws out. I unleash a fraction of my aura and she backs away in pain.

I turn back and Seth sighs. “Aubrey, settle down, baby.”

Stabbing pains hit my heart as he used the endearment towards her. He didn’t reprimand me which is a good thing. I might knock him at.

“I will explain because I understand your shock and disbelief. Things have been feeling off within our bond for a few weeks. I pushed it aside thinking I was simply tired or under stress. Two nights ago, when I went out for the border breach, I felt it strongly. A change in our bond, like it was silent. I didn’t come home because I wasn’t ready to face you. I caught another scent that morning but ignored it, worried it was my drawing me in like when I discovered you. I hoped to speak with you rst, let you know my suspicions and see if I felt anything for you still. When you barged in that morning, there was… nothing. No stirring of my wolf, no excitement or joy, just… emptiness. Even you must feel the same way.” He stands with his hands in his pockets, his head bent forward. His eyes look up toward me with indifference.

It hurts. He’s right though. I feel nothing but the pain of betrayal. Nessa is unresponsive, so no help from her with Jagger.

He lifted his head slowly, “your eyes conrm that you know what I mean. At least it’s merely a simple separation between us. No anklebiters to deal with. If that is all, you should go pack your things. Would you like me to arrange for someone to drive you to your new place?”

Sorrow and pain are slowly creeping into my body, but I will not show him that. I straighten myself to my full height. He’s like a whole new person.

“No, that will not be necessary. If I may leave now to pack, Alpha?” I look him in the eye keeping my expression neutral.

He nods and I hear Aubrey approaching. I begin walking out hearing, “No Aubrey, you stay here with me baby. It will be too hard for you to watch her in your rightful space.”

I force my feet to keep walking. I will shout and scream later. I ascend the stairs and see Owen at the door. He frowns when he sees me. “Addi? What? Seth told me to meet someone up here to collect your clothes.”

“The someone is me. I understand you found somewhere for me to live.” I take a deep breath and he pulls me inside shutting the door before engulfing me in a big bear hug.

“Addi, I don’t know what the f**k is wrong with him, but I promise you I will gure it out. Let me help you pack and I’ll drive you to the cottage.”

I snie just a bit and give him a small smile. I walk towards the large closet and grab the two large suitcases I own along with a big duffel bag. I pack all my clothes, stacking dress bags up. When I go to pack up the dresser drawers, I see someone riling through them.

Frowning, I look around and notice the jewelry box off to the side. I opened it and saw half the nice jewelry was gone. Bet Aubrey decided she got to choose what she wanted. My favorites are on my body luckily including the diamond necklace and earrings I always wear.

Thinking about it, I tuck the necklace down under my shirt more and will remove my earrings until I am out of here. After locating the hidden jewelry box in my dresser, I leave most of the jewelry in the main visible one. She can have it though it shows her character wanting to steal what he bought for me specically.

Once I get everything packed from the bathroom too, I wander out and Owen has gathered up all the photos of us. He sets them in a box. I pick up the family heirlooms I brought with me and add them to it. Going to the bedside table, I reach my nger under the bottom activating the ngerprint lock, and the hidden bottom drawer slides out. If this is gone, then I know the man downstairs had a lobotomy.

I pull out all the les and place them in the backpack with my jewelry. Owen knows what this is. He looks at me and then leaves with the backpack quickly after I hand it over. The most important piece of luggage needs to get out of here unnoticed. I don’t trust my……ex-

mate and his new one. Bile rises in my throat thinking of those words.

When I came to be Luna, my brother gave me my inheritance from our parent’s death so I would be taken care of if anything ever happened to the pack or Seth. It was all carefully invested in my name only to ensure my future. Seth agreed with this and helped me further the investments. That way if the pack was ever taken over by anyone and they rightfully claimed all of the pack and Alpha’s assets, I and any pups we had would be nancially able. Owen knew about it as a backup.

I look around the suite that has been my home for the last two years. All the memories bubble to the surface… laughing as Seth would attempt to make pancakes which he burned every time, lazy Saturday mornings spent in our big bed, having extra buttery popcorn on the couch when we would watch a movie. In the winter, he would light a re, and we’d sit in front of it cuddling and talking. When I would come back sore from training, he’d have a hot scented bubble bath waiting for me. Last week he joined me after I went to evening training.

I look at the giant black tub and close my eyes reliving it. I had climbed into the heavenly hot water smelling the rose oil and lavender bath salts he’d added. As I sat down, he wandered in wearing shorts only with a tray and a stool in his hands. He set the stool down and placed the tray on top of it. Chocolate covered strawberries and sparkling juice in a fancy wineglass sit on it. He’d grinned before undressing.

“Scoot up, angel. So I can massage your back.” He’d climbed in and rubbed all the knots from my neck and upper back before pulling me ush against his chest. “Now relax, beautiful.”

When he handed me the glass and brought a strawberry to my lips, I smiled. “You are the most thoughtful mate ever.”

His nose nuzzled my neck as he took a deep breath. “Making sure you love me forever that’s all. I love to see the smile on your face and the happiness in your voice with anything I do that pleases you.”

The pain is too much, and I turn ready to leave. Seeing the vase of red and white roses on the kitchen counter sparks tears in my eyes. Seth brought them home three days ago, leaving them on the bathroom counter while I showered, and then he went back to work. He always left me little notes and owers like that. Said it was his main job to make me happy and fall in love with him a little every day.

A few tears fall down my cheeks and I swipe them away as I hear Owen climbing the stairs.

“Addi.” His voice whispers and I turn to face him. He looks at me sadly, and I clear my throat.

“Not here. Let’s go.” He nods in understanding.

I look behind him spotting the wooden box I gave my mate right after I moved in. The man might be an incredibly talented Alpha, but he would lose his keys every damn day. I used to laugh having to help the big bad wolf search for them. Finally, I ordered this carved wooden box from one of my previous pack’s woodworkers. I close the lid on it and see the inscription The Keys to an Alpha’s Sanity.

It drove him crazy when he couldn’t locate them quickly each time.

Hesitating for a second, I decide to bring it with me. Owen took my two big suitcases, and I picked up the duffel bag along with overstuffed dress bag containers.

At the foot of the stairs, Seth and Aubrey stand. She looks upset while he has that cold, indifferent expression. Owen has been stopped, and I am waiting behind him. Two warriors come forward at Seth’s hand and motion.

“Please open Addison’s bags to ensure she is only taking her things. Sorry Addison, but Aubrey is concerned.”