

First date

Chapter 12-13

The past two weeks have been good, training is going well, and it has become more and more popular as more women have been encouraged to join the class, by mates, friends, and family members.

Lucian has been behaving himself, and we have managed not to fall out lately, even having some pleasant conversations. Jessica hasn't caused any more trouble lately, well except for some irting which Lucian is ignoring.

I am still keeping my eye on her. There is no way she is suddenly giving up, she has to be planning something.

Nadia has asked me to meet her this afternoon to spend some time together, just the two of us to have a catch-up.

I meet her in her conservatory, it is nice and quiet in there and her own personal space, where no one will disturb us. She has coffee and cakes ready for me arriving.

"Ah just in time, the coffee has just been dropped off" she says, smiling.

"Thank you" I say as she pours me a mug.

"So how have things been dear?"

"It's been good lately, no trouble, and the training sessions as you have seen are becoming really popular"

"Yes they are, I am glad to see my boy is behaving himself better. It's about time"

"Yes we have been getting along better. Still a long way to go"

"I wanted to ask you about a couple of things. They might be sensitive, and if you don't feel comfortable talking about it, it's ne. Just say"

"It's ne, ask away" I tell her, guessing where this is going.

"Well I was wondering about your life. You said a couple of things about your father that made me question his treatment of you. I was already suspicious over the years after your mum died. That was one of the reasons I suggested this marriage to get you away from him. If I had known my son would have acted like that, I wouldn't have set it up for that. I am sorry, I just wanted to help"

"I knew you would ask eventually, and I think I am ready to tell you, I don't want everyone to know about it, so I would appreciate this conversation to stay between us" I say.

"Of course, dear, whatever you want"

"Well it was ne until Mum died, then dad brought back Selma and Suzie. He introduced Suzie as our sister, and it wasn't long before he marked Selma as his new mate. It was obvious he had been cheating on Mum for years at that point. Selma decided she didn't like me as I wasn't her daughter. She treated Zander well as he is the Alpha heir but me she never did.

It started with little things, small stories about my behaviour she didn't like to outright lying over things I had done. My dad wouldn't let them punish me too much for the rst few years, but then he got sick of my so-called behaviour and stopped caring what they did to me. I would be beaten, parked for days locked up. Whatever they felt like at the time. They made sure no one in the stable talked to me anymore.

My nanny Twyla snuck me food when she could, and my mum's Gamma trained me in secret they were the only two that cared about me" I told her.

She had tears in her eyes when I stopped.

"Did you not tell your dad what they were doing? What about Zander?" she asked, horried.

"Dad never believed me when I tried to deny their accusations, so I eventually stopped trying. Zander always stayed away from me. He admitted just before the wedding that he stayed away to protect me because they were worse when he was nice to me" I tell her.

"You also said before you didn't want to get married, what did he do to make you?" she asks.

"He threatened to lock me in the dungeon and torture me until I agreed. Then he said he would stop Zander from being the Alpha if I didn't go through with it. I couldn't do that to my brother. I gured if I could survive all those years with them, I could manage 3 years here" I admit.

"That complete bas.tard I never liked him, or that evil bi.tch, you have been through so much. Why did you hide your wolf?" she says.

"Mum asked me to. She knew I shouldn't let anyone know about her. Unfortunately, it made my dad treat me worse because he was ashamed to have a daughter with no wolf. Not that I cared, I stopped calling him dad over 10 years ago" I say.

"Is she a special wolf? Is that why she told you to keep her secret? She always used to say you would be special and surprise everyone" she asks.

"She is. As soon as I was born, Mum saw her through my eyes. She has always been with me. You are the rst person I have told, but both Athena and I trust you" I say.

"Don't worry, I will keep your secrets until you are ready for people to know"

"Shawn may have a clue. He saw her when he rescued me from the rogues. So far he's not mentioned it to me or anyone else. I know he won't say anything to anyone" I admit.

"He's loyal to his Luna as he should be. His father taught him his role well. He will be waiting on you to bring it up"

"I will discuss it with him at some point, I can't stand the thought of people looking at me with pity" I admit.

"They won't. You are so strong getting through everything you have. They may be upset and angry on your behalf, but they won't pity you" she assures me.

"Thank you Nadia, it actually feels good to talk about this and get it off my chest. I thought it would be harder to say it all"

"I am glad you were able to trust me with it. Anytime you need someone to talk to or for anything you can come to me, I think of you as my daughter" she says, hugging me.

We spend the rest of the time chatting about some more light-hearted topics. She talks about growing up with my mum and what they used to get up to together before they met their mates.

She tells me about her ex mate who died, and he sounds like a nice man, a good father, and a great Alpha. I would have liked to have met him. She had no interest in meeting a new partner after losing him. If the goddess decides it is her fate, then she would accept it, but she will not pick any man just to relieve her loneliness.

We had a really good time it was nice remembering times with my mum that I spent with her, and the times we met up with Nadia and her boys when I was young.

We walked together towards the dinner hall laughter, lling the air, to meet everyone for the evening meal. They were all there before us waiting for us to arrive before starting.

Lucian smiled at us, seeing us coming in so happy, and got up to pull out my chair. He's been doing little things like that lately, being much more considerate and gentle.

"I take it you both have had a good day" Lucian asks with a smile.

"Oh we have had a fantastic time, I love having a daughter to chat to" Nadia says, smiling at me.

"Yes it's been a good day, mum's been telling me all of your embarrassing stories" I tease.

"Mum I can't believe you threw me under the bus like that" he says in mock annoyance.

"Don't worry, you weren't the only one" I tell him.

"At least you have ammunition on all of us" he laughs.

"I was wondering Aurora if you would maybe consider, well perhaps going out with me this weekend? Just the two of us" he says nervously.

I have never seen him this nervous before.

"No pressure, just to get to know each other better and spend some time together" he quickly adds when I don't answer straight away.

"Yes Lucian, I will go out with you this weekend" I say, giving him a smile as he smiles with relief.

"Great, thank you, I will let you know details later on in the week"

"Goddess that was torture. Thank you for putting him out of his misery. I don't think I could have watched him for much longer" Lee laughs as Lucian slaps the back of his head.

This week has passed quickly, Jessica is completely ignoring and avoiding me after Lucian asked me out on a date. I also found out she tried to make plans with him on the same day to try and get him to cancel on me. Then she acted as if she had no idea he had plans when he told her.

He doesn't spend any time alone with her anymore. He is trying to make sure she doesn't get the wrong idea, or I don't think something is happening between them.

Lucian has asked me to dress casually and comfortable this weekend for our date. He is picking me up just before lunchtime.

It's a great day outside, so I go for shorts and a vest top, with comfortable trainers as I am not sure what we are doing.

He knocks on the door, and when I answer, he has a basket in hand. His eyes ash black with his wolf as he gives me a once over.

"You look beautiful" he compliments

"Thank you"

"I thought we could go for a picnic by the lake, I thought it would be less crowded than going somewhere to eat, and we could relax more and chat easier" he says nervously.

"That sounds nice, I like being outdoors" I reply, relaxing him.

"Great let's go" he says, more condent with a smile.

He picked a nice quiet spot away from everyone else before taking out a blanket from the basket and placing it on the ground for us to sit on. Once we were sitting down, he started putting out the different bits of food, a mixture of sandwiches and nger foods. Then different cakes and fresh fruit and cream.

He also had various types of juice and water available.

"I wasn't sure what you liked best, so I brought a bit of everything" he says, rubbing the back of his neck.

"This is great. I will eat most things except seafood" I reply.

"I love seafood, so I am happy to eat them all" he chuckles.

We start eating just chatting about some safe topics, about how the training is going, and how the past couple of weeks have been in the pack. What sort of things I have been doing, just simple things like that.

He tells me some things he's been working on for the pack and what he has coming up, and how much positive feedback he's been hearing about the new training.

He also suggested some mixed classes or advancing some of the women to warriors if they show the potential and it is something they want to do. I agree with the suggestion as I see plenty of potential in many of the women and can tell how driven they are to succeed.

"My only problem is I am not properly weapons trained, I only know the basics as my dad didn't have the previous Gamma fully trained. He picked a new Gamma after my mum died as he was worried he wouldn't be as loyal to the new Luna. So my training was limited to his knowledge, and he decided he didn't need the weapons training unfortunately" I tell him.

"We only have the elite warriors trained in sword and Blade skills, I never bothered with archery for my pack when the Queen offered the training. So it's not something you need to teach. If you want to learn your weapons training, I can see that you are trained if you like" he offers.

"I would like that I have always enjoyed different types of combat"

"Would you like to go for a run? I know Luca wants to meet Aurora properly" he asks hopefully.

"We are not really ready to show ourselves yet. We have been through a lot in our lives, and now is not the best time. She is happy to spend time with him in our human forms until trust is built" I say, not wanting to say more.

"Is there a reason you hid your wolf from everyone?" he asks.

"We had our reasons, mainly because my mum asked me to before she died. That's all I can say about it"

"But didn't your dad treat you bad because you didn't have a wolf" he asks.

"My dad treated bad from the moment he brought a new family home. Having no wolf was just extra justification for it" I say bitterly.

"I'm sorry to hear that, I would like to hear your story at some point" he says sadly, but I saw a ash of anger in his eyes when I was speaking.

"I'm not ready to go into it at the moment. Your mum has been great, so I have someone there for now until I'm ready for others to hear it" I say.

"I hope one day you can trust me enough to share it with me. For now, I am glad you have mum there. She is fantastic. I don't know what I would do without her" he admits.

We chat about some less serious topics, our favourite things, likes and dislikes, and remember some of the times from when we were children.

"Speaking of when we were kids, do you still like rock climbing? I am just asking because I rented a place for us to go. I remembered you used to love it and would beat all of us up the walls" he chuckles, remembering it.

"Wow I have not thought about that in years. I haven't been since mum died, I would love to go. I hope I haven't lost my touch. You might have a chance of winning for once" I tease.

"I'm not sure about that. It's been a few years for me too, but I won't back away from a challenge let's go" he says, packing up the picnic stuff.

We drop it off on the way back before getting into his car and driving to climbing activities club. He has rented the place so it's just the two of us.

We start on the medium wall, taking it slow just to get our technique back before we decide to have our challenge on the biggest and hardest wall they have there.

One of the workers counts us down, and Lucian starts off in the lead. That's where him and Zander always went wrong as kids. You need to pace and leave your burst of energy for the last third of it.

I catch him easily just after the halfway mark and start to speed past him, making it to the top sitting and waiting for him at the top as he hauls himself up.

"how do you always catch up and speed past? You are like a bloody spider monkey the way you clamber up" he complains.

"you have never learned. You always use your burst of energy at the start, which makes you slow at the end. When running laps with pack members, I am sure the advice is to pace yourself at the start. It's the same with everything, including this" I say, smiling at my win.

"It's so fu.cking simple, I should be kicking myself. We will denitely be coming back and having a rematch" he challenges.

"Any time Alpha" I say.

He growls lowly at the use of his title, his eyes turning black as Luca winks at me before backing away again.

We grab some burgers from a fast food van and eat them in the car on the way back. He walks me back to my room and gives me a kiss on the cheek.

"Thank you for today, I had a fantastic time. I hope we can do it again soon" he says.

"I really enjoyed myself, I would like that good night Lucian"

"Night my love"