

OH FOR MATES SAKE

Chapter 21 Seekers

It could have been my imagination, but when my lips first met his I could feel jolts of electricity at the contact. It was only for a second and they were gone. His lips were devouring mine now. His hands were exploring my body and I couldn't pry myself away from him either. It was so raw and primitive... I didn't understand it. The desire and urges... I didn't have these with Denny. I felt the pull that he was my mate, and it was comforting, but not like this. With Sion there was this unquenchable thirst for him that continued to grow stronger. My hands gripped in his hair, holding him fiercely, not wanting to let go... not caring to stop. I didn't think anything could break us apart.

“SEEKERS!”

A shrill scream echoed through the air. We instantly tore apart as Sion turned his head. His eyes glazed over as he began to ask questions and delegate orders. He looked down at me and I could see the turmoil in his eyes.

“Go!” I pressed my hands on his chest, pushing him. “Go help your pack.” His eyes were glued to mine, and I could see he was hesitating.

“Sion, go and help your pack or I am not staying here.” It was a bluff, but I didn’t want him to stay by my side over helping his pack. I appreciated he wanted to keep me safe, but I was only one person. There was a whole pack to look after. He growled slightly and shook his head.

“Head straight back to the pack house...”

I smiled and nodded my head. He looked at me once more before he sprinted away. He vanished almost instantly through the thick trees. Inwardly, I hated this. I couldn't stand being stuck here and not out there helping, but right now I would only be in their way. I sighed and slowly began making my way back through the woods.

I was almost to a clearing when I could hear children's voices. Why didn't they go back to their homes? I knew Sion wasn't going to be happy, but I turned and headed in the direction of their voices. I could see several children standing by a large fence. Sure, the fence could act as a deterrent, but it wouldn't keep a werewolf out if they wanted in. It wasn't safe for the children to be there.

"What are you kids doing?!" I asked and watched them turn their heads to look at me.

“We were playing hide and seek, and Clara said Zane went over the fence.” I felt my heart stop as I looked out in the distance. “He has done this before to escape from being found. Kai went over to look for him.” Ugh, Kai couldn’t protect himself right now either.

“You kids go back to your houses. It isn’t safe for you to be here. The pack warriors are out there. I’m sure they will find them. Go on.” I smiled at the children and watched them reluctantly walk away. There wasn’t anything they could do here and there was a risk. I turned and looked through the gate and pursed my lips together. What are you thinking, Clover? What can you do against a Seeker...? I can do a lot more than a defenseless little boy can do. What if Kai doesn’t find him and even if he does... Yeah, there was no way I was just walking back to the packhouse.

I climbed over the fence as I inwardly went over all

the different scenarios in my head. It was dumb, but I also couldn't ignore a child. It was a young kid and kids do stupid things. Apparently, I do stupid things too. Luckily, even without my wolf, my body was well trained. I climbed the fence easily enough and jumped to the bottom. I felt some mild irritation in my ankle, but I pushed the pain away. I was focusing on finding the child... which would be much easier if I had my wolf's sense of smell.

Even without it I could track. I searched the ground looking for disturbances. I could see some leaves that looked overturned. This was my best clue to follow. I began following the signs at a slow jog. Ignoring the burning pain in my foot. This child probably didn't go far. The main goal was to be out of sight from the fence. I began scanning the area ahead and my eyes found red hair in the distance. It was Kai and he had the boy with him.

I started to call out to him, but then I noticed how he was holding the child strangely behind him. Then I saw it. A shaggy gray wolf was staring at them, baring his teeth. The wolf was in between us deeper in the woods, but he was so completely focused on them that he didn't notice me. The wolf took a step in their direction and that's when I knew I had to do something. I'm sure it was testing to see if Kai would shift or not. As soon as it realized there was no danger, it would charge.

Physically, I am no match for this wolf. I was a battle strategist though. I knew how to fight and win against stronger opponents. Too bad I didn't have a weapon. I frantically looked over the ground and found a few rocks. I didn't hesitate... I didn't have time. I gathered them in my arms and launched the first stone.

WHACK

The rock made direct contact, hitting the wolf right in the head. Hell yes! I had a momentary mental victory until the wolf snarled and turned his gaze upon me. I glanced over at Kai, who looked terrified for me. I looked at the child and nodded my head. He needed to get the boy in a safe situation and now. Hell, even if it was up in a tree, that was at least something.

The wolf was now moving in my direction, and I launched a couple more rocks to make sure he wasn't changing his mind. I glanced around, trying to think of my next move. I wasn't planning on becoming kibble for this wolf. There was a branch above my head. If I timed it right the first time he lunges for me I should be able to evade him. I wasn't sure what to do after that. I wouldn't have time to climb the tree to safety. One step at a time.

I watched the wolf's movements. I knew how to analyze his posture to see what he would do next. I

glanced up and was relieved to see Kai and the child were no longer there. Good. At least they would be safe. The wolf's back claws dug into the ground. This was it. The move right before he would pounce.

He leapt for me, and I jumped for the branch, kicking the wolf behind the head before I landed. I know to a werewolf it was nothing, but for me it was like scoring another point. I turned to face him, knowing that I wouldn't be able to jump above him again. He was anticipating it now.

A human with no weapon versus a werewolf. This was a no brainer. I couldn't outrun him, and I was out of options. He dug his back feet into the ground, and I knew my time was up. I wouldn't go down without a fight.

The wolf lunged again and this time I spun, rolling on the ground and grabbing a stick. I felt something

warm trickling down my arm. I wasn't quick enough and his fangs had pierced my skin. I held the stick up and braced myself. If I timed my moment just right, I could lodge the stick down into his mouth. I could try to puncture his esophagus or, if I am lucky, his lungs.

Then the sound of pounding began to fill the air. I watched as the werewolf's ears laid flat and his tail curled between his legs. The thudding grew closer, and I watched the wolf dance around nervously searching for the sound as well. The galloping sound grew louder as a large creature charged through the brush. He kicked the wolf, sending him flying into a tree. A loud yelp echoed in the air as the wolf scrambled to get to his feet.

I looked up in shock at the furry centaur that charged at the wolf. He reared up and landed on top of the wolf before he lodged a silver sword into its heart. Then he turned and looked at me. His black fur

moved in the wind as he walked towards me. He had no shirt on, just a leather strap around him that held his sword. He had black hair and dark skin. His brown eyes were pinned onto mine. I couldn't move but I wasn't afraid. There was something about this centaur that made things inside of me stir. I could sense Sheena again, though just briefly.

"What are you doing?!" The scruffy centaur finally said to me. I rolled my eyes and looked up at him.

"Playing fetch but he wasn't grasping the concept." I dropped the stick as his dark eyes bore into me and he let out a sigh.

"Why didn't you shift?"

I swallowed and didn't answer. He just nodded his head as if he already knew and looked me over. He frowned as he looked at my arm. But he didn't ask

more about it. He knew.

“Are they treating you well here?”

That is a funny question to ask me. It was like he knew this wasn't my pack. So I deflected. “You are furry. I didn't know centaurs were furry.” I looked at his fur really wanting to touch it. I feel like it is an unspoken rule. If you see a furry centaur, you have to touch it. I didn't know much about centaurs and how they felt about being touched. I looked up and watched his lips curl up.

“They aren't.”

“Hey! Don't you touch her!” Kai yelled as he ran to my side. “Are you okay?” He asked while glaring at the centaur.

“Where is the boy? Is he safe?” I watched him nod his

head. I instantly felt relieved. I guess I was more worried about the child getting to safety the whole time, more than I was worrying about myself.

“I was so afraid... I thought...” I could hear Kai’s voice quivering. I bet it brought back painful memories of when he lost his mate. His eyes moved to my arm, and he noticed I wasn’t healing. I heard him take a loud breath. “Damn.it and you came out here anyways?”

“So did you.” I grinned at him and shrugged. “I’m okay...” I put my hand on his shoulder and nodded my head in front of us. “Thanks to my new friend here.” I said, looking up at Mr. Shaggy centaur. I don’t know why, but I felt safe even though he was a complete stranger.

“I’m glad I got to you in time... my name is Demetri...” The centaur said and then he smiled. “Clover,

daughter of Alpha Aron Williams of the Chaos pack.”

My lips parted in shock... he knew who I was. And not just me, he even knew my father's name. I had so many things I wanted to ask him. Like what happened during the Dark War and were the Chaos pack really the bad guys? But before I could speak, he turned his head and sighed.

“Sounds like your pack is finally on their way.” He looked at me and began to back away. “I’ll see you again.” And he vanished into the brush. The sounds of his hooves hitting the ground began to fade as another sound was heard.

“Are you okay?” Kai asked and I pursed my lips, looking down at the ground. Was I okay? I was confused. I didn’t mind Kai knowing I was part of the Chaos pack. I planned to tell him tonight anyways. But I did wonder how he felt about it. I watched as he

took his shirt off and pulled it over my head. “You don’t want them to know... keep it on.” He grabbed my other shoulder and pulled me into his side. He was doing his best to hide the evidence of my wound. I appreciated this more than he knew. Or maybe he did know actually. He knew what it felt like not having your wolf.

Three wolves charged towards us. They stopped and were glaring at me and then looked towards Kai. I didn’t think about the fact that they wouldn’t know who I was. I have only been here for one day.

“This is the alpha’s masseuse.” Kai stated clearly.

“You can continue on your patrol, she is with me.” The wolves didn’t move, and I felt Kai’s body get tense.

“Last I checked, I am still the delta of this pack. That was an order!”

The wolves slowly moved off, glancing at the dead

rogue for a moment before trotting away. I heard Kai sigh, and I felt a wave of pain for him. He was the delta, but because he didn't have control of his wolf, the pack members weren't respecting him.

"We had better get back. They would have mind linked Sion... they don't listen to me without his okay."

"Is that why you really moved out..." I mumbled quietly as we walked towards the fence. "So, it looked like you are avoiding people for their own good but really..."

"It's so I don't have to feel pathetic. If I mentioned the real reason to Sion, he would punish every wolf who disrespected my position. I didn't want them to respect me because they feared Sion."

I understood him completely. Wolves respect your rank because you can back it up. But an officer

without that strength...

"I guess you know why I haven't accepted Sion yet," I whispered, watching him nod his head.

"How long?"

"Only a few days..."

"Dear gods... are you okay? What happened?" Kai turned and looked at me full of concern. Everyone seemed shocked at how normal I was acting since I had just lost my wolf. I guess I should be more upset, but I haven't had a moment to really think about the situation.

"I have only told Sion... but I was attacked by six of my own pack members. I was in bad shape. My wolf healed me and then vanished."

“That’s a good sign she healed you though.”

“So, they tell me.” I gave him a crooked smile and he nodded his head.

“Yeah, the fact I can still shift is supposed to be a good sign too. Even if I do black out when it happens.” Kai chuckled and I snorted. These words meant nothing when you didn’t have your wolf. It was nice to have someone else that understood.

We approached the fence and my eyes landed on him. Sion was standing there; his dark unreadable eyes were locked onto mine. He looked furious. His arms were trembling with anger. I could feel the tension in Kai’s body as we got closer.

I had told Sion I would go back to the pack house and that it was okay for him to leave me. I didn’t mean to, but I lied to him. I would have gone back though if it

wasn't for the child. I wet my lips and stepped away from Kai. I noticed Sion's eyes landed on my shoulder where the blood had soaked through. It was just a flesh wound but still enough blood to go through the shirt.

"I'm sorry—" I began to say when I reached him. His hand came out and brushed over my cheek. I could feel his fingers trembling and I was waiting for the explosion. Instead, he stepped into me and held my head to his chest. He buried his nose in my hair and inhaled my scent.

"Thank the gods." His hot breath tickled my head as he held me in his embrace. I stood there in his arms, not saying anything. I had thought he was going to yell at me... maybe he still was. Right now though he was clinging to me as if I was going to disappear. I could hear the unsteadiness in his breath and realized he wasn't angry. He was terrified... that something

happened to me.

I leaned into his embrace and gripped onto his shirt. He was this upset because of me... “I’m so sorry.”

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[OH FOR MATES SAKE](#)

Chapter 22 Pas



“I’m so sorry.” I whispered as Sion stepped back to look me over. His hand reached up to my arm and he lifted up the sleeve to look over the wound.

“It isn’t deep. I just need to bandage it up and keep it hidden.” I watched the pained expression on his face as his fingers moved around the wound. He finally let

the sleeve drop and he let out a breath. Okay, this was it. He was ready to yell at me or so I thought. He cupped my cheek with his hand and his thumb moved over my skin sending tiny tingles through me. Yes... I know I felt them that time. It was like a soft vibration caressed my cheek with his fingertips. For a moment it was there.

“When the patrol mind linked me...” I watched him close his eyes and shake his head. “I can’t even begin to describe...” His voice was quiet as his thumb gently caressed my cheek. “The thought that I could have lost you...” His voice sounded strained as he tried to talk. He took in a deep breath and opened his eyes. His deep pooling hazel eyes seemed to hold me captive, but they weren’t threatening. It was a different type of hold.

“A child climbed over the fence, and she went after him. I’m lucky she did, even though it did put her in

danger. I could have escaped but not with the child. She showed up and allowed me to get the kid to safety. I went straight back for her, but a centaur had saved her.” Kai spoke up but Sion never looked at him. His eyes stayed glued to mine.

“It was that furry centaur we saw before... his name is Demetri. I don’t know how, but he knows about me. He knows about my father...”

“If he saved you... I guess I can’t hate him,” Sion said, and I shrugged slightly.

“I still might have won. I had my next move planned out.” I gave him a weak smile only to see him frown.

“I don’t even want to think about it... the idea that you were fighting against one of those rogues...” He leaned his forehead down to mine. I reached up and held his face and smiled, staring into his eyes.

“I don’t plan to fight another rogue until I get my wolf back.” I watched as a crooked smile spread across his face as he let out an airy laugh.

He leaned his lips towards my hand and delicately kissed my palm. I watched as he lifted up his head and then pulled his shirt off of him. He tugged it over my head swiftly just as a few people emerged from the woods. Logan and Conner were there as well. I now understood why he put a second shirt over me. It was to hide the blood stain on Kai’s shirt.

“Dr. Snyder is examining the dead rogue. What are your orders?” Conner asked, while Sion continued to look at me.

“We need a few more perimeter runs just to make sure everything is clear. I also want an extra patrol for tonight. Conner, you take a group out and start one

run and Logan you do the same. I'll keep the mind link open if you need to reach me." Sion nodded his head, and the men immediately were on their way. If I wasn't here, Sion would have been going with them. "I can't right now Clover... I can't bring myself to leave your side, so don't keep giving me those disapproving eyes." My lips parted in shock. I didn't even realize I was doing anything different.

"I'm sorry... I didn't mean to. I just—"

"I know Clover, but sometimes it is okay to be the reason I don't do something. You are the most important person in my life. This is a well-oiled pack. Even without me, they are extremely capable. Conner and Logan are heading things up... so it's okay for me to stay by you. This is where I am most needed." Sion then looked behind me towards Kai. "Follow me back to the house, I want you to give me your report in detail."

“Yes, Alpha,” Kai said as he straightened up. I could see how his eyes lit up... I’m sure it felt good to feel useful. Sion was being considerate of Kai. He was trying to include him. I felt my heart begin to race as I looked up at Sion. It really felt like he was too good to be true. He was considerate of me, and he cared about his pack. I was trying to find fault here, but other than Dr. Sinister I haven’t found it. I know it has only been one day and no pack is perfect. But I wanted to be with Sion. I could feel this driving force in my body that needed him.

Of course, there was one thing about this pack. They didn’t have female warriors. The females should have to train just like the males. They don’t all have to be warriors, but they should be combat trained. This was a conversation I needed to have with Sion soon.

I stepped into Sion’s side and his hand instantly

snaked around my waist. My body began to vibrate, but not like the sparks and tingles before. It was different. I could hear a slight hum that was starting to grow louder. I could see Sion's lips moving but I couldn't hear his voice. Instead, I was hearing screams. I gripped onto his shirt as my chest began to rise and fall rapidly.

“Get Sion to safety! DRAG HIM OUT OF HERE IF YOU HAVE TO, GO!” I heard a gruffer voice growl out.

Visions began popping into my head as the sounds of fighting filled the air. I saw Conner and Logan... only they looked much younger. They were dragging Sion away as blood dripped down his face. He was trying to fight against them, but his injuries made it impossible.

“Alpha! Luna! Get out of there!” Someone screamed

as a guttural growl echoed in the air. It was so loud I couldn't even hear the screams.

The lifeless bodies of wolves were all over the place. It all happened so quickly. The ground was soaked with red. I watched as a red wolf dragged another lifeless wolf. He then shifted and pulled the wolf into his chest as he sobbed. I noticed his red hair first and that was when I saw his face. It was Kai. A younger Kai but it was him.

A fire covered the area. It ignited all at once with a tremendous amount of energy. Burning the bodies as it spread. Kai had no choice but to run and leave behind the dead wolf he was holding. The bodies were engulfed by an even amount of heat by a creature with incredible power. Oh. My. Gods. The burned bodies looked the same... the singed earth looked the same. That snapped me out of it.

The world returned to normal as I gulped for air. I was being held in Sion's arms, but we were back at the house. We were in my room.

"Clover, are you okay? What happened?" I heard Sion's voice as I began to look around. I could see Kai standing at the foot of the bed and then my eyes landed on the stand. I swiftly moved away from Sion and grabbed my phone. I opened it and began to dial. The phone began to trill and after about three rings a voice came through on the other line.

"Clover? Is everything okay?!" I heard Denny's voice as I tried to steady my voice.

"A demon, Denny. What started the fire in the holding cell was a demon." My voice was a bit shaky and there was silence on the other end.

"That makes sense... but why?" I sighed and bit my

bottom lip. I didn't know why but I knew that it was the same fire. The same creatures that killed so many pack members... I just didn't know why.

"I don't know... but I'm sure of it."

"I'll start looking into it immediately..." He paused for a second and I heard a quiet sigh. "How are you? I found my present... I love it. I'm wearing it now. We miss you." A small smile reached my lips. It was nice to hear his voice.

"I'm good, Den. I'm glad you like it. You guys better not be slacking." I listened as he chuckled on the other line, and I felt... content. It was nice to talk to him, but it made me realize even more that it wasn't my home. I didn't yearn to go back. I could hear voices in the background and could tell he was busy. "Anyways, I just wanted to call and tell you that, so be careful."

“You be careful. Given the situation...”

“I will be... bye.” I hung up the phone then and let out a sigh of relief. I could tell Denny believed me and that was the first step. It would now be up to him to move on the information. I sat the phone down and turned my head to Sion. He was wanting answers, but I didn’t understand it myself. How did I see the past? His past? Was this... because I was part sheya? Was this part of their powers? Or was it something else?

I kept thinking about his face... and Kai’s cries. It was horrible. I started to feel insecure too. If I tell him about what happened... would he want me anymore? I was trying to think of what to say when he reached out and pulled me into him. He slid my body flush against him and held my head against his chest.

“Wait for me downstairs.” I heard Sion say and then a

moment later I heard the sound of the door shutting. I felt his chin resting on my head as I rested against him. I had to tell him, but I was still terrified.

“It’s okay Clover. You can talk to me...”

“This is going to sound crazy...but I saw the past. I saw your past...” I quietly began to go over the details of what I had seen. He stayed in the same position holding me letting me talk without interruption. I explained to him how the fire reminded me of the fire at the Sulfur pack and that I was fairly certain it was the same creature or something with a similar power. It must be a type of demon. Then I waited and he stayed silent. I began to chew on my inner lip as my nerves were rising. What was he thinking? Did he want me to leave because this could be a sheya power? I felt a wet drop on my arm and that was when I pulled away slightly to look at him.

There were silent tears sliding down his cheek. His eyes were closed, with a creased forehead and pursed lips.

“It should have been me too. I should have been there. I should have died that day too...” I listened to his gutted voice rasped out. “That moment haunts me. They stayed there to make sure I lived. So many pack members... and my parents... we lost so many. It was my fault. I insisted on tracking some unknown creatures. I killed them. It was my fault, but I was the one to live. I wanted to die with them—”

“Don’t say that... please.” I cupped his cheeks, wiping the dampness away. He opened his eyes, revealing his sadness. “I’m glad you lived. I—” I swallowed as I took in a breath. “Your parents gave their lives for you because they love you. They wanted you to have a full life. And... without you, I would be alone right now. I only have you...” I whispered out quietly. It was true,

but I also didn't want him to feel like he had to keep me now. After all I just unloaded crazy on him. I chewed on my lip and glanced down.

“But if me being here ever becomes a problem, I would rather know sooner than later. I'll be okay... I don't want you to think that you have to—”

He reached his hand out pressing his thumb under my chin to tilt my head up to him. I searched his eyes as a gentle smile reached his lips. “Silly woman, what are you thinking? I don't think you realize this yet... but I'm the one who needs you. I would even venture to say I need you more than you need me. Your existence is the only thing that has kept me going since that day. I knew you were out there. Now that I have you...” I watched as he shut his eyes for a moment and shook his head. “I know I said you can decide but I don't think I can ever let you go. I don't ever want to be parted from you again. You aren't the

problem Clover, ever.” He leaned forward and his nose brushed against mine. His hot breath pelted against my lips, and I parted them expectantly. “But I am your problem. Take responsibility for me Clover because I am a complete mess over you.”

It was complete silence as I felt his breath searing my lips. The atmosphere felt heavy with the growing sensual storm radiating between us. I had wanted to wait longer but it was as if my body already belonged to him. I couldn't help but think of his mouth and the memory of his body on mine. The way his strong movements were still so tender and gentle with me.

He stayed there not moving... waiting... for me. He was waiting for me to close the gap between us. I was always thinking and planning for myself. It was rare I acted purely on what I wanted. I did once though... with Sion years ago I acted on what I wanted.

His breath tickled my lips as I moved forward. My bottom lip brushed against his as he continued to hold still. My hands entangled in his hair, and I thrust my tongue into his warm mouth. Igniting a sensual battle between us.

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[OH FOR MATES SAKE](#)

Chapter 23 Aces



Sion

The moment she kissed me, it was over for me. It was like I couldn't see clearly anymore and all I wanted was her. When I heard they found her and a dead rogue, I felt as if the oxygen was sucked out of my

lungs. I didn't say a word. I ran. I ran towards the pull in my chest. I ran to the only thing that mattered; her.

I could smell her blood even before I saw her. I was so angry that something had hurt her. I was ready to destroy the world for her sake. And then she walked up to me and began to apologize. She has no idea how I feel about her. I could almost laugh. I feel like my heart is only beating because of her. I clung to her body, needing to calm down. She would be my undoing. If something happened to her, my life might as well be over.

I could barely handle the guilt when my parents and pack members were killed. I had survived while they died. I wanted to be dead too. Being alive felt like a punishment. All I had as a lifeline was a small light inside of me. I gripped onto that light and used it to stay sane. That light was Clover. I couldn't look for her as well as I wanted to. I was now the Alpha of the

Chance pack and the full burden was on my shoulders. I never stopped thinking about her. I had a feeling she was mine. I credit my sanity to her.

I need her so much. She doesn't get it though. The idea that I might not want her here was absurd. Just because she had some power? I don't care what power she has or what she is. She is mine. I had to tell her I needed her. I don't care if it makes me sound weak. She needs to know that she has become my existence. I breathe for her. My heart is beating only for her. I can't be away from her. I don't know if it is like this for all mates, but for me... I am irrevocably and completely in love with her.

My thoughts were always on her. While we were apart today all I could think about was her. Was she okay? Was she happy? Would she leave me? But then when just a moment ago she told me that she only had me... I was happy. Because maybe this meant

she needed me too.

I knew how I felt about her. I could feel this mate pull. So I moved my face in and waited. I could feel her sweet breath against my skin. It was almost painful, but I waited for her to decide. For her to choose.

When her lips pressed against mine, she ignited fires to life inside of my body. The flickering flame was raging and burning just for her. I grasped onto her and kissed her hard and deep. I didn't want to scare her off... but I couldn't stop either.

Her taste was intoxicating, and the sensual dance of her tongue was driving me wild. I don't know when, but my hands had moved on their own up her shirt. I cupped her gently and she moaned into my mouth. She dug her fingers into me which was only encouraging me.

I pressed against her, easing her to the bed as I

gently massaged her chest. I held her face captive as our tongues danced together. My whole body was tingling with electric sparks. My mate was awakening a primal need that only she could satisfy. She wasn't ready for me to mark her yet so I couldn't lose complete control.

"Sion." She breathed against my lips. I lifted away from her face so that I could see her clearly. I needed to know right now where the line was for her. I didn't have a line. I would go as far as she would let me. This was about her though. She has also been through a lot. I want her to be comfortable. I could wait as long as she needed me to. Gods, I needed her to be ready for me. The bulge throbbing against my pants was going to revolt soon. I watched as she smiled up at me.

"I didn't tell you to stop." Oh gods she shouldn't have said that. A possessive growl ripped from my throat

as I came down to claim her lips. My whole body was tingling with electrifying excitement.

Alpha. I heard Conner's voice in my mind.

Oh for fu.cks sake you've got to be kidding me. I wanted to ignore it until the link came through again. I let out a loud sigh and rested on my elbows.

This had better be important. I know my voice was laced with irritation, but what the heck?

It's Kai. He has shifted again, and he is still in the house.

Sh.it this couldn't wait. I looked down at Clover and she gave me a nod of understanding. "I want you to wait in here. It isn't safe." I moved off of her and watched her look of confusion.

“It isn’t safe?”

“Kai shifted. It isn’t safe Clover. I need to handle it.” I watched as she swung her legs over the bed and stood up.

“His wolf isn’t dangerous. You know that right?”

I walked up to her and kissed her forehead. “I don’t think he means to be dangerous.”

“Have you seen him dangerous?”

“I have heard how he acts, and he cut himself off from me. I can’t mind link him anymore. I’m not going to hurt him. We just need to get him calmed down and dart him. Then he will go into a holding cell until he shifts back.” I could see she suddenly looked appalled. Her lips parted and her eyebrows furrowed. She stepped away from me and shook her head.

“And what happens in the holding cell?”

“Dr. Snyder works with him. She helps with connecting the wolves back with their owners.” I listened to Clover scoff. I wasn’t a fan of Dr. Snyder either. In fact, if my father hadn’t hired her, she wouldn’t be here. But my father had tasked her with the special project of helping wolves who lost their wolves. This was something very dear to his heart since my uncle had lost his wolf and went crazy.

“Seriously? I feel like I need to count my fingers if she shakes my hand.” I watched as Clover folded her arms across her chest. “I don’t like that woman. Something feels off about her.” I smiled. She was being honest with me about something. She instantly pursed her lips together and I could see she didn’t mean to say it. She was so adorable. I stepped back into her and tilted her chin up to me.

“I love you.” I instantly pressed my lips against her and then turned to leave. “Stay here Clover.” I said before shutting the door. I know I probably startled her by saying that, but I couldn’t hold it in. It is how I felt.

I looked over the railing and could see a red wolf growling at Conner and Logan. I hopped over the railing and landed beside them.

“Don’t shift.”

“Obviously, we aren’t wanting to fight.” Conner almost snorted at me. Sounds like someone has a little bit of an attitude.

“Don’t mind him. Aces there scared the crap out of him is all.” Logan chuckled.

I turned and looked at the red wolf. His ears were laid

flat back and he was baring his teeth at us.

“Aces... come on buddy, you need to calm down.” A dangerous snarl crept from his throat, and I narrowed my eyes at him. My beast stirred angrily at his disrespect, and I had to take a calming breath. It looked like he was looking through me and not at me. Aces had never growled at me before, so I felt his reaction was weird. “We aren’t going to hurt you. Why don’t you let me in?” I tried to push my mind link forward but nothing. It was like he disowned me as his alpha. Did he blame me for what happened to his mate? I have always wondered this. If maybe even Kai deep down blamed me too. Maybe I did blame myself.

“I’m sorry about... what happened. Do you... blame me, Aces?” I watched as his ears perked up as he stared behind me. The door suddenly opened, and the medical staff burst inside with their dart guns. I

realized that he knew they were coming. He wasn't growling at me but them.

“Wait—” I started to say, but the guns went off and hit Aces with tranquilizers. Aces growled and shook his body. The effects were almost immediate and soon his body collapsed to the ground. “I said wait!” I yelled making the staff freeze.

“Sorry I had ordered them to shoot at sight.” Dr. Snyder’s voice rang out and I turned to see her stepping through the door.

“My orders override yours!” I couldn’t hide the contempt in my voice.

“Of course Alpha. They just reacted too quickly for your order. Though I am not certain what the big deal is. You did want him sedated, didn’t you? We don’t want him hurting anyone.” This woman’s voice was

like nails on a chalkboard. Every word made me irritated. It was weird that a lot of the pack adored her. But it was different for me. I always felt agitated in her presence.

“I was trying to talk with him.” I sighed angrily and looked over at the sleeping wolf. I wish Aces would let me talk to him. Maybe we could work it out.

“So you want us just to let him loose?” Dr. Snyder asked and I glared at her. “At least if he is in the holding cell you can still talk with him, and he can’t hurt anyone.” Man, I didn’t like this woman. Kai was my friend and Aces always had my back before. I didn’t want anyone to get hurt though. If it was just me, I could handle myself against him. Aces was a strong wolf and could easily injure the others.

“We could lock him up in Conner’s room.” Logan teased as I walked over to Aces. I leaned down and

placed my hand on his forehead. I was hoping I could feel something... anything. Not that I haven't tried. I have tried to reach Aces so many times before. He never tried to hurt me but wouldn't speak to me. He ignored me. It didn't make any sense. Aces' reactions made no sense to me at all. He never tried to runaway when he shifted, but he didn't want anyone near him either. So, what was he doing? If he hated me and the pack, he would have left... right? It was so frustrating because I didn't know what to do. And the only one who ever had success with wolves was Dr. Snyder. She could bring out wolves that were dormant even for a short time. Though it never stuck. Unfortunately, she was the only one here who had a chance to reach him.

I reluctantly stepped away and nodded my head. I hated to pen him, but it was the best thing to do for now. I couldn't let him hurt anyone. I would try to talk to him again once he woke up. Sometimes he would

stay in wolf form for a long time. And whenever Kai came back he didn't remember anything while he was shifted.

Dr. Snyder nodded to the medical team, and they immediately went to work getting Aces on a stretcher. I heard a gasp from above and I looked up to see Clover looking down. Her hand was covering her mouth and her eyes were wide with shock.

"What are you doing to him?" Her voice cut into me as she made her way down the stairs. She looked up at me with pain in her eyes. My chest hurt seeing the way her eyes looked at mine. She was upset with me. I was upset with myself. I hated doing this to him.

"It's so he can't hurt anyone, Clover. There are a lot of other members in the pack I have to think about."

"He will be in good hands. I've been working with

Aces and Kai for a long time. Trust me, this is for the best.” Dr. Snyder said as she stepped closer to Clover. I didn’t like her getting close to my mate. I don’t like the way this woman looks at her. I watched as Clover stared back at her defiantly. She raised her chin at Dr. Snyder and kept her eyes locked onto her. Look at her... if that isn’t the act of a Luna, I don’t know what is.

Is it wrong that at a moment like this I am having impure thoughts of Clover? She could put me to my knees, and I’ll call her alpha...

“Sion, are you okay?” Clover was looking at me and she reached her hand up to my face. “You look a bit flushed.” Da.mn I made myself blush over that mental image.

“Are you injured?” I heard Dr. Snyder ask, and my eyes moved to Clover’s shirt. There was a bloodstain

showing on her t-shirt.

“Oh this? Yes, I am fine. It was just a scratch, but all healed now, see.” Clover lifted up the sleeve and revealed a completely healed arm. There was no scratch there at all.

I felt my heart begin to pound against my chest as I looked at Clover. Was her wolf back? Could she feel it? I found myself holding my breath wishing I knew the answer. Then I had to ask myself why? What did it matter? That’s when I realized that I was afraid. I felt like without the mate pull she wouldn’t stay with me.

“Maybe you should stop to be checked out. Was it from one of the rogues? We need to be careful with a cut from them.” Dr. Snyder said as I shot her a dark glance. She wasn’t touching my mate. I watched Clover’s eyes following the medical team carrying Aces out of the house. I could see the anger in her

eyes as they flashed to Dr. Snyder. Instinctively, I took a step closer to Clover. I wanted her to know she had my support no matter what she was about to say.

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[OH FOR MATES SAKE](#)

Chapter 24 Conditions



Clover

‘Call me Bree’ was not fooling me at all. She is claiming what she is doing to Kai and Aces is for the best. Really? I doubt it. Now she wants to check out my non-existent wound? Because she really cares if I am hurt... ha!

I honestly am not sure what happened with my cut. The wound was there before but I noticed after Sion left it was no longer stinging. My ankle wasn't sore anymore either. Actually, it felt perfect. Yet, I still couldn't link with Sheena. In either case, Dr. Sinister wasn't examining my body.

"No offense, but no thank you. You say you have been working with Aces for a long time."

"Yes, so he is in good hands."

"Why? Just because you've been working with him for a long time, means he is in good hands?" I watched as her eye started to twitch. Little by little, I felt like I was peeling away her mask.

"Well why wouldn't he be?" She said in a sickening sweet fake a.s.s tone.

“Whatever you are doing isn’t working. No wonder Aces is isolating from all of you. You keep locking him up and doing the same thing to him. Hell, I would be pissed if I was his wolf. You’ve been doing this to him for years.” I looked up at Sion, who looked really sad. His lips were pursed together, and he nodded his head.

“You are right. We are failing him.” Sion said, and Dr. Sinister clicked her tongue, folding her arms over her chest.

“It is a process. You can’t expect this to work overnight. It takes time.” ‘Call me Bree’ said in a snarky tone that wasn’t missed by Sion. A terrifying snarl crept from his throat as he glared at her.

“It’s been years! If anything, he trusts me less now. Aces never used to growl and back away from me... though I’m not sure it was from me.” His gaze looked

at Dr. Sinister accusingly. “Clover is right. I’m going to wait for him to wake up and try to talk to him.”

“Wait until tomorrow. He is in the holding cell and who knows how long he will be unconscious for—” Dr. Sinister started, but Sion instantly snapped at her.

“You don’t tell me what I should do. I am waiting with him. I want to be there when he wakes up.” Sion growled and I placed my hand on his forearm.

“I’ll wait with you.” I looked up at him and he nodded his head.

“Alpha, with all due respect, it is a medical facility, and it has private documents inside. We can’t just allow anyone—”

Sion let out a dark chuckle and then turned to face Dr. Sinister fully. “Last time I checked, I was the alpha,

not you. What I say goes.”

Conner and Logan came forward in support of Sion and I watched as ‘Call me Bree’ lowered her head, taking a small step back. “My apologies. I can see my opinion isn’t valued here.”

“I’m glad you received the message.” Logan snorted and she looked up at him in shock. As if she couldn’t believe he would say such a thing.

Is it horrible that I loved this moment? This was completely different than at the Sulfur pack. These men were able to see the snake clearly. Though, it was curious that everyone else seemed to love her. Maybe she was able to fool most people. I was glad Sion, and his officers, weren’t some of them.

“I’m sure you have other things you need to attend to.” Sion said dismissively of Dr. Snyder as he moved

his hand around my back pulling me towards him. I don't know if it was reactionary or if it was a planned move. But I saw the lethal daggers in her eyes as she stared at his hand.

"It seems that you two are becoming close..." 'Call me Bree' said with the fakest smile ever.

"We would have been much closer if Kai wouldn't have shifted to Aces when he did." Sion said matter-of-factly. I could feel the warmth spreading over my cheeks. 'Call me Bree' was practically seething. I could see she was trying to reign in her anger.

"Easy Alpha. I don't think your future mate will be happy if you play around too much."

I couldn't help the snort that escaped me. I let out a dry laugh and raised my brows at Dr. Sinister. "You seem awfully invested in your alpha's affairs. I fail to

see where it is any of your business. I doubt if he was warming your bed, you would have any objections.” Her mouth popped open, and she was speechless.

“Like hell I’d ever warm her bed. Never have and never will.” Sion growled turning my front against his. I glanced over to see her curl her hands into a shaking fist. Oh yeah, she was mad, practically frothing at the mouth. “Excuse us.” He suddenly said and grabbed my hand pulling me behind him leaving Dr. Snyder standing there speechless. He led me up the stairs and continued down the hall. He didn’t stop at my room but continued to his. I glanced over the banister and could see she was still watching us. I figured he was wanting to send her a message. He ushered me into his room then shut the door.

I started to look around when his hand landed on my waist, spinning me to face him. “Clover, I know the pack talks a lot. I promise there has never been

anything between me and Dr. Snyder. The pack seems to think I'm going to take her as my mate, but she was never an option for me. I don't even want her here. I just want you to know that there hasn't been anyone... but you. I know this may seem unbelievable, but I've only been with you. After our night together, I have been waiting for you. I just... knew you were the one."

I stood there looking up at him quietly. I understand why he said what he said earlier and why he was so agitated. He thought I believed there was something between him and Dr. Sinister. I never did. I thought it was obvious, but it was sweet of him to want to immediately reassure me. Yet, I stayed standing here half shocked because of his later confession. He hadn't been with anyone else but me?

"Is it true?" I whispered.

“Gosh I knew the pack was running their mouth about me and Dr.—”

“No not about that. I know there isn’t anything between you two. That is obvious... I mean about you being with anyone else.” His eyes softened and a small smile reached his lips.

“Yes, it is true.”

“I haven’t either...” I glanced down and shrugged.

“I’ve only been with you.”

“Clover, it’s okay. You don’t have to say that. I mean... you are beautiful and...”

“It’s true. Honestly, you were the only guy who was ever interested in me like that...” He stepped up to me and he rubbed my face with the back of his hand. He gazed at me as if I was the most precious person he

had ever seen.

“It’s all my gain... I’m glad that you lived in a pack full of morons. Though, I do think that one officer was the only one with a brain. I’m glad you are mine. Not to sound presumptuous or anything...” He trailed off and removed his hand from my cheek, reaching up to rub the back of his neck.

“You aren’t...” I saw him studying me as he lowered his hand back to his side.

“Did your wolf come back? Is that why you are healed? Do you feel it?”

I quickly shook my head. “No, she isn’t back with me. I don’t know why I healed... maybe she came back enough just to heal me?”

He was staring into my eyes as he reached forward to

rest his hand on my hip pulling me closer. “I don’t sound presumptuous... does this mean you are thinking about staying?”

Honestly, I couldn’t imagine leaving him and he was looking at me almost desperately. He pinned me down with his gaze as he waited for my answer. He had told me he loved me earlier and I didn’t get a chance to respond to him. He has been so open and honest with me. He didn’t care how it made him look. He was always telling me how he felt. He deserved for me to be honest with him and to stop hiding.

“I don’t have my wolf back yet, but I can’t deny how I am drawn to you. I missed you today. I couldn’t wait to see you. And when everything was happening with the rogues, I was worried about you. I want to be near you. I want you to touch me. I don’t want to ever leave you. I want to stay with you... even if my wolf never comes back. I know I’ll be okay if I am with you.” His

grip on my hip tightened as his other hand came around to hold me captive.

“You accept me? You are accepting me as your mate...”

I smiled up at him and cupped his cheeks. “On a couple of conditions.” I could see his eyes twinkling at me as a grin formed on his lips. “One not right now. At least not until we make sure Aces is okay. I can’t imagine how traumatic it is for him to be locked up. And I have one more... you allow your females to be warriors if they choose. They should be able to join battle training just like the men. Because I—” He chuckled and lowered himself, so his nose was rubbing against mine.

“Then you’ll be my luna?”

“I’ll be your whatever as long as I can stay by your

side.” I breathed against his lips as he covered mine. He lifted me up and my legs wrapped around his torso.

“Thank the gods...” He mumbled against my lips as he continued to kiss me. “I accept those terms. I love you, Clover. I’ll be good to you... so good to you.” He continued peppering me with kisses as I held onto his head. “We are moving your things into my room. You are never going to be alone. You are going to get sick of me...” He then paused and parted from my lips. “There is something I do need to talk to you about, though.”

“Tell me tonight. We need to go before Aces wakes up.” He reached forward tenderly kissing me before sliding me down his body.

“I can’t wait to announce you to the pack. You won’t regret this. Ever.”

“Sion...” I wanted to say I know I wouldn’t regret it. That I was happy to be his family. But the words just didn’t come out. I watched as his face grew serious. He reached up and grabbed my chin tilting it up to him.

“You have no idea how badly I want to lock the doors and pretend the world doesn’t exist. You are right... Kai and Aces must come first. Gods, I am so happy right now. You have no idea. I have been terrified you would leave me.”

There he goes making my heart flutter. I couldn’t believe how open he was with me. He didn’t mind exposing his heart to me. How could I not fall for this man? How was it possible to have these feelings without the mate pull? “As long as you want me, I’m not going anywhere.”

“It is more than wanting you, Clover. I need you. I’ve never needed anyone. It’s great to have the people I do in my life. But if something happened to them, I would manage even if it was hard. But with you... if something happens to you, there is no way I would recover.”

“Sion don’t say that. Of course, you would be fine.”

“No, I wouldn’t, but that doesn’t matter anymore. Because you are staying with me. I won’t let anything happen to you. You are safe and you’ll never be alone again.” He leaned forward capturing my lips once more. My nose was burning, and I felt the dampness escape from my closed eyelids. I was going to have a family. Sion was now my family. I wanted this so much and it was hard to believe it was real. I was terrified but also overwhelmed with happiness.

I had planned to take this slower. I wanted to wait

longer but it just felt right. Sion has been beyond amazing and honestly, he didn't deserve for me to be so reserved with him. I know he would keep patiently waiting for me but the only thing holding me back now was my own fear. I wasn't going to allow the fear of being hurt stop me from this. If it all comes to a crashing end at least I know I gave it a chance.

"Clover." He pulled apart and brushed my tears away with his thumb. He was studying my face with concern. I didn't want him to misunderstand my tears. I buried my head in his chest and wrapped my arms around his torso. He held me against him with his strong protective arms and I relaxed against him. My mate.

"Thank you, Sion... I'll do my best to be an asset to you." His chest rumbled in a quiet laugh, and I felt his head lay on top of mine. His nose was buried in my hair as he left delicate kisses upon my head.

“You’re already an asset. You don’t have to do anything than just be you. That’s all I need from you... well that and maybe some pups eventually.”

I smiled and lifted my head away from him. “I think we can manage that.”

“With lots and lots of practice.” His lips brushed over my forehead. “I’ve got to get you out of this room. We need to go...” His voice sounded husky and then his eyes widened.

“Come on. We are telling Logan and Conner.” He sounded almost giddy as he grabbed my hand and brought me out of the room. He was walking fast, and I had to trot to keep up to his pace. He must have realized it because he stopped, turned, and hoisted me in his arms bridal style. Then he sprinted down the stairs.

Conner and Logan had two bags and were standing by the door. Dr. Sinister was nowhere to be seen, so it looked like she had finally left. The beta and gamma looked at their alpha with confusion.

“You seem overly happy...” Conner arched his brow and glanced between us.

“She said yes. She is going to stay with me.” Sion was grinning ear to ear.

“Da.mn congratulations man. What are you doing down here? Shouldn't you two be making a mess of each other?” Logan smiled widely and I turned my head into Sion's chest. I could feel his soft chuckle as he kissed the top of my head.

“Later... we are going to wait for Aces to wake up first. Clover is right. Locking him up isn't the answer.

We should have acted ages ago... I just hope whatever is going on we can work it out."

"You can. If not, his wolf would have left long ago." I felt Sion's arms squeeze me gently before he finally lowered me to the ground.

"Luna, I take it our alpha passed the test." Logan beamed and I looked down at the ground.

"It never should have been a test. It was never Sion's problem... it was mine." I then looked up and met his eyes confidently. "I'll be good to him. I'll treasure him... I just want you to know that." It was hard for me to say this freely, but I didn't want them to think my feelings were shallow. Even without my wolf, I was bonded to Sion. I felt it and I would make sure to take care of him. I watched the grin on Logan's face widen.

"You shouldn't say such things around our emotional

alpha.” Logan winked at me as Conner chuckled. I glanced up at Sion to see his hazel eyes already looking at me. This was the first time I spoke these sorts of words. The first time he ever heard me say it. I said I would be his mate; I haven’t told him how I felt. I need to. I’ll tell him tonight.

“Let’s get to Aces... we’ve got to get away from temptation,” Sion said in a low growl that had Conner busting up laughing.

“Sir, yes sir!” Conner laughed as he saluted Sion.

Conner and Logan headed out of the house first, but Sion grabbed hold of me, keeping me in place. He leaned his head down and bit onto my ear. “I’m going to exhaust your body tonight, so be prepared, my love.” He then kissed my marking place on my neck, sending a shudder down my spine.

I know my face was burning red as we followed behind Logan and Conner. I was feeling all of the emotions today. I needed to push that all to the back of my mind. It was time to concentrate on Aces. I wonder... I was able to mind link without my wolf. I wondered if I could reach Aces' mind. I know Aces pulled from the pack and I am not an official member... but it was something I was curious about. I didn't know if I really was part sheya or not. If I was, maybe this was something I could do? In any case, I was going to try.

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[OH FOR MATES SAKE](#)

Chapter 25 Aces



We walked into the facility and at the far end were several holding rooms. The rooms were made of bullet-proof glass that had silver wiring on the inside. For a cage, they were pretty nice. I followed Sion, Logan and Conner to the far room. There was a red light glowing on the inside and I swear I could hear screaming. No one else seemed to hear it, but my face was contorting at the sound. I could see Kai's wolf laying there, but he seemed to be stirring.

Dr. Sinister was standing to the side with a little tablet as she looked at Aces. Everyone was just looking at him through the glass. His wolf seemed to be in pain. Couldn't they tell? And the red light was making me agitated.

"Turn that light off!" I couldn't take it anymore and I practically shouted making Sion jump to look at me. "What is that light? Turn it off!"

“Alpha we can’t—” Dr. Sinister began as Sion walked towards her. He completely ignored her and flipped a switch behind her down. Instantly the lights were gone and Aces seemed to relax. Dr. Sinister was now staring at me with an intensity that made my skin crawl. She looked like she was analyzing me.

“There, is that better? It’s a sensory light that is supposed to help keep the wolves calm.” Conner looked at me as Sion came back to my side.

“What is calming about it? I was getting irritated just standing out here...” I could see they were all looking at me strangely. Seriously?! Did this light not bother anyone else? However, Dr. Sinister seemed to be more and more intrigued by me. Great... I don’t want that bit.ch to have any interest in me. She had the red psycho warnings screaming whenever I saw her. I had only been here a day and already I knew she rode the crazy express.

Sion placed his arm on my shoulder, and I looked through the glass at Aces. He finally stood on his feet, and he stared at us. “Can we go in?”

“That isn’t a good idea. His wolf is unpredictable.”

Could someone lock her in one of these cages? Seriously every time she spoke, I wanted to put a dirty sock in her mouth and gag her.

“I’ll go in Clover. It’s safer if it is just me.” Sion said and I looked up at him. I could see the worry in his eyes.

“I used to work with the new shifters in my pack. I was very good at it. I would like to try...” I also wanted to see if I could communicate with him. And that would be much easier if I could get closer to him. I could see Sion was hesitating, but I needed to try. “Please?”

You'll be right beside me."

"Conner, you come in too. If anything happens your priority is Clover." Sion finally said and I smiled up at him happily.

"Don't worry. I'll keep the princess safe." Conner winked over at me, and I rolled my eyes. Damnit Sheena. Get you're a.ss back here so we can show these men we don't need to be kept safe.

"Alpha Sion this really isn't a good idea." Dr. Sinister said, taking a step towards us. Sion glared at her, and she froze in her spot.

"Why? Why exactly isn't it a good idea? Aces can't win against me in a fight. What do I have to worry about? We've been doing it your way. Your way isn't working. Stay back and out of my way." Sion's voice was low and threatening. He spoke to her as if she

was the enemy. I can't believe the other pack members really thought they were an item. It was clear Sion despised her. Her eyes looked almost panicked as he walked past her to the door. It was an odd expression, to be honest. I was certain this was because she was up to no good.

There were dual doors to enter into the cage. The second door wouldn't open until the first door was shut. It was an impressive safety mechanism. Sion opened the second door and walked inside first. I was right behind him and Conner placed his hand on my shoulder staying close to me. Aces ears went back instantly, and he backed away. It was a clear warning that he didn't want us near him.

"Aces... I'm here to help." Sion took a step towards him and I could see the hair on Aces back raise. He wasn't growling but he was giving Sion all the warning signs. Sion glanced back looking at me and I noticed

his eyes look at Conner. Oh no. He is not kicking me out already. I stepped away from Conner and moved to the side of Sion.

Sion's hand grabbed my shoulder, but I kept my focus on Aces. He was watching me curiously, but he didn't look threatening. "Sion... I'm okay... Aces is okay too. Right?" I looked at him as he put his ears up. He didn't find me threatening. Of course, I wasn't a pack member. He disconnected from the pack. It was the pack members he had an issue with... but why? "I'm not part of the Chance pack..." I looked up at Sion. "I don't think Aces will have a problem with me. Will you trust me?"

I felt Sion's hand squeeze on my shoulder as he let out a breath. "I do trust you... it's just that I don't want anything to happen to you."

"Nothing is going to happen. Trust Aces... he doesn't

want to hurt us, or he would have tried.” I felt Sion slowly release his hold on me as his eyes fixated on Aces.

“Don’t you dare hurt her.” Sion growled and I listened as Aces sneezed. It was as if his wolf was scoffing at him. I smiled and stepped away from Sion and towards the large red wolf.

Aces... can you hear me? I could see his eyes widen as his ears pointed forward towards me.

How can I hear you?

Honestly? I’m not quite sure. I lost my wolf too, and I am not a pack member. But I have always been able to mind link easily and I was able to mind link after I lost my wolf.

You didn’t lose your wolf. She is standing next to you.

My lips parted as I glanced at my sides. Nothing was there. I looked back at him curiously.

You are the one blocking her out.

Okay... come again? I was the one blocking her out? What nonsense was this?!

How am I blocking her out? I need her right now. I watched as his tail wagged slightly in almost a mocking fashion.

Well, then let her in. His voice came through almost arrogant. I mentally clicked my tongue and stepped closer to him.

Well, what about you? What is it that you are doing

I'm protecting Kai. I couldn't protect our mate... but I

can protect Kai.

Protecting him... from what? Why did you split from the pack? What about Sion?

He sat down and looked away from me. You won't be able to understand. It's too complex for you...

Oh, hell no! 'Too complex for me? And why is that? Because your brain is far superior than mine?!' Yes, I was angry. I watched as his tail wagged. He was enjoying himself. Is there something wrong with this pack? I'd like to know if there is because I am supposed to be the future luna. His tail instantly stopped wagging as he stared at me.

Don't do it. Don't become a member of this pack.

Will you just come out with it already?! I watched as he shook his head and scratched at his ear. Come

here, let me see.

He stopped and looked at me for a moment before he rose to his feet and slowly walked towards me. Sion walked forward and stood by my side. Aces stopped for a moment looking at him before he proceeded to me. He could understand Sion's protectiveness... maybe it made him think about his own mate. He stopped right in front of me and I smiled at him.

“Now that wasn't so hard, was it? Let me see what's bothering your ear.” I reached out to scratch his ear for him. As soon as my hand landed on him images began to fill my head. Then the visions became clear and played like a movie sequence.

The red light was on, and Aces looked completely exhausted. I watched as a shadow slithered across the floor from inside the cage. It moved to the outside where Dr. Snyder was standing looking in. Behind her

was another figure standing in the shadows. The figure stepped out as the shadow snake slithered around her. A woman with dull lifeless skin, black soulless eyes and long gray straggly hair was revealed.

“Do you have the essence for me?” The woman hissed to Dr. Snyder.

“Yes, I have a new collection. I drained everything I could from this wolf without killing him. I also added some other creatures to the mixture for you.” Dr. Snyder said as she dropped a small tube into the woman’s long bony fingers.

“Good. Keep it coming. I need more.” The woman snorted and looked at Dr. Bree. “I guess some good came from your mother being a sl.ut. At least you know who to be loyal to even if you are part mutt.”

“My loyalty is to you my lady Meryl.” Dr. Snyder slightly bowed her head.

“Have you kept up with the inoculations?”

“Yes, but the officers and the alpha are still refusing them. The drink won’t work on the beta and alpha...”

“Yes, well from what you told me before that makes sense. It wouldn’t work on them. Just become the luna of the pack. That will make this easier. I don’t want my flow of essence compromised. I need it. I am mass producing... well that doesn’t concern you. Just keep being useful. You know what happens if you don’t.”

“Yes, my lady.” Dr. Snyder bowed and a ball of black smoke enveloped the old woman leaving no trace of her.

I listened as Dr. Snyder bit her thumb glaring at Aces. I knew that the b***h was trouble. I wasn't exactly sure what was going on. But I had a feeling something in those inoculations was doing something to the pack. There was something else she had too. Some sort of drink? I don't know but she was doing something to the pack. She stared at Aces and then I watched her shrug.

"You still have enough life in you for a little more, don't you? It's not a big loss if we lose you anyways..."

Aces yelps filled the air and watched helplessly as he twisted in pain. He knew what Dr. Sinister was doing. He was protecting Kai from being manipulated by her. The rest of the pack must be under her manipulation. That would make sense why they all adored her so much. Whatever is going on, it doesn't seem to be affecting Logan and it never affected Sion and

Conner. I wonder why whatever it was wouldn't work on Sion and Conner.

Aces had taken this burden on all by himself. He suffered and endured pain every time he shifted but he didn't run away. It must be manipulating the person and not the wolf which is why Aces separated from Kai. He didn't trust the pack, so he separated from all of them as well. He loved his pack too much to run away so he stayed and endured pain. If he would have just told Sion... was he protecting Sion? Why didn't he tell Sion? My heart was hurting for Aces. He has been doing this all alone for so long. The vision began to grow dark as I was pulled out of the past.

"Clover."

Sion's voice greeted me as I came back to the present. My face was wet with tears I don't remember

crying. I felt Sion's arms around me holding me tight against his warm body. I turned my head and could see Aces was looking at me curiously.

I know, Aces... I know about Dr. Snyder.

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[OH FOR MATES SAKE](#)

Chapter 26 Just like that...



I took in a deep breath as I tried to sort through everything. I leaned into Sion for support as I looked at Aces. Who was this Meryl person? And what exactly was 'Call me Bree' doing?

We need to tell Sion... I said to Aces.

“What is going on?” Sion asked. I glanced up at him and pursed my lips together. I didn’t understand everything, but I knew Dr. Sinister was working against the pack.

“Alpha, we have company...” Conner looked out the window where a group of warriors stood looking in with Dr. Sinister between them.

“Let’s see what is going on,” Sion said and I looked over at Aces.

“Let Aces out. He doesn’t need to be caged.” I watched as Sion nodded his head and I smiled back at Aces. At least I got him out of there. There was a lot to talk about, but it looked like Dr. Sinister was one step ahead of me. As we walked out of the chambers, I noticed her eyes flicker at me.

“What seems to be the problem?” Sion asked and just ‘Call Me Bree’ had a poisonous smile spread across her lips.

“Follow us. There is something you need to see outside.”

I felt soft fur tickle my legs and glanced down to see Aces standing protectively at my side. His gaze was narrowed on Dr. Sinister as she walked down the hall. The soldiers followed ahead of her, and we followed behind them. Something was wrong. I could feel it in my bones. I felt Sion’s hand move around me, pulling me close to his side. He glanced down at me and gave me a reassuring smile. A smile that faded instantly as we stepped outside.

It looked like the whole pack had assembled and were waiting there. And in front of all of them stood Dr. Sinister, giving Sion a fake sympathetic look. It was all

a big setup. Whatever she was doing, she had all of the wolves here under her influence.

“Alpha Sion, we are all here because we are concerned about you.”

Oh puke, this woman was full of herself. Never did a person cry out so loudly they wanted me to throat punch them.

“You’ve acted differently since you came back, and I know what the problem is. It is that woman you are keeping by your side.”

Sion pulled me tighter against him and let out a low threatening growl. “Careful doctor. You don’t know what you are saying. This isn’t just some woman. She is my fated mate. My luna.”

Dr. Sinister didn’t look shocked at all. Of course she

wasn't. The bit.ch had figured it out. She knew Sion long enough that she must have known who I was to him. Which means... this was all a trap. I watched the evil twitch in her eyes, and I knew I was right. She wanted him to say that.

“Sion, when you arrived, you only called her your masseuse and now, she is your fated mate? Come now, you can't expect us to believe that. If she were really your fated mate, you would have told us as soon as you arrived.”

Aces stepped in front of me and flashed his teeth at Dr. Sinister as a warning tone sounded from him.

“Look at that. Even Aces has taken to her... you see what I am saying?”

She had set her trap well. I noticed the nodding of heads and quiet murmurs in the pack.

“Now wait a minute. We knew that she was his mate. We were just keeping it quiet for a few days. Logan and I both knew—” Conner started as Dr. Sinister clicked her tongue over and over, shaking her head.

“Such a shame. You all don’t even realize it, do you?”

“Realize what?!” Sion growled.

“That she is manipulating all of you. It is what her kind does...” Her eyes landed on me, and a slight smirk pulled up over her lips. I never wanted to rip someone’s jugular out more than I did at this moment. “Sion, she is manipulating you into thinking you are mates. Look how even Aces responds to her. He avoided his alpha, but he trusts this complete stranger? Even you have to see how weird that is. Of course this would be impossible for a regular werewolf but she isn’t a regular werewolf at all... are

you Clover? I knew it the moment she entered the chamber. The magical light lit up and then it all made sense. You are a sheya!”

I glanced up at Sion to see the unreadable expression on his face. I could see how the evidence was stacking up against me. And honestly, it was quite compelling. I did plan on leaving the Sulfur pack. If I had the power of a sheya I could have used it to manipulate him into thinking, we are mates so I could leave the pack. I had these strange visions and even Aces trusted me. He avoids the whole pack but not me? Sion didn't know everything, but if I told him now, it would look like a desperate lie.

“Alpha, this woman is dangerous. She must be sent far away from the pack. Then you will return to normal and see your mind was just being manipulated.” Dr. Sinister had the pack eating out of the palm of her hand. Their voices of affirmation were heard, and they

were ready to forcefully escort me out of the pack.

“So, you are telling me that all of you are against Clover? You won’t accept her as my luna no matter what I say?” Sion said in a quiet voice.

“You’ll see once she is gone that it was all a big lie. This is for the best. The whole pack agrees. We are not comfortable with her presence here. It is the only way to save you from her influence. We would do anything to protect you, Alpha Sion. Even from yourself in this situation.”

Just like that, I lost another home. This was Sion’s pack... he was their alpha. I know once he said he would stay with me no matter what, but this is reality. It is one thing to say something it is another to do it. I glanced up at him and chewed on my inner lip. I wonder if he is considering what she has told him. Even if he wasn’t he couldn’t leave his pack. My

presence here was a problem for him. I wouldn't leave him to make the choice on his own. I needed to leave for him. It's funny how certain events make things clearer. Knowing that I had to part from Sion made me realize how strong my feelings were for him. I love Sion. And because I love him so much, I didn't want him to be forced to tell me to leave. I went to step away from him, but he gripped me against him tighter. I could see the pain in his eyes as he looked down at me.

"I'm so sorry Clover... I wanted this to be your home." His lips were pursed together as his hazel eyes looked back over the pack. I know this was what he had wanted. It was okay. Honest. It hurt... but I understood. He wasn't just any wolf in the pack. He was their leader...the alpha. I took in a quiet steadying breath.

"It's okay, Sion." I patted his arm as I tried to step

away from him again. This time he looked down at me as if I was crazy as he held fast to me. His eyes met with mine and a smile reached his lips.

“Crazy woman, where do you think you are going.” He leaned down and his lips touched lightly over the top of my head. He lifted his gaze up to look over his pack. “I won’t subject my mate to live in a pack where she isn’t wanted. And I won’t live without my mate. I’m stepping down as your alpha and I will be leaving tonight.” My lips parted as the anxious whispers filled the air.

“We can’t allow you to do that. You are being controlled Alpha Sion. We have to protect you.” Dr. Sinister stared back at Sion as the warriors moved forward next to her.

Sion, it’s hard to explain but the pack is under some sort of brain manipulation. I think it is from the

inoculation shots. Your pack needs you. He didn't look at me as he moved me slightly behind him.

We will come back and save the pack. Right now, we need to get you out of here.

Damn it I hated that I couldn't shift right now. I was a liability when I should have been an asset. Sion was now thinking about protecting me right now. By the looks of the pack, they were on edge. I wasn't going to be able to casually waltz out of here and they weren't about to allow Sion just to leave. Conner and Logan stepped forward taking protective stances in front of Sion. Aces leaned more into my leg and looked up at me.

Climb on Clover. I'm getting you out of here.

I looked down at him and closed my eyes. Damn da.mn da.mn. I had to run... but I was going to get

Sheena back and when I did, I would be done running.

Sion... I squeezed his hand. Aces will get me out of here. He is on your side. He kept his head forward, but I notice he looked at me from the corner of his eyes.

Go, I'll be right behind you.

Panic set in as I realized he would probably have to fight his way out of the pack. When did this feeling consume me? When did Sion capture my heart this much? My body was trembling but not for myself. It was because I didn't want to leave him. I wanted to stay and fight next to him. I leaned my head into his side as I looked out over the pack. Just 'Call Me Bree' was not about to let Sion casually leave. It was more than control for her. She had her eyes on him. Yeah, I needed to come back and kill her for this. One day... I

would.

I couldn't just leave without saying one thing... something I hadn't said before that had to be said. I mustered up my strength to tear myself away from Sion and with a deep breath I let it all rip.

Be careful... I love you, Sion. I pushed off his body and climbed on top of the red wolf next to me. Aces instantly took off and I heard the growls of the pack in the air.

Don't look back. Hold on to me tight and don't fall.

Aces voice rang into my mind as I leaned down into his fur. I was so worried for Sion. He wouldn't want to hurt his pack members. He was severely outnumbered. What if he couldn't get out and Dr. Sinister did something to him?

Clover, we are being followed.

I lifted up my head and glanced back to see the eyes reflecting in the darkness. There were wolves chasing after us that were lying in wait in the woods.

They aren't from the Chance pack. Aces voice sounded in my head.

Are they under Dr. Snydes' control too?

I had my suspicions, but this proves it.

Now it made sense... Dr. Sinister never planned to let me just leave. She had an ambush waiting for me. There was no way Aces could outrun them with me on his back.

I'll get you to a tree and you need to climb Clover. I can't focus on fighting unless you are safe.

Aces there are too many of them to fight.

We don't have a choice. They are gaining on me.

How am I blocking Sheena? How do I get her back?

I don't know Clover... but I think it is some power you have... There you see that tree in the distance. Jump up when I stop underneath it. You need to be fast because they will be on top of us.

Aces...

Don't hesitate and do it.

They want me, Aces. You keep running. I heard his arrogant snort which told me he didn't plan on running at all. Oh gods he would be shredded to pieces. I could hear the thudding from behind us. There were

many wolves... I couldn't tell how many without my wolf hearing, but I knew there were a lot. Too many for just Aces to handle.

Aces thought it was some power that I have that is blocking Sheena. That didn't make sense. I never blocked her before so why now? Or was it something else. Maybe it did have to deal with power but not in the sense Aces thinks. It seems obvious that I am part sheya and maybe it is this power that has been blocking Sheena. I don't know what all a sheya can do but I wonder if I am doing something.

Aces stopped under the tree, and I jumped to the branch above him. I climbed up and looked down as a group of wolves assembled in an arch formation. I felt my heart thudding against my chest as I had flashbacks of the night I was attacked. Then it was six wolves and now there were ten. I knew Aces would be killed. His only chance was if I could at least help

him. Even with Sheena, it would be a brutal fight, but we were both ranked officers. We could manage together.

Sheena, if you are there, you've gotta help me. How do I break through this block? We have to fight. I need to fight!

The low growls began to sound as the wolves' feet shifted restlessly. Aces remained stoic next to the tree I was in as he waited for the inevitable. He knew he was facing his death, but he stayed. I can't quite explain to you how much this act meant to me. He was risking his life for me. I was someone he barely knew. My own pack members, who I grew up with attacked me, but he was protecting me.

When I thought Sheena left me was right after the pack fight. I thought she left because she was hurt. I was wrong. If I was blocking her, I must be shielding

myself. My eyes widened as I thought about it. That would make sense. That's why Logan was safe around me because I had a barrier of sorts up. This barrier was keeping Sheena from me. I don't know if I am right, but it is the best I can grasp in this moment.

I took a deep breath and closed my eyes. I was letting it all through. The pain of that night. The betrayal... the hurt. The feelings of being unwanted... everything. Everything that I was blocking out before and trying to bury. Then there was Sion... he stayed back to give me time to escape. My Sion... I was tired of building walls to protect myself. I could kick myself for being distant with the one person who has been the most honest with me. I had to get back to him. I was ready to fight.

My insides seemed to swell and then it was as if something collided with my body. Only it wasn't as if something did... I was airborne. A rogue had leapt in

the air and managed to knock me from the branch. The sound of fighting echoed in the sky, but I was ready now. I turned in the air and when I landed... it was on four feet.

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[OH FOR MATES SAKE](#)

Chapter 27 Hulk Werewolf



My silver fur shined in the moonlight as I lunged into the wolves on top of Aces. We had never fought together but somehow, we were in sync. We protected each other and linked up back-to-back. In front of each of us were five wolves. Horrible odds for almost all wolves. But we had a chance... though not without injury.

I was trying to figure out who their leader was. One of the wolves was the one who called the shots. I needed to get this wolf out of the picture first. I decided on a shaggy gray wolf on my side. He was a bit more aggressive and seemed to act on his own.

The loud snarls cut through the air as sounds of yips and blood curdling yelps echoed off the trees. Fur was stained red. The sound of teeth snapping together ricocheted around me. Wolves were on me, but I had the target's throat in my jaws. There was the sickening sound of blood gushing onto the ground and an ear-piercing cry that was strangled short.

One Down.

Teeth sank into my side, and I turned digging my claws into the wolf attacking me. I didn't have a moment to check on how Aces was doing. I had to

focus on the four wolves in front of me. Killing one of the wolves didn't have the effect I wanted it to have. Instead, they got more strategic with their attacks. They began to synchronize their movements in a way that I was getting constant wounds on my body. I was still landing blows of my own, but they were planning to exhaust me. It is actually a very clever tactic. You keep a larger enemy on his toes and exhaust him then move in for the kill.

I reared up and slashed my claws into one of the wolf's greasy matted coats. Chunks of fur and blood splattered over the ground as another wolf lunged at me. I snapped at his face curling my body away from him. I felt Aces' body against me as we both panted heavily. The strong smell of iron wafted in the air as the red liquid pooled around us.

Then suddenly they all leapt onto Aces. Nine wolves were going in for the final blow against him. I used my

body to protect his back. Fangs sank into me, and I mustered all my ferocity into attacking back. This wasn't over. I had more fight left in me. As another rogue moved in, I grabbed him by his jugular and clamped down as I shook my head. The musical sound of his neck snapping was my sign to drop his body and move on to the next wolf.

Aces had managed to take out a wolf also. We were down to seven but were both injured and exhausted. There wasn't a moment to breathe. It was chaos. Just as another wolf dove into me a black and white wolf collided with him. Then a brown wolf jumped in next to Aces. A wolf much too large... terrifyingly big. It was like no wolf I had ever seen. He was gigantic. He was over double the size of these rogues and handled them effortlessly. This size wasn't normal. Aces looked relieved. I didn't have my sense of smell before, so I didn't know who they were. Was the brown wolf Sion?

I stood there on shaking legs as the brown wolf easily claimed the lives of the rogues. The black and white wolf walked up to me and Aces. He stood there staring at me and looking over my wounds. Speaking of wounds, they weren't healing as they should.

Sheena?

I'm trying to heal you, Clover. It's all I could do to reconnect with you. It's going to take me longer than normal so try not to overdo it.

The brown giant wolf came over and shifted, it was Conner. "Clover, you got your wolf back, that's great." A moment later the black and white wolf shifted into Logan. Where was Sion?

Sheena, you are staying with me, right?

Yes, I am here. But your wounds will need to be bandaged.

I shifted back and heard Conner and Logan suck in their breath.

“Why aren’t you healing?” Conner took his shirt off and began to shred it. I looked back towards where the Chance pack territory was as he tried to bandage my worst wounds.

“Where is Sion?”

“He will catch up to us. Why aren’t you healing?” Logan stepped in front of me to look at my face.

“My wolf said it would take longer than normal.” I was trying to look past Logan feeling agitated. “Why does he have to catch up? Where is he?”

Conner chuckled. “He will be all right. He is leading them in the other direction.”

I furrowed my brows not liking the idea at all. We didn’t know what all Dr. Sinister was capable of. I felt anxious that Sion was all alone. I turned my head to look over at Aces as Conner tied the last big gash.

“Well? Are you going to give Kai control again? You don’t have to protect him anymore.”

Aces sat down and stared at me. It will be good to have Kai to talk to again. I’ve missed him. I knew that I made the right decision by coming out with you here.

A moment later Aces shifted back to Kai. I wasn’t sure what he meant by that but honestly, there were more important things to talk about right now. I could see the instant fear in Kai’s eyes as Aces was informing him of everything he knew.

“Wait Kai and Aces are a team again? What is going on?” Conner asked.

I began to catch up Logan and Conner with the little pieces I knew from the vision I had. And how Dr. Sinister wasn't working alone.

“So, who is this, Meryl?” Conner asked and that was when Kai spoke up.

“Someone too powerful for us. Aces said Dr. Snyder called her a nycrops. It is some sort of ancient creature. I vaguely remember reading about them. She isn't someone we can handle. Dr. Snyder isn't just a werewolf either. She is part witch from the Briar coven. She has pledged her loyalty to Meryl and has agreed to drain essence from the wolves in this pack to give to the nycrops. Furthermore, it was her plan to become Sion's luna and brainwash him as well.

She has been giving Logan these potions without his knowledge that would make him susceptible to her. It is what she has been injecting the pack with too. I don't think it ever worked on Conner and Sion, but I think that is because... well you two are different. Aces wasn't sure though. He continued to be cautious not knowing if Dr. Snyder had control of you guys or not. Honestly, it wasn't until Sion went against her just now that he was certain you guys were okay." Kai said and I glanced up at Conner. Yeah, he was very different. Honestly, he wasn't like any werewolf I had ever seen. I wanted to know more about this difference... "One of the reasons Aces stayed separated from me was so Dr. Snyder wouldn't try to control me. He was protecting me... She hasn't been able to get the same hold on Logan again since Clover came. Her constant presence around Logan has kept him safe from her influence. Aces says you are very special Clover..." I wanted him to elaborate

more but Conner then spoke up.

“What do we do about the doctor and pack?” Conner growled turning his head to Logan.

“There is more...” Kai let out a sigh and shook his head. “What happened... what happened to my mate, to the previous Alpha and Luna, to our pack... that was Dr. Snyder’s fault. What attacked our pack, that was a creature that Meryl had allowed her to use. It was her plan to get rid of Sion’s parents. At this point, she was only using a potion to control the wolves. The injections as you know came later... Apparently, Sion’s father had figured out she was draining wolves. He planned to banish her, but she found out about it and sent that demon.”

My lips parted in shock. That creature is what killed Taylor. Why would a demon that was under her control be at the Sulfur pack? What did this mean? Or

was it a strange coincidence?

“You want to tell me about your titan of a wolf?” I asked looking at Conner. He chuckled and rubbed the back of his neck.

“Well short version is I am not a wolf... I am a lycan. Sion and I are cousins and come from a cursed line of lycans that were afflicted to be wolves. The Faust family have had to bear this burden until just recently. Our wolves were always different than the others. They were one with us and that was because they were always meant to be a lycan. Like Sion and I am now.”

Okay, hold up... Sion is a lycan too? Was that the secret he wanted to talk to me about? I guess it makes sense why he never shifted in front of me before. He always ran off and then shifted. I could understand him being more capable since he was an

alpha and a lycan. I glanced in the distance and couldn't help the feeling of fear and dread. Even if he was strong Dr. Sinister could have sent her demon against him.

"Clover you are quite the fighter," Kai said, and I knew he was trying to distract me. I guess I was being obvious about where my mind was. Even after hearing somehow Conner and Sion were lycans I wasn't even dwelling on it. All I could think about was Sion and if he was okay.

I looked over at him and smiled. "We both are reunited with our wolves now." I felt his hand land on top of my head.

"Thanks to you."

"I didn't do anything. It was all about the timing." I listened as he let out an airy chuckle and shook his

head. He didn't say anything else but there was a level of appreciation I could see in his gaze.

"Alright, we need to head out," Conner said and I snapped my head to look at him.

"Head out? What do you mean?" I felt my chest tightening as I looked into his eyes.

"We need to get farther away," Conner said simply.

"What if something happens to Sion? What if he needs us?" I could see Conner's eye twitch and that was when I knew he didn't want to leave either. He was under orders. "I'm not going anywhere. Not without Sion." I folded my arms over my chest, planting my feet firmly in place.

"We agreed to meet at an abandoned mine. It is a decent hike from here. He will meet us there Clover."

Logan gave me a reassuring smile that I wasn't buying.

"There is no—" I started to say but Conner interrupted me.

"I don't like it either, but this is what Sion made me promise. He wants you safe Clover. It isn't safe to stay here we are still within the pack's territory. We need to get somewhere where we can think of a plan." A soft smile reached Conner's lips as he stared at me. "Besides, you are our luna. I want to keep you safe." A tentative luna to a pack of five I thought wryly to myself.

"You are in no position to fight right now. Let's at least wait until you are healed up and then we can think about what to do next. Besides if Sion plans to meet us there, he will be worried if he gets there and we never arrived." Kai finally said something that I knew

made sense. If Sion arrived and we weren't there he would panic.

"Fine..." I hated this. If Sion didn't arrive, I was going straight into the Chance pack. I would dodge all the wolves and relieve Dr. Sinister's neck of her head.

"It will be faster if we shift. Clover since you aren't healed, you'll have to ride. Conner is the biggest and can carry your weight effortlessly." Logan said as Conner shifted into the hulk version of a wolf. Looking at his size it would be difficult to even climb onto his back. I was just pondering this moment when I felt myself lifted in the air. I glance down in shock at Kai as he hoisted me onto Conner's back. He looked down at the traces of blood on his hands and frowned.

"Are you even going to be able to ride Clover? Those wounds will be jostled and painful. Maybe we should

walk...”

“No, walking will take longer. Let’s go.” I said and Conner instantly sprinted off not waiting for Kai and Logan. I could see he was anxious about Sion too. I was hit with so much at once. I knew Dr. Sinister was an evil bit.ch. She was controlling the whole pack. There had to be a way to reverse the effects. I am finally reunited with Sheena, and I am curious if I will feel the mate pull. Sion... my heart was hurting for him. He left his pack for me and was out there right now running from them. My Sion...

I hope he is alright...

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[OH FOR MATES SAKE](#)

Chapter 28 Connection

It had been over an hour, and we still weren't there. We were going farther and farther in the opposite direction. I was getting more and more uneasy. If Sion was the size of Conner, he could make up ground fast. Conner wasn't even going full speed and Logan and Kai could barely keep up. Sion could make up the distance easily, but I didn't like not knowing.

My wounds were healing up and I should be feeling pretty good at this point. I wasn't. I was so fatigued that I had to concentrate just to hold on to Conner. It shouldn't feel like this. Sheena was still with me, but it felt like her presence was faint.

Don't leave me again Sheena.

I will conserve my energy after I finish healing you.

Your body is rejecting me. It is putting a lot of strain on your body.

I don't care how much strain it puts on my body. Don't leave me.

What was going on? Why was my body rejecting my wolf? She is part of me. I noticed Conner began to slow down before he finally stopped. He lifted his nose in the air and so did the other two. Even with Sheena's faint presence, the smell of decay crept into my nostrils. What in the world is it?

Another sound raced towards them from the side. Crashing through the brush. I watched as the leaves and twigs snapped and a large body emerged. It was Demetri.

"Clover!" Demetri looked down at the snarling lycan that was warning him off.

“Conner, it is okay, Demetri is a friend—” I started to say, but Demetri interrupted me hastily.

“There isn’t time. Give me Clover. We’ve got to get out of here. There is an army of creatures called the voidless and Seekers. They are coming for you Clover.”

“Wait... I don’t—”

“There isn’t time to explain. They are almost upon us.” Demetri looked at Conner pleadingly. “You can’t fight with her, and you won’t be able to escape with her. I can carry her weight and get her to safety.”

“I can fight.” I said indignantly.

“No, you can’t. You are struggling right now. I can help you.” Demetri’s eyes were focused on me. How

did he know all of that?

Conner... I entered his mind, shocking him. He turned his head to look at me.

Something is almost here. Do you trust him? Conner's ears were perked up as he looked in the distance.

Wait a minute. I'm not leaving you guys here to fight. I listened as he snorted at me.

The brush began to move, and these pale clay-like creatures emerged. They looked like they had been risen from the dead, as if they were zombies. The creatures moved in our direction, but they weren't alone. There were Seekers with them. You could tell these rogues were all part of the same pack just like before. Were all of them under Dr. Snyder's control? There were too many of them.

Clover go! We will buy you time to escape. We will follow after you.

Fvck! I slid off of Conner and Demetri instantly scooped me into his chest.

“I’ll carry you. You can’t hold on at the speed we will be going.” Demetri then nodded at Conner, “Don’t get caught up in the mess. Run when you have the chance,” and galloped away. I looked back over his shoulder as I watched the three of them stand there firmly blocking the incoming army. “They’ll be fine. They will run as soon as we get some distance. I have some backup coming to make sure they get away.”

“You know what is going on with me?” I asked as a smile reached his lips.

“I do know and it’s going to be okay.” I could hear the sounds of fighting, but it was growing fainter as we

got farther away. “I should have gotten you earlier before you left the Sulfur pack. After you left there, I wanted to wait until you adjusted at the Chance pack. Of course, at the time I didn’t realize...” He stopped.

“You didn’t realize what?”

“There is a lot to talk about. About the Chaos pack and the Dark War. I’ll explain everything, but not right now.”

“Wait... Sion is expecting us to be somewhere else. He might end up running into the army trying to find me.”

“If he comes this way, my scouts will see him.”

“His pack is in trouble. They are all being manipulated.” I glanced up to see Demetri’s lips pursed together.

“I was worried about that.” He finally said. “I was planning to come and get you tonight once I found out the nycrops was involved.” I looked at him in shock. Okay, this guy... well fuzzy centaur dude... really did know a lot. “Don’t worry... you’ll be able to help them, you just need some time.”

“I can help them?”

He smiled and nodded his head. “Yes.” That was all he said. He didn’t elaborate anymore than that.

There is something about him. Sheena said as I felt her fluctuating in strength.

What is it?

I’m not sure. But there is a bond between us.

I stared up at him curiously. He arched a brow as he continued to look forward as he ran. "Is there something on my face?"

"It's weird that I just left with a complete stranger and how comfortable I feel with you..." I watched as his smile widened but he didn't say anything. What was this? Some sort of mystery game, and I was a contestant? "Aren't you going to say anything?" He then chuckled.

"That makes me happy to hear. It means you can feel our connection."

Okay, this weirded me out. What connection? I was getting ready to chastise him when I noticed the serious expression that washed over his face. His hooves pounded harder into the ground as he flew through the woods. He was already running fast but this was another level. The dirt kicked up behind him

as the brush beat against him.

“Da.mn they really want you...” He held me closer and changed his direction slightly. I watched as he headed towards a lake. “We are going to get a little wet,” he said moments before he plunged into the water. Very quickly the water was up to my neck. I listened to splashing sounds and saw several wolves treading water towards us. I looked up at Demetri, but he didn’t look worried at all. Suddenly, one by one, the wolves were yanked below the surface. Oh gosh, what was in the water?! And were we next?

“Don’t worry Clover. They are allies... kelpies and some sirens.”

“Wait you are friends with kelpies and sirens?”

“My family has always been close with fairies. You know centaurs belong to the fairy kingdom. My

grandfather, Drake, is very close to the fairy queen. He had the hots for her when he was younger.” He chuckled as he reached the shore stepping out of the water. He moved up the bank and then took off at a run again.

“Damn... we are going to have to go into hiding.”

I looked around, not seeing anything, but Demetri’s eyes had a slight glaze over them. A familiar look with those who are mind linking. He then moved into thicker brush and then slowly walked up a shallow creek. I looked ahead of us at a rocky mound that he was heading towards. The large rock was covered in vines that he moved aside to reveal a dark tunnel.

“There is an underground path in here.” He said as the vines brushed over my head as he walked through.

The tunnel was dark but luckily, I could see with my

wolf sight. The sound of his hooves echoed slightly off the hard ground and cavernous walls. There was a soft trickling sound resonating in the tunnel as well.

“I had hoped they wouldn’t have figured out what you are. But it is obvious they know.”

I looked up at Demetri, whose brows were furrowed.

“Can you elaborate on the they and what exactly am I? Am I really a—”

“Sheya. Yes, you are part sheya.” He smiled down at me. “They refer to the demons. They now have a nycrops working for them so I had hoped they wouldn’t be after you anymore. Of course, you are too rare and valuable so they want your power.”

“You mean visions of the past and the power of suggestion?”

He nodded his head slowly as he looked ahead. “Is that all you know about the sheya?”

“I don’t think anyone really knows about sheya and what they are... what they do... are there more that are sheya? Everyone thinks they are wiped out.”

“There are a few left but they have scattered and gone underground. Well, first off sheya don’t look any different than a regular human. Just like a witch looks like a normal person. It is the power they hold that sets them above. Sheya are neutral creatures. They are neither good nor evil. They align with fairies and technically belong to their kingdom. All sheya have the ability to see the past. Sometimes it just happens when they touch someone or something, but they can also force a vision. When they get better at controlling their abilities. The same thing goes with the power of suggestion. As your power grows you can reach more

and more creatures at a time. These are their basic powers. Then there are unique skills depending on rank and bloodline.” Demetri looked down at me studying my face. “Your mother was the highest ranking sheya. A high priestess...”

I watched as a soft smile reached his lips. “Your mother was a great person. What happened... was a tragedy. Both of your parents were great people, and the Chaos pack wasn’t evil. What happened to them wasn’t much different than what you say has happened with the Chance pack now.”

“The cave opens up just ahead. We will stop and rest there for today. We can’t go anywhere right now until the mess outside gets cleared up. They will send word when it is safe.” He then grinned, looking at my objecting face. “Don’t worry. Those wolves... and lycans will be just fine.” Okay he knew everything about everything. He was right, I was worried about

my friends and Sion. How could I just rest safely inside of this cave?

“After we get situated, I will explain to you about what happened. It’s a sad story Clover. However, hopefully, it will have a happy ending.” Why do I feel that last part was about me?

The path opened up into a large stone room. Demetri sat me down and he reached into his leather strap and pulled out a lighter. He then walked over to the wall and lit a few torches. Okay... he has been here before. I watched as he walked to the far end and gathered wood in his arms. I arched my brow at this.

“We keep this place ready in case we need a safe refuge.” He answered, as if he could read my thoughts. Wait... maybe he could? Was he part sheya too and that was a skill. “I’m not a mind reader. Your face just gives it away.”

Okay... he weirds me out a bit. I walked over to a stone and sat down as he lit a fire. I still was trying to figure out if he was a mind reader or not.

“So, is your fur coarse or fine?” I said and listened to his rumbling laughter.

“Come and feel.”

“Really? I mean... you are fuzzy, and I am curious...” He began to laugh loudly at me. He walked over to where I was sitting, and I reached out to touch his surprisingly soft fluffy fur. “Okay, so how is this possible?!” I retracted my hand back as he tucked his feet underneath him so he could lay down.

“My father is a centaur, and my mother is a werewolf...” Okay, I couldn’t help myself as I tried to figure out how that worked. How exactly did they...

you know what? Never mind. Some things you are just not meant to know. I needed to change the subject to get that mental image from creeping into my mind.

“So... uhm...you said earlier that we were connected? How so?”

I watched as a smirk rose over his face as he turned to look at me. “I didn’t just casually tell you about my parents for no reason.” Okay... what was he getting at here? I squeezed my hands together nervously.

“What do your parents have to do with our connection?” I felt like my throat was tightening and I had no spit left to swallow.

“How else would you feel connected to me? You are my mate... I think that much is obvious.” This cave was getting hotter and smaller. And the air was

incredibly thick, right? Where was the oxygen? I need a damn canary to see what the carbon monoxide level is. I licked my lips nervously.

“Uhm... well... the thing is... I have Sion... and—”

“And? I don’t mind sharing. We can make a schedule and take turns.” I stared at him as I tried to think how to reply. I didn’t even want to think how taking turns with a centaur would work. Not to mention I wasn’t into sharing. I wanted a more traditional family lifestyle. I needed to let him down gently but make my position clear.

“I don’t feel any mate pull towards you and—”

He busted out laughing as I watched him dumbstruck. I failed to see the humor in this.

“I’m just teasing you, Clover.” His laughter quieted as

he smiled at me. “My mother was your father’s sister.”

My lips parted in shock as I stared at Demetri. “So we are—”

“Family. Cousins to be exact.” He had a sad look in his eyes as I listened to him sigh. “We were supposed to be close. I was supposed to be your beta. In the Chaos pack, the Alpha and Luna have their own officers. You know luna is just the female name for alpha, right? The Chance pack had their luna and alpha as equals. Both were equal leaders in the pack. The way it was always meant to be. Not all packs work this way. A lot have their alphas ahead of the lunas, but they were always meant to be equals.” I watched as he poked the fire with a stick as he stayed lying down. The fire danced in his eyes.

“Tell me what happened?”

“I am... I’m just waiting...”

“Waiting?”

I watched as he grinned and looked up at me. “Yep, waiting... for our guests.” He then looked down the tunnel.

I turned my head and peered down the dark pathway. I didn’t see anything. I looked harder and then the smell of sassafras embraced me making my heart beat faster. A moment later, a colossal black smokey lycan stepped into view. He was magnificent. He was like the titan version of a werewolf. Behind him I saw three others stepping forward. Conner’s lycan, Kai and Logan’s wolves. They were all here... and safe.

Sheena’s voice rang out in my mind clearly, as I breathed in his welcoming scent.

Mate!

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[OH FOR MATES SAKE](#)

Chapter 29 Chaos Pack



I let out a sigh of instant relief. I slowly stood to my feet as Sion shifted back to his human self. A moment of overwhelming shock and happiness consumed me. I ran to him, and his arms engulfed me. He held me tight as I breathed in his wonderful scent.

“Are you alright?” I managed to ask right before his lips covered mine. His tongue thrust into my mouth possessively as he held my head. The mate sparks and tingles ignited through my body. The response

from me was practically involuntary. It was as if my body was heeding his primal call accepting it as our own... and it was my own. I wanted more. I forgot there were others around. It was just Sion and his welcoming tongue that was attacking my own. I didn't have the willpower to pull away but somehow, he did. I panted against him as I watched his hazel eyes. He looked over the stained bandages, and I watched as his eyes began to water.

“I promised I wouldn't let anything happen to you...” His voice was quivering as his hand traced over one of the bandages on my arm. I could see his bottom lip tremble and I couldn't bear it. I reached up and wrapped my arms around his neck bringing his lips to mine again. The electricity burned as the shocks rippled throughout my body. It was intense. It was real. This man... was mine.

It was not nearly as powerful with Denny. This

magnifying force between us was almost terrifying. I could easily get lost in him. I felt like all of my senses disappeared and my only focus was him. This time I managed to pull away as I cupped his cheeks in my hands.

“Sion, things are going to happen to me. You can’t stop life from happening. But you can be by my side during it. Besides, I am an amazing fighter.” I bit my bottom lip as I smiled up at him.

“She is an incredible fighter. It was ten Seekers against us, and she took down two of them. If it wasn’t for her...” Kai stopped, and Sion nodded his head his eyes glued to mine. I could see the question burning in Sion’s eyes. I had gotten my wolf. He was waiting for me to say what he knew all along.

“So... are you going to explain why this mate pull is a lot more intense with you?” I asked and watched as

his lips curled up. He leaned down pressing his forehead against mine. Every touch sent crazy tingles through my body.

“Do any of you guys suddenly feel like this mine became smaller?” Logan chuckled. Wait a minute? Was this the place they planned to go all along?

“Is this where we were supposed to meet up?” I asked as I looked up at Sion. He kept his arms around me and rubbed my lower back. Da.mn his touch was intoxicating.

“I was on my way here when I ran into the others. I was panicked when I didn’t see you with them. They explained what happened and we tracked you here. Right where we planned to meet up from the very beginning. I guess the mine we used to play in as kids wasn’t just our mine.” Sion looked behind me at Demetri.

“Well come on in and sit down. We need to wait out the onslaught out there. They are after Clover, you know?” Demetri’s words barely left his mouth and Sion’s eyes grew dark. I felt his body tense as he pulled me closer to him.

“They can’t have her,” Sion growled and Demetri laughed.

“No, they can’t.”

“Guys this is Demetri... he is my cousin.” I could see the shocked look in Sion’s eyes as Demetri chimed in behind me.

“I am also her beta.”

“So you are part...” Conner started to say as Demetri nodded his head.

“My mother was a werewolf. She was the alpha’s sister.”

“Your father didn’t pull the plow; he was the plow. He put your mom on all fours and—” Logan began to say, and I shook my head, yelling at him.

“Gods, Logan, we don’t need to hear this?!” Some things didn’t need explained.

“It’s not the only way—” Demetri started, and I gave him a mortified look.

“So, what happened with those undead creatures? The voidless?” I had to steer this conversation.

“We were joined in battle by some elves and fairies.” Kai looked over at Demetri. “Why is the fairy realm aiding us?”

“We must keep Clover out of the demon’s grasp. Honestly this all came at a bad time because the fairies are dealing with troubles of their own right now. So, we won’t have their royals to back us up.” I watched as the others went and sat down near the fire. Sion held me in his arms, and I looked up at him.

“I’m sorry for everything that happened. I’m sorry for my pack—”

“Sion, it isn’t your pack’s fault. They are being manipulated. Demetri said I can help them... somehow.” I looked back as Demetri nodded his head over at Sion to come over and sit.

“There is a lot to talk about.”

Sion kept me flush against his body as we walked over to the fire. As he sat down, he pulled me into his

lap. He needed my touch and honestly, I did too. On a crazy level. Which reminded me Sion never answered my question. I would need to remember to ask him again about our mate bond. I felt his nose brush down to my neck sending a wild shudder through my body. It was insane the urges I was now having. I wanted his mark. I didn't feel this need with Denny but with Sion I did. I could almost envision it. I leaned my head to the side and swear I felt his canines slightly graze my neck. A moment later they were gone, and his head was now resting on top of mine. His fingers dug into me slightly which was the only sign of his restraint.

“Clover's mother was a powerful sheya. She was the highest ranking sheya with her raw talent. Because of this, she had a target on her back. Shortly after she gave birth to Clover, the demons ended up putting a controlling object in her eye. It is called nembrant glass. It was very rare since it could only be made by

a nycrops... which is why they have a nycrops under their control once again. Anyways, this glass was able to control Clover's mother. It was their only means to control her. A sheya can't be enchanted and are immune to most magic." Demetri was looking at me as I stayed close against Sion's chest.

"Your mother couldn't fight it off... she tried but failed. They made her take control of the pack but not your father. He tried to help bring her back. In the end he was given a drink that allowed her to control him as well."

"The Dark War was the beginning of a twisted experiment. Some of the most powerful sheya one by one fell under the demon's control. By using your mother as a catalyst, she could control others. Your mother could control the masses. The Chaos pack was a throw away experiment to see how well it would work. The only thing they misjudged was the mate

pull. When your father was killed, it broke their control over your mother. And then she ended up being a casualty in the war against the other packs.”

“My parents were both killed, and you were taken away by the Sulfur pack. I was only five years old. I went to live with my grandfather, aunts and uncles with the centaurs. I would periodically come and check on you. That day you spotted me I was actually on my way to the Sulfur pack to check on you. Anyways...” He sighed and got back on track.

“The Dark war was planned to happen at the same time as the Demon War so that the Alpha King’s head would be turned in a different direction. Because they didn’t want to alert the fairies of what was being planned.”

“My grandfather, Drake, was sent word by a fairy messenger about the nycrops. She is a creature that

we can not handle. It would take someone as powerful as a fairy guardian to destroy her. She isn't our focus. But we can help your pack..."

"Clover, little by little, your sheya powers have begun to grow. You are at a point now where you have two powers colliding for dominance. You are a born luna of the Chaos pack and the daughter of a high sheya priestess. The first thing we have to do is get you sorted out. Then we will help you with your powers. Your abilities are stronger than the drinks and injections. Those effects have nothing on you." I sat there quietly listening to him. I had to save the Chance pack. I felt like there was a lot of pressure on my shoulders and I had no clue what to do.

"This is why they want you now. They must have been secretly screening and searching for sheyas... though I am not sure how they knew. But if they are working with the nycrops she would have easily set

up something.” I bit my inner lip. ‘Call me Bree’ was working with Meryl, a nycrops, she must have set something up in those holding cells... the red lights. That was how she knew I was part sheya.

“How long will this take? We can’t just leave things like they are.” Conner said and I watched as Demetri frowned.

“I don’t know. But you don’t have a choice. You don’t want to fight against your own pack. The problem is... you will need help. When the time comes Clover will need help. There might not be a choice but to fight against them...” Demetri looked up at Sion. “The Alpha King and Lycan Prince are busy... but the lycan princess is still in the Diamond pack. We may need to reach out to her.” My mouth dropped. The Diamond pack? The lycan prince and princess were in the Diamond pack? The Alpha King Wyatt’s pack. My mind was just blown right there.

“Is the Alpha King a lycan?” I asked and watched as Demetri shook his head.

“No, and the lycan prince and princess haven’t been made public knowledge. I only brought it up since there are a couple of lycans here.”

“Well... there is a story about my family and the lycan princess. It’s been passed down from generation to generation. It was my direct ancestor, Shaun Faust, that betrayed the lycan’s. He was the princess's chosen mate. It was his fault all lycan’s ceased to exist. He and the goddess or demon Eris... whatever she is now. Shaun is blamed for betrayal but there is another side to the story. Shaun fell madly in love with the lycan princess and wanted her as his mate. It was around this time his brother met a deity named Eris, the Goddess of Chaos. His identical twin brother, Shane, was infatuated with Eris, but he could see she

was manipulating him. Shaun overheard her plotting against the lycan royals, and he thought he could play the bad guy to protect Diana.”

“He became engaged to the lycan princess for himself, but he told Eris it was for her plan. Eris was romantically interested in Shaun, and this made his brother Shane angry. Shane acted as Shaun and when to steal the royal scepter from the lycan king. He betrayed his kind and cursed our line. It was my bloodline that caused all of this...” I looked up at Sion. This was something I never knew but I guess I wouldn’t. I didn’t even know lycans were still a thing. “

Demetri was quiet for a moment, then let out a sigh. “I understand what you are saying, but we may need the lycan princess’ help. Besides, her mate is a great guy. I have met him several times. He isn’t the type to hold over your head something one of your ancestors did. I think she will be the same.” I agreed with

Demetri. I don't see how you can blame someone else for another's mistake. I guess some people are like that, but it isn't practical.

"Was it because Sion and Conner were lycans that the drinks didn't work on them? They refused the injections, but she still slipped stuff in their drinks. There was a time it worked on Logan too until Clover came." Kai watched as Demetri nodded his head.

"The injections would have worked on them but not the drink form. Clover has a raw power she doesn't even realize emits from her body. It is this power that protected Logan. It is this same power that can help the rest of the pack once she learns how to control it."

I was having a moment of information overload. I couldn't think of anything anymore... especially now. Demetri was now talking to Conner, but I wasn't paying attention to any of it. I was enjoying the sweet

tingles and delicious scent of my mate. How was Sion able to hold me all night without acting on these impulses? It made me love him even more. How could I focus with these strong urges seizing me?

He left his pack in order to stay with me. That is something I didn't think any alpha could ever do. Even without knowing his pack was under control, he was willing to do this. It wasn't even something he seemed to hesitate over. Sion was a gift to me. He was the mate I was supposed to have in order to heal my emotionally neglected wounds. I wasn't second to Sion... I was first.

My mind began to wander to my parents. I was relieved to know my father and mother weren't bad people. It hurt that everyone thought the Chaos pack was evil. They were all killed because of demons. I can't imagine the heartbreak for my parents. My father knew his mate was being controlled and then

my mother...

I felt my chest constricted as I thought about how she must have felt. When she finally snapped out of it because my father had been killed. She would know everything she had caused and done. She must have been in so much pain. I wish I could have gotten to know them. I wonder how much different things would have been for me if I had been able to grow up in the Chaos pack.

I never knew my parents, but I was sad for what could have been. At least I had Sion now. I don't know what a family is like. I don't know how to be a mom... but I'll have him to help me. I leaned my head against his chest and let myself feel the bond that connected us. We still had a long way to go. We have just started out together and already have a major problem to overcome. At least we would have each other.

I felt Sion's head lean down towards my ear and his hot breath tickled my skin.

"Let's go for a walk." He whispered almost inaudibly in my ear. I pursed my lips and nodded my head. He lifted my body to my feet as he stood up as well. The others glanced up at him and he nodded down the dark pathway. "We are going for a walk." The others nodded their heads as Sion's arms wrapped around my waist. He escorted me down the far tunnel.

We quietly walked next to one another. Neither one of us said anything. I glanced around the dark rocky path. There were several other openings that would branch off from the main trail. I never realized that mines were this deep and big.

"The mine taps into an underground cave." Sion finally said and I turned my head to look at him. His face was looking forward as he navigated through the

path. We had been walking for a while before the sound of trickling water hit my ears. The path in front of us forked off in three different directions. He led us to the far right path. I could smell the moisture in the air and could even feel the dampness on my skin.

The tunnel finally opened up revealing a blue glowing wide-open cavern. I stared at it in awe. The stone walls were glowing blue and there was a pool of water glowing blue. Then what fascinated me the most were the fireflies lighting up everywhere. Why were there fireflies in this cave?

“It’s a magical moss that creates the glowing effect. The fireflies are attracted to this moss. This place was always special to me. I could always find peace here. I told myself... when I found my mate, I would bring her here.” I turned my head to look at him as he smiled down at me. He was smiling but I could see the pain in his eyes. He left his pack... his father’s

pack. He was hurting. I didn't want him to pretend with me. It was okay for him to hurt.

I stepped into his chest and wrapped my arms around him. "I'm here Sion. It's okay... you don't have to act around me. I know you are in pain. You can share your burden with me." I felt him grip into me as his cheek rested on top of my head.

"I want to protect you and keep you safe. I have waited for this moment for so long. And now my pack is in danger and the burden of saving them is being put on my mates' shoulders. I'm terrified, Clover. I can't lose you. Kai filled me in on everything. I already lost my parents and close pack members because of that bit.ch. I can't lose you too." I could hear the pain in his voice. The thing is... I understood it. Only for me it was with him. Sion was all I had. I was worried I would lose him as well. "I can't burden you with this." He whispered out and I stepped back so that I could

look at him.

“You aren’t burdening me with this Sion. That is my home too. They are also my pack. I am their luna and I am going to save them.” His hand reached up to touch my cheek and I closed my eyes as I reacted to the sweet tingles it brought. It was so intense.

“And you love me...”

My eyes fluttered open to his hazel eyes glued onto me. A sweet smile rested on his face. I had forgotten that I told him I loved him and then fled from his side. I smiled and nodded my head.

“I love you Sion.” I listened to his low growl as his head came to rest against mine.

“Mine.” He growled as the jolts of electricity sparked over my body. It was almost too much. Which

reminded me...

“So, about our bond... are you going to explain why it is different with you?”

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[OH FOR MATES SAKE](#)

Chapter 30 What's in a Mate?



A sweet chuckle reverberated from his throat as he kissed the top of my head.

“You don’t ask me about being a lycan. You are asking me about the mate pull.” I looked into his smiling eyes as his fingers traced over my neck. “I was going to tell you. That was the thing I was talking

about in my room. I wanted you to know about me being a lycan and my family lineage. This is also why our connection is deeper. As a lycan, I am connected to you on a deeper level. I don't have a werewolf telling me we are mates. That other alpha may have been a mate of yours, but he wasn't your true mate. There are different types of mates out there. Then, among those, there are rare types of mates, such as soul mates. But there is another connection too. True mates are connected through their spirit, sometimes also known as kindred spirits. Even without your wolf, we are connected this way. Because lycan's have true fated mates."

"Should I be taking notes?" I teased and listened to his laugh.

"It doesn't matter. All you need to know is you are mine and I am yours."

“Mine.” I smiled and he nodded his head.

“Mine.” His fingers pushed my hair back as he stared at my neck. “Clover...” His voice suddenly sounded hoarse as his hazel eyes began to darken, then flicker to gold the color of his lycan’s eyes.

I reached my hand up to his head, pushing him closer as I extended my neck. “I think you’ve waited long enough. Mark me, Sion.” He let out a low primal growl as he gripped my body. I felt his hot breath against the crook of my neck and then his tongue moved over my skin. He teased me and flicked it over my marking spot. I felt my stomach tighten in anticipation as my breathing got heavier. He then began sucking on my neck and moaned as I gripped into his hair. Gods, his touch set me on fire. I felt my back pressed against the cool stone wall and then his fangs sank into my neck. The pain... the pleasure... the flashing surges of desire... it was all consuming. Another moan

escaped my lips as I rocked my hips into him, eliciting a feral growl from him. As he retracted his fangs from me, another pleasurable surge rushed through me. Gods, so this is why most markings and matings happened at the same time.

I felt his hands trembling over my body and I knew he was controlling himself as well. I admired his self-control because I was more than willing. Even if the others would be able to hear us. I felt his tongue lick at my neck over the fresh mark he had left. He then began trailing his kisses up my neck until he reached my lips. He captured them, claiming them as his own. An energy was forming inside of me as this new connection formed between us.

I thought I would feel the urge to mark him with my wolf... but I didn't. Instead, I was being consumed by raw, pure emotions. I felt his connection entering my soul and I needed more. I had to have more... I had

to have him.

I reached down and lifted my shirt, parting our lips to remove it over my head. His eyes were glued to mine as his chest heaved up and down.

“Clover... I’m not going to be able to stop. I can barely control this...”

“Who asked you to control it?” I looked around the glowing blue cave. The yellow lights faded in and out from the fireflies. Why not here? The cave was wrapped in magic, and I needed to be one with him. I was the one who couldn’t control it.

“But you are wounded...” Sion’s eyes were staring over my body as they flickered with color. It was obvious he was really struggling at this point. I pulled the bandages off, revealing fully healed skin. The moment Sion marked me I felt the wounds heal. It

wasn't from Sheena... it was him. When I healed before, it was because I was with him. Just now it happened again. I don't know why but being with Sion healed me.

“Do you have any other excus—” I didn't even get the words out of my mouth. He stepped into me growling as he covered my lips. His hot tongue attacked my mouth, pushing inside urgently. I reached out lifting his shirt off of him, our lips only parted for a second before they were glued back together frantically. He lifted me up and my legs hooked around his torso. My fingers dug into his skin and something instinctual came over me. I pulled back from his lips and pressed my forehead against his. I was panting heavily with my eyes closed. He was mine...mine.

I moved my lips to his temple as an energy left my lips. I felt his fingers dig into me as his arms began to tremble. At the same time, it was like something burst

inside of me. As if the floodgates had opened, and I was finally free. I slowly pulled away, seeing a white star mark on his temple. I... marked him. The white star pulsed with a white glow for a moment before it stopped.

“It’s complete.” Sion said in a ragged breath. “We are fully connected.”

“But we didn’t...”

He chuckled as he nuzzled his nose against my throat. “We did... once already. That’s when the first part of our connection happened.”

“Oh... okay, I guess we are done here.” I teased as he slid me down to the ground.

“Far from done here.” He was suddenly serious again as his hands moved to remove my shorts. He looked

at me with a predatory gaze that had my body shivering in anticipation. With his eyes locked on mine, he lifted his under shirt over his head, revealing heaven's sculpted chest. My eyes traveled over him as he pulled his bottoms off. I couldn't help but to stare at him as he stepped, into me grabbing on to the string of my thong. A smirk reached his lips as he played with the thin band of fabric clinging to me. "I remember these..." His lips slowly covered mine. This time slowly and sensually. He pulled down on the string, dropping them to the floor. Then, in a tantalizingly slow movement, he made his way to my bra, unclasping it, allowing it to fall to the floor.

His hand cupped my breast as he pushed me back. His tongue was slowly dancing with mine as he bit and teased my lower lip. Leisurely tasting and touching me. He held the urgency back, taking his time. Holding me close to his body, he lowered me to the cool ground. I was surprised to feel softness

under my back. At some point, he had led us to a mossy area of the cave. The light glowing moss surrounded my body as he covered me. The patience and tenderness in his movements was maddening. It was driving me more wild than rampaging lust.

His hand was sliding in and around fondling my sensitive mound and bud. A low groan came from his throat, a sound of his hunger for me. This drove me wild and had me arching underneath him, demanding more. His mouth left my lips only to slide down my body. His tongue snaked out, capturing my taunt n****e in his hot mouth, searing it with his moisture. My fingers tangled in his hair as a strangled cry left my lips. Gods, I couldn't take this. It was like a wildfire was igniting over me. The burn, tingles, and electricity were all taking over me. A sensual storm held me captive and at Sion's mercy. I helplessly arched into his powerful body, feeling his muscles against my stomach.

I was burning, aching and ready for him. I knew what I wanted and what I needed. I couldn't take it anymore. I needed him... now. With all of my strength I pushed him, slipping my nipple out of his mouth as he landed on his back. I slid over him, sitting on his stomach.

"I'm taking charge now." I said as I felt him shudder underneath me. I can't explain how exciting it is to have this effect on someone. To know that I can cause this sort of reaction out of him encouraged me.

I positioned myself over him. I was wet... and beyond ready. I slid down on top of him finally connecting with what I wanted. His probing maleness was the missing piece that brought me a sense of homecoming. A primitive hunger was calling from me, and he was the answer it needed. He slid his hands underneath my bottom as I began to ride him. The wildly surging pleasure was sweeping away my control. We moved

together as one in a perfect sensual rhythm. Nothing else mattered at this moment. He was my universe. His powerful thrust sent electric sparks through me. The pace quickened; his face was taut with his own driving hunger.

He gripped into my bottom as his thrusting became more urgent and powerful. Each one sending me closer and closer to the brink. I was no longer able to hold back as my c****x ripped through me, pulsating like an electrical current. The tingling pleasure shuddered through me as he released a hoarse cry of his own. I slumped on top of his body as his arms came to rest around me. He held me against him, just keeping our bodies close. It was long minutes before he finally stirred, pulling out of me, and moving me to his side. He immediately pulled my body back into his as his body curled around mine, he let out a low almost purring sound of contentment.

“That’s my Luna.” He said against my head. I could feel the smile on his lips. I was completely his and he was mine. We belonged to each other. It felt surreal. Yet, this was only one step. We still had a long way to go before we could live a happy life together. We had to save the Chance pack.

I turned my head up to look at him. He didn’t say anything, but I knew he had to be worried about his pack. There was a big burden on his shoulders. “I am your Luna, and you are my Alpha. And I will help fight to protect our pack.” For a moment, I saw it. The hidden wound in his eyes that he didn’t want me to see. He was protecting me from it. He needed to know it was okay. “It’s okay, Sion. You can be happy with me and worried about your pack.” He pulled me closer and buried his nose in my hair.

“I can never do enough in this life to ever deserve you.”

“That’s where you are wrong. We deserve each other. You are giving me what I have always wanted, Sion.” I could only ever dream of having a family, but Sion was giving me my dream. He was everything I wanted and what I didn’t even know I needed. “Sion, you have shown me more patience and kindness—” He pulled my body up so that my head was beside his. He tilted my face to his as he stared into my eyes.

“This is what loving someone means. This is not something you thank someone for because this is normal. You deserve to be given as much time as you need. You should always be treated with kindness. Being my mate means my heart breaks when you are sad. I can only be happy when you are happy. You are my equal... my partner. I can’t do life without you.” He leaned in and tenderly brushed his lips over mine. “Don’t you see Clover? You are the Yin to my Yang, the summer to my winter, the light to my darkness,

the Tai to my Chi. Without you I am not complete. Together we create a cosmos.” I kissed him again and looked into his eyes. How did he make me fall deeper and deeper every second? He didn’t hold his feelings back from me and always said what I needed to hear. He was the one giving me everything.

“I love you Sion.” I reached my hand up to his hair, sifting my fingers through his strands. I pushed my lips into his slipping my tongue into his mouth.

Reawakening the quieted storm. His arousal pulsed against my leg as he growled into my lips.

He made love to me again only this time I allowed him to play to his heart's content. He slowly tasted and enjoyed my body as he explored every inch of me. He continued to please me, making me delirious with pleasure. It was so wild, and the burning desire was all consuming. He drove me mad and to my peak over and over. Until, delirious with contentment and

exhaustion, we collapsed. Entangled in each other's arms.

I could have disappeared with him in the magical cave under the blue glowing moss and flashing fireflies. It felt like we were in a protective bubble that had transported us to a place without evil.

If only that were true. Unfortunately... reality was about to slam into us.

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