

Deal

Violet POV

I had never been this flustered and frightened in the last five years, ever since I escaped the White Fur pack's Alpha. Seeing Dane brought back every memory that haunted me over the years. His sharp green eyes, his midnight blue hair... His had tousled hair and bags beneath his eyes, but that didn't do a thing to minimize his Alpha aura. Even now, he looked like a God, commanding and sucking up all the air of the room, his tall and muscular presence looming over everyone else.

His rejection twisted like a dagger deep inside my soul at that time. Even now, it carried the same acrid feeling, though I had come so far ahead in my life. Dangerous attraction and bitterness warred inside me.

I hate to admit that seeing Emily with him brought forth hot and ugly, rage-filled jealousy that I struggled to suppress.

But that was least of all the problems. My two major problems were:

First, my wolf that had slept inside me for so many years inside me and who I was sure would never wake up, it stirred. It was as if it tried to surface. The moment our eyes met, my heart thundered in my chest. I sucked in a sharp breath, remembering that.

Second, I had a son who I wanted to keep hidden at all costs. If they came to know that Dave was an Alpha's son, they would try to take him away from me and, according to the pack laws, I couldn't do a thing. He was Alpha Dane's firstborn and heir to the White Fur pack. But I knew it was a throne of thorns. One that my son would never want because his own people would label him as a bastard. I exhaled roughly, feeling a rising sense of dread. 1



To conceal his strong alpha scent, I had visited a witch in the old town on the outskirts of Miami, where there was a plethora of supernatural people like me who thrived into the shadows. They kept low to stay away from the humans. To humans, it seemed like just another Halloween town and attracted tourists round the year, but the truth was far from reality.

The witch had given me a potion and asked me to give it to Dave twice a year. His next dose was due soon. She had instructed me that her potion may not work when my son attained puberty or gets his first shift.

Frantically, I pulled the car into the parking lot of my office's building and rushed to the elevator. I needed to clear my mind from the haze that threatened to consume me. I barged into my office and almost ran to my cube, my heels clicking across the floor. Once I reached there, I closed the door, slipped the heels off and sat in my chair with my face covered in my hands, hiding my tears which spilled freely.

I didn't want Dane Lyod in my life. Not now, especially when my career had kicked off. I had finally attained the confidence and freedom I was looking for, having come a far way from being a rogue to a model agent.

The door of the room opened. I whipped my head up to see Jayden walking in. "What in the hell, Violet!" he demanded. When he looked at my face, he cringed. "Why are you crying?"

"It's nothing," I muttered, wiping my tears with the back of my hand. "Something got inside my eyes."

"Do you want me to call a doctor?"

"No," I shook my head. I closed my eyes and sucked in a sharp breath. When I opened them, I said, "Jayden, I am sorry, but I can't take Emily



'Thorpe under me. In fact, I urge you not to take her into our agency. She is ... bad news.'

Jayden's eyebrows furrowed. "Why do you say that?"

I blinked at him, wondering what excuse to conjure because I couldn't tell him the truth. "Sh—she's hot-headed. It will be very difficult to work with her!" In reality, I really had to stay away from Dane and Emily. After all, they were married, and I didn't trust myself around Dane. Or my wolf, who tried to surface after seeing him. Goddess, why were things so complicated?

Jayden narrowed his blue eyes on me as he sat on the chair opposite to mine. "You've never had those problems before." His blond hair was gelled and combed behind, showing his hairline. "You've dealt with Tessa deftly." Tessa was the hottest model in our agency. Hottest in head. I wished her hot head matched her body.

I swallowed thickly. Shaking my head, I made another excuse, "I think I am too stressed at the moment with all the work. Besides, being a single mom is strenuous." I lowered my head. "It's not a good idea to take Emily under us. I mean, why is she changing her agency? Maybe her old agency fired her or she is getting old? Did you even look up her history?" I was coming up with one excuse after another to keep her at bay.

Jayden played with the paperweight on the table, rotating it as if in deep thought. After a long pause, he said, "Okay, I think you look pretty stressed. How about I ask Martha to take over this model?"

"No!" I protested. I didn't want Emily or Dane anywhere near me. "Martha can't handle her!"

He raised his eyebrow. "Why are you trying to take away such lucrative



business from us, Violet? Her patron, a man called Dane Llyod, is ready to back us up with thousands of dollars only to get her one good chance.”

Ugly head of jealousy reared up again. Dane was her patron? I berated myself internally for this illogical feeling of wanting to rip apart Emily. “Because—”

He put his hand up. “I’ve decided. Martha is going to take over the new model, while you—”

I was waiting for him to fire me. Tears prickled my eyes. I refused a business worth half a million dollars.

He leaned forward, resting his hands on the table as he stared intensely into my eyes. “—while you are coming on a date with me tonight.”

My mouth dropped to the floor as surprise flooded me at his deal. “Jayden, I—”



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