Chapter 0066

(Joey POV)

I was working my normal shift providing security to the packhouse when I received an urgent message from my supervisor. I was told that Luna Jane had given an order that Aiden and I accompany alpha heir James to Hawaii. We were expected to be ready in 15 minutes.

In normal circumstances, this would be a dream assignment. Unfortunately, I am painfully aware that these are not normal circumstances.

In fact, nothing has been normal in our pack since the last memorial event that was held for Stephanie. My mate would say that nothing has been normal in our pack for a lot longer than that, but I had no idea what was going on and how bad things were until that day. I am ashamed to admit that, before that last memorial, I was very much part of the problems... or at least the problems involving Lily.

Speaking of my mate, she was not at home when I ran back to grab a few things for the trip. I tried mind-linking her, but she must have been at work or too far away for the mind-link to go through. I ended up having to text her when we got to the airport.

Me: "Hey, Babe. Bad news: I have to go to Hawaii with James for a few days." Jessica: "I knew he was going to go. Dr. Hyder told me. I wish I could join you. Why is it bad news?"

Me: "Sheila is coming too."

Jessica: "What?!?!? Joey, where are you?"

Me: "At the airport."

Jessica: "Joey, you cannot let Sheila get on that airplane."

Me: "Why? How do I stop her? It was Luna Jane's idea."

Jessica: "Joey, you do not understand. This is a trip that Dr. Hyder set up. James is not going to Hawaii for fun; he is going to Hawaii to meet Lily."

Me: "Oh, f&&k. Seriously?"

Jessica: "Yes, seriously. This may be James' only opportunity to fix things. Lily will never agree to come back to the pack if she sees James with Sheila. Please, Babe, you have to do something."

Me: "F&&k, f&&k, f&&k. Why would James let her come if he knew he was going to meet with Lily?!?! Any ideas on how to stop her outside of murder?"

Jessica: "Eat her boarding pass?"

Me: "It is all electronic, and it is on James' phone. Other ideas?"

Jessica: "I don't know. Oh, Goddess. Sh&t, sh&t, sh&t. This is a disaster."

Me: "We are boarding in fifteen minutes. Maybe you can reach out to Dr. Hyder and tell him to abort mission?"

Jessica: "Dr. Hyder said it took a lot of planning to make this trip happen. I do not know if James will get a second chance. I also do not know how much Dr. Hyder will care if James burns his bridges with Lily. He does not like James or our pack very much. His main priority is Lily. He is fine going to the werewolf council and being done with it all. We are the ones that begged him to give James a chance and who want Lily to come back to the pack and help us."

Jessica must be talking to text. There is no way her typing thumb is that fast. I hope no one can overhear her.

Me: "So what can we do? Can you find a way to stop Lily from getting on the plane on that end?"

Jessica: "I think she is already there, so it is too late for that. And we cannot let Sheila get her grubby hands into James in a romantic place like Hawaii either. No f&ing way."

Jessica: "BTW, what the f&&k is James thinking letting her come? I thought he was starting to see the light?"

Me: "I really can't tell what he is thinking. I do not think he likes Sheila, but he is letting her hang on him like they are a

couple, and I heard her tell Aiden that she is going to be Luna."

Jessica: [10 angry emoji faces]

Me: "What if I tell James that I know where he is going and who he is going to see, and tell him that Sheila is bad news?"

Jessica: "NO! DON'T! We talked about this. If he doesn't believe you, and Sheila finds out what we are planning [emoji of head blowing up]."

Me: "Relax, Babe. I won't say anything to him. Any other ideas?"

Jessica: "No. Joey, I am so scared. What if..."

Me: "Don't worry, Babe. We can fix this." I hope.

Jessica: "Lily is our only hope of turning things around, Joey. If Sheila becomes Luna..."

Me: "We will not let that happen, Babe. I promise. We are about to board. I love you."

Jessica: "I love you too."

Jessica: "Joey, please remember all that Lily has done for you. For us. We cannot let her get hurt again. Please. We have to fix this."

I sighed deeply when I read Jessica's last text. I knew Jessica did not remind me about what Lily had done to make me feel guilty, but I felt that way anyway.

I did not always know how important Lily was our pack, but I do now. I wish I knew years ago.

I have to do something. Somehow, someway... we have to prevent Sheila from messing everything up again. It is time for Sheila Black and the others to pay for their sins.

(James POV)

Sheila is irritating the crap out of me now. It was one thing when she wanted to put her head on my shoulder in the car, but now she is hanging on me like she is my girlfriend. I even heard her tell Aiden that she is going to be Luna. Luke was so mad that he tried to force me to shift in the human airport. Thank Goddess I was able to step away from her and control Luke before he did something stupid.

Because I bought three of the tickets last minute, only two of our seats were together in first class. The other two seats were two random single seats. I knew Sheila would insist on the two of us taking the seats together, and I was dreading it.

Thankfully, as we were discussing seating assignments, Joey stepped up.

"James, Sir, I am sorry to interrupt, but Luna Jane gave very clear instructions that we were not to leave you alone. That means that I will have to sit with you in the first-class cabin."



Sheila gasped. "You cannot be serious. You cannot expect me to sit by myself in coach. Luna Jane would never authorize that."

Joey glared at her. "You can mind-link her if you want."

Sheila glared back. "You know very well that mind-link does not work that far away."

"Well, the plane is boarding. I am not willing to disobey instructions from my luna. Sir?"

Joey is bald-faced lying. I know d&&n well that my mother never gave that order. And yet... for the first time in years, I am quite happy to be lied to. Joey may not be as pretty as Sheila, but he is far less annoying.

"Fine. Let's go."

Sheila gives me a shocked puppy-dog look, but I ignore it. I grab my carry-on and head onto the plane.



Do you remember Joey and Jessica? They were first mentioned in Chapter 6.

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