## CH 16

## Luci

Luci sighed softly to herself upon waking, the night had turned out to be absolutely amazing for Luci and Kali alike. Kali had nally gotten to rip out of her; now she could do that anytime she liked, run about freely when they got home.

Luci had gotten to have an Alpha male, taste a Beta. Goddess, those two had just known what to do, she had obtained that elusive o<sup>\*\*\*</sup>m, even gotten a multiple o<sup>\*\*\*</sup>m, been completely and utterly satised.

Luci smiled as she got out of bed, crossed her room and hopped into the shower. She wondered briev how she'd gotten back to her room. Dismissed it, it could only have been the Alpha or Beta that had brought her back. Though she wondered if they'd managed it without her father knowing.

That question was answered the moment she saw him stalk into her room, he looked more than angry with her, she saw his temper surface. "What the hell did I tell you?" he snarled right at her.

Luci sighed, "To behave...I couldn't help my wolf emerging here last night."

"It's not the wolf that bothers me. I'm actually happy you got your wolf Luci...but really you just had to, didn't you? Disobey me. The Alpha and the Beta, you disappoint me to no end in that regard. Not one Lucian, but both."

She always disappointed him, even as a girl. "I didn't know they were out there."

"I don't want to know Lucian." He glared at her, "I don't want to hear what happened, ever. But you will be bloody behaving yourself for today and tomorrow. You have not only disappointed me, but blatantly disobeyed me and disrespected me...showed no loyalty to your boyfriend back home inside the pack and have now just embarrassed the entire pack as well."

Those words actually hurt her to hear. He'd lectured her many times before but never had he ever told her, she was an embarrassment to the pack.

He'd told her ranked members were off limits because she had no wolf. Well, now she did have a wolf; she couldn't understand what was so wrong with what she had done. Opened her mouth to voice as much only to be interrupted.

"I don't want to hear a single word from you," he pointed right at her, "not one word for the rest of the time we're here." He muttered and then turned and stalked back to his own room.

Luci stood staring after him, it wasn't her fault, he just didn't understand or wouldn't accept that she had needs as much as any other Alpha-blooded wolf out there. He had likely been

just like her once. Out there in the wolfen world, an un-mated Alpha, who went about sating his needs when and wherever he so chose to with anyone willing.

"It's not fair." She told her mother, who was still standing in her room, had followed her father in but said nothing till this point. Was looking at her apologetically. It was likely her mother and father had already argued about this. Had words and that was why she was quiet, she'd already tried to sort it out.

"Just stay out of his way for now Luci. He was actually really mad, is worried about what Rafe and Jack will say about you now." Her mother told her. "Come on, let's go and have breakfast."

Luci just nodded. She was actually hungry and followed her mother out of her room. She didn't really think they would say anything bad about her. Both Alpha Rafe and Beta Jack were already in the dining room. Saw both of them smile right at her, she smiled back.

Only to hear her father snap, "Lucian, sit there." And looked at him to see him pointing to a chair right next to him; it was where her mother would normally sit.

"Yes, father." She stated atly and sat where she was told, as her eyes moved to the plate that was put in front of her.

"What did I just tell you, upstairs?" he snapped right at her.

Luci looked right up at him, he couldn't be serious, did he actually expect her to say not a single word for the rest of their visit? He was glaring at her, she opened her mouth to tell him he couldn't be serious, only to have him snarl right at her. "I meant every word."

Luci snapped her mouth shut, glared right back at him, as much as he was at her. Fine, she'd shut the hell up. He wouldn't hear a Goddess damned word from her, for the next two days. Not one freaking syllable, she turned her attention to her breakfast to eat.

Only to hear Thatcher snort, fully amused at her getting into trouble, she kicked that boy right under the table and heard him cry out in pain, and then burst into tears. She had forgotten that with getting her wolf, came added strength; she had kicked him pretty hard. Luci looked at him more than a little horried. She'd not meant to hurt him.

Got yanked from her chair by her father as her mother checked Thatcher over, "What the hell is wrong with you?" her father grated out, squeezing her arm as he glared down at her.

Luci stared right up at him, couldn't say anything at all to him, wasn't allowed to, so said nothing at all.

"Answer me, girl." He snarled at her.

Still, she did not, clamped her mouth rmly shut and stood staring right back at him. She had been told not to say a single word and that he meant it. Now he was expecting her to answer him, he was contradicting himself like always.

She felt his hand tighten on her arm, and heard Kali snarl inside her mind, didn't like the pain he was causing them; and he was. Gripping her with his wolfen strength, trying to make her talk to him. But her mouth was rmly closed, and it was going to stay that way. She would get in trouble no matter what she did, talk, don't talk, both would see him round

on her.

"Thatcher is ne, Orien. Nothing is broken. Luci just got her wolf, forget that it means she is now stronger is all." She heard her mother tell her father.

"You'll apologise to your brother." He snapped at her and turned her round to face Thatcher, who was looking at her with tears in his eyes.

She honestly felt bad, looked at him apologetically, she'd not meant to hurt him like that. Bowed her head slightly to him, by way of apology, she couldn't actually say the words.

"Apologise." Her father grated out.

She stood there, looking at Thatcher. The boy could see she was sorry, he also knew she couldn't talk. That was why he'd been amused in the rst place. "I'm okay," Thatcher stated, looking from her to their father. "She's sorry dad." He offered up for her. He looked a little apologetic now himself, for having put her in their father's line of sight.

"Go to your room Lucian, and bloody stay there. I don't want to see you for the rest of the day."

'Good', was all Luci could think as she pulled her arm from his grip, 'I don't want to see you either.' and she walked away without saying a single word. She could feel anger welling inside of her.

He wanted her to behave, but he was the one actually causing a scene, though she already knew he would blame her for it. State it was her fault he'd had to raise his voice at her in front of others.

Luci banged right into her room and stood there, tears of anger and pain burned her eyes. She could never do anything right in his eyes.

Even her birthdays disappointed him every year now. She didn't shift at 16 as he'd expected, then the moon had set and nothing had happened. He'd stood looking at her, frowned and then sighed and stated before everyone, "Wolf-less you are." Then had turned her towards the packhouse, "Go on inside." He'd told her as other wolves began shifting for the rst time.

She'd heard the clear disappointment in him that day. Every full moon after that he'd looked at her, and when she'd not shifted yet again, felt only more disappointment come from him, each and every time.

He'd told her she couldn't train with the wolves of her own age, that she wouldn't be able to handle it. She'd wanted to train, didn't want to be useless to the pack, and hand to hand was better than nothing.

He'd denied her that, stated, "No." and had walked away from her. Not even her mother had been able to convince him that she should be allowed to train, even for defensive purposes. He'd told her she could get hurt unwittingly and that wasn't allowed.

In the end, she'd gotten so very mad that she had taken herself down to the training grounds to go and prove him wrong. She had fought damned hard that day, had the trainer right there with her making sure she was ghting properly and keeping her guard up; he'd

been happy with her ghting skills. They all did basic pre-wolf training, which started at 15, so that they would be able to handle proper training once they got their wolves.

She had been holding her own and was happy knowing she could, liked training with her friends. They were all pulling their punches so that she wouldn't get seriously injured, as was normal when training with those without a wolf, and she wasn't the only one like that down here, there were two others.

Only to hear her name roared in anger by her father, when he'd seen her on the training ground out there. She'd turned to look at him, been distracted by his angry roaring of her name and taken a hit, stumbled backwards and fallen down to the ground and her own father had yanked her up off the ground, yelled right at her in front of everyone training. "This is why." She'd ended up with a bruised and blackened eye for a week.

But if he'd not distracted her from the training and just stood and watched her, he would have seen she was holding her own, that he was the reason she'd taken that hit. But he wouldn't listen to her.

She was just one big disappointment to him. Well, if that's all she was, she might as well act like one. 'If you think I'm a disappointment, father. Then I'll bloody be one.' She yelled in frustration into the room and opped down on the bed.

She would wear that new bruise with pride. Give that man a reminder of how hard he had grabbed her, used his own wolfen strength on her, after admonishing her, for doing so, and causing one pain. The difference was, she'd not meant to do it. Whereas he'd meant to, 'Leave it there to heal the human way.' She told Kali.

Kali didn't argue with her, she'd never liked the way their father had treated them over the past two years. Didn't much like the way he was treating her right now; told them to not say anything but then demanded them to speak. She would get a verbal lashing either way.

Luci thought about those words, 'a lashing'. He would be able to do that now she had a wolf. He'd always told her he wanted to lash her, but couldn't because she'd been wolf-less. Wondered as she lay there and stared out the window at the forest, just how long it would take for him to do that to her; he'd wanted to for a very long time.

Luci felt Kali snarl at that thought, 'I'll kill him if he tries.' Her wolf snarled inside her mind.

She was just going to have to wait and see, she guessed, he wouldn't do it here in another pack, only on his own territory. She wondered if her mother would be able to step in and stop him. She was not a woman who liked either of her children to be physically punished. Not that Thatcher had so much as ever been threatened to be smacked by their father. That man doted on his son.

She sighed and rolled over to stare at the ceiling, tried not to think about that, how much more he loved Thatcher. She loved Thatcher, he was her brother and she didn't want to be in anyway, jealous of him. But sometimes, deep down she was. He was only 10, and she already knew that Thatcher was actually her father's choice for the pack's heir. She'd learned that years ago, heard him state it to his unit, though he didn't know she'd heard him, she'd been 12 at the time.