My Mate and Brother's Betrayal

Betrayal 66

66 I'll Be Strong Alpha

Marco POV

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I can see Carter's wheels turning about our unexpected visitor. "So what are you thinking,

brother?" Most people don't know that Carter is my half-brother. My father bedded one of the omegas in our pack not long after I was born and she became pregnant. Amazingly enough, my mother didn't castrate him.

After years of groveling, she forgave him and they are still happily mated to this day. Watching them be so in love when I was a pup, I never would have suspected that my father could even

look at another woman, let alone sleep with her.

I guess my father fell into the trap that an Alpha can do as he pleases. When he almost lost his mate, he learned quickly that wasn't true. I can't imagine the betrayal my mother must have felt, especially knowing that a child was born out of it. She is one of the strongest

women I have ever met.

I can only pray to the goddess to have such an amazing Luna. My mother even accepted Carter. She never held my father's sins against Carter. Most Luna's would have insisted the omega and her pup be cast out, but not my mother.

Carter is a year younger, and we grew up as best friends. It wasn't until we were teenagers that my parents sat us down to explain that we were indeed brothers. It was definitely a shock, but we were already as close as brothers, so it changed nothing about our relationship. When I took over as Alpha at twenty, I was lucky because my father's Beta never had pups. I appointed Carter as my Beta and the rest is history. Now at twenty-four, the only thing that's missing is my Luna.

"Honestly, Marco, are you even considering this? He is willing to turn on his own pack. What is to say if we decide to move forward he doesn't turn on us? The Blue Crescent isn't a weak pack. Even with the turmoil over losing its current Alpha, it won't be easily

won. We have been dealing with that pr*ck Corey for the last three years. The Alpha before him was no better. Our warriors are strong, but are you willing to sacrifice our own pack members to gain ones that may be as disloyal as that little sh*t Fredrick," Carter says.

"I'll give him credit that he had the b*lls to come here and even propose I take over his pack. He is either extremely confident that I will do as he asks or very dumb. I haven't decided whic at this point. I know listening to him go on and on about how he was doing this for his pack had me damn near laughing in his face. Men like him don't do anything for nothing. The question is, does he even give a sh*t about his pack at all or is it all about gaining a title." 66 I'll Be Strong

"I was ready to rip his head off even suggesting he could be Beta. If he believes he will become a Beta to our pack he is delusional. I watched him during those meetings with Corey and not once when he spoke about trading us omegas did that pr*ck even flinch. If he cared so much about his pack, why didn't he come to us then to take over? Help us get the evidence against the evil pr*ck. If it wasn't for the fact that we had no other proof of his dealings, we would have turned that a**hole Corey into the council for even suggesting trading omegas three to one for warriors," Carter says.

"I'm all for expanding the pack brother, but not at the cost of innocent lives. Maybe you should set up a meeting with the new Alpha. We can do it under the guise of a possible alliance as neighboring packs. If we feel that you would be better suited to lead their pack and protect the loyal members, we can reach out to the council for approval. I mean what could make an Alpha abandon his pack? If he is anything like his disgusting father, then maybe it won't be much of a fight to take over the pack," Carter says.

"I agree. Call and set it up Carter. Also, call the snake and tell him to get us all the pack statistics in case we decide to move forward. It can't hurt to see how many warriors the pack has and their patrol schedules. First I want to meet this new Alpha. Then we can decide if Beckham Forester's days as the Blue Crescent Alpha are numbered.""

Beckham POV

"I noticed Fredrick sneaking off after Jayden started to deal with Waller. I planned to follow him, but two of the teenage pups got into a fight, and I was the closest warrior. By the time I was done dealing with them, I couldn't find him. I even joined patrol to see if he was near the borders and I couldn't even catch his scent," Brent says.

Fredrick was Jayden's friend growing up. He and I never spent a lot of time together. I have no idea his loyalty after these last three years. "Maybe he's upset that Jayden gave me the title. I'm sure he isn't the only one. I'm going to have to prove to the pack that they can trust me."I agree, but this feels different Beck. I'm not sure how to describe it. When I found him in the woods, he seemned defensive. He brought up painful things from my past to try to get me to stop asking him questions," Brent says.

I want to ask him what he brought up, but I know I have no right to the answers. If Brent wanted to tell me he would. "Then he tried to tell me some story about scenting rogues on pack land that he chased out of the territory but lost them." That gets my attention. From what Jayden said, Fredrick is the head warrior of the pack, which means he knows exactly how we handle rogue sightings in the pack. I am positive that hasn't changed.

"That makes no sense. If there were rogues, protocol is to alert the patrolling guards and the Alpha. One wolf would never follow rogues out of the territory." I agree Alpha. I know I don't 2/4

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have any solid proof, but something doesn't feel right about him being out there or his story about rogues," Brent says.

I'm just about to ask him to keep an eye on Fredrick when my office door opens and my sweet

pup rushes in. "Daddy, I missed you" she says. I scoop her up and nuzzle my nose into her

neck, breathing in her lavender scent. She stiffens, and I look up to see her looking at Brent. She starts to wiggle, and I set her on her feet.

She rounds the desk and comes to stand in front of Brent. "I'm Lily. Are you my Uncle Jacob?" He bends down and the first genuine smile I've seen since I've returned spreads across his face. "No, little one. My name is Brent. I'm a warrior here in the pack." I'm not sure why, but she looks between us before she grabs his big hand with her little one. "You and my daddy are

friends. You can be my Uncle Brent" she says.

He looks at me before he looks back at her. "I sure can" he says, emotion thick in his voice. Lily launches herself wrapping her arms around his neck. "I have lots of uncles" she says enthusiastically. When he sets her back on her feet, his eyes meet mine. "I will let you know if he does anything else suspicious," Brent links me. "I have to go little one. I have an important job to do, but I'm sure I'll see you soon," Brent says before he turns leaving my office.

Rosalyn comes over, and I pull her into my arms pressing a firm kiss on her lips. I know it's only been a few hours but Gideon and I have missed her. "Daddy, I want kisses too," Lily says, making Rosalyn giggle against my lips. I scoop my daughter up again and pepper kisses all over her tiny face. The sound of a throat clearing gets our attention. I

look up to see Barrett smiling at us. "Who is this little one" he asks, stepping further into the office.

"My name is Lily. What's your name?" "My name is Barrett," he says, extending his hand to her. The minute his hand touches hers, Barrett's eyes get big before they turn black. "How old are you little one?" Barrett's voice is deeper, and I'm sure it's his wolf talking. "I'm three, but I'll be four soon." "You are a very special little girl. You will have great strength when you get your wolf. The goddess will be with you," he says.

"Did you hear that daddy? I'm going to be strong like you." I try to keep my voice light even though inside I'm freaking out. Why is his wolf telling my daughter about being special? Does he have powers like Mindy? Will there be something different about Lily's wolf? Will she be blessed like Mindy? "I heard him. I've always told you how special you are Lily bear. Now why don't you go with mommy to help get Nana, Papa, Samantha, and Colton settled." "Colton, shared his ice cream with me at Nana and Papa's house, daddy. He is my best friend." all "That was very nice of him. I bet mommy can take you and Colton to get a snack after your done helping Colton with his room!" Rosalyn leans in pressing her hand to my chest and just her touch is helping the torment of questions that are whirling in my head. "I'll be back as

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soon as I have everyone situated" Rosalyn says. She drops her voice so Lily can't hear. "I know

you are worried. I can feel it through our bond, but trust the goddess, Beck. Whatever she has

planned for Lily, we will be with her."

Once the door closes my eyes meet Barrett's. "Tell me what the hell that was about." "Honestly, Beckham, I can't. My wolf took control and blocked me out. That has never happened before. The only thing he will tell me is that Lily is important not just to your pack but to the goddess. Hopefully Mindy will be able to tell us more, but sometimes she can't. Listen to your mate. Trust the goddess."

Betrayal 67

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Once we're in the hallway, I scoop Lily up in my arms. I've missed her even though it's only been a few days. "So you had fun with Nana, Papa, Sam, and Colton while daddy and I were away?" "Lots of fun. Auntie Sam played dolls with me. Colton and I played tag in the big yard. Nana and Papa made cupcakes that looked like bears. They said they were Lily bears" she says with a giggle.

When we reach our floor, Lily runs to the room that we gave to Colton. I step inside and smile. He and Sam are watching Moana. "I take it you got your rooms situated the way you want them while your here.""My room is perfect" she says, but her smile doesn't reach her eyes. Before I can find out what's going on with my sister, my mother steps into the room.

"I didn't know we were having a party in here. Why wasn't I invited," she says with a pout. "Nana, this isn't a party" Lily says with a giggle. "I feel better than, because I would be upset if my favorite pups didn't invite me to their party." "Lily, do you want to watch a movie for a few minutes while mommy talks to Nana. Then we can take Colton and Sam to get a snack."

She wiggles out of my arms without a word and sits on the floor next to Colton. I lead my mom out of the room and into a small office. "What's wrong, Rosalyn" she asks, her voice laced with concern. "Everything's good mom. It may take sometime, but I feel like the pack wil learn to trust Beck again. I'm also hopeful that Jayden will find a way to forgive Beck. So, overall, I think things are going better than we expected."

"Then what's bothering you, and before you say anything, remember I'm your mother. I know when something is weighing on your mind." I smile knowing she's right. "Honestly, it's about you and Charlie." "About us. What about us?" "I know I shouldn't pressure you, but I would really like you, Charlie, Sam, and Colton to live here."

"I know I'm grown, and I have my own mate and pup now, but the thought of you being hours away sucks. I want you here when I have a newborn. Here to help me be the best mom I can t Lily and any other pups I have." I notice tears in the corner of her eyes and I feel terrible. I shouldn't have said anything.

"I'm sorry if I'm being selfish. It's not about what I want anymore. If you and Charlie want to stay in the human city, then we will just visit you guys all the time. I want you to be happy. You deserve to be happy after everything that happened. 'She closes the distance between us and pulls me into a tight hug.

"Breathe, baby girl. I'm not upset that you want me to stay here with you. I'm crying because

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67 Please Stay

Charlie and I talked about moving here with the pups, but I didn't want to assume you wanted us here. You're mated now with a pup of your own. I'm so happy, I didn't know," she starts to say, but I cut her off. "Mom, I love you. I love Charlie. Despite not knowing Sam and Colton long, I love them and

want to get to know them. Emmett and I both want you, Charlie, and the pups here. You are our family!" She pulls back, and fresh tears stain her cheeks. "I guess its settled then. We will be joining the Blue Crescent pack" she says.

"I can't wait to tell Emmett and Stacey. She is really looking forward to spending time with you now that everything is settling down. What will happen to the bakery?""Charlie has already talked to his aunt. She is tired of retirement and with Holly gone she wants to return to the

bakery," she says.

A knock sounds on the door and Charlie pokes his head in. "I'm going to assume those are happy tears since I can feel your happiness through our bond," he says, as he wraps his arm around my mom's waist. "Rose wants us to join the pack. So it looks like we will be moving

here." "I had no doubt, beautiful. I have already made arrangements for the house to be put on the market. I'll talk to Beck about getting the house packed up and our things brought here," Charlie says.

My mom smiles and presses a kiss on his cheek. "Thank you, my love. I guess we better go let Sam and Colton know" my mom says. "Mom, is Sam alright? She smiled at me earlier, but it seemed forced." "She hasn't said anything. Let's go let them know about the move. Maybe we can figure out what's bothering her," mom says.

When we walk back toward Colton's room, the door is cracked enough that we can see Lily is

sitting on Sam's lap, and she is playing with Lily's hair. "Auntie Sam, are you going to live here with us," Lily asks. There is a long pause before Sam finally answers. "I'm not really sure, Lily. It's up to Nana and Papa. They are Colton and my mom and dad now. I'll tell you a secret

though. I hope we do. I want to see you and your mommy every day. Colton and I want to spend time with you, Uncle Emmett, and your mommy," she says.

I fight back the tears that threaten to fall again, hearing my sister say she wants to stay here with us. I knock pressing the door open. When Sam looks back at me she looks panicked. She sets Lily on the floor and scrambles to her feet. "Rose, what's wrong" she asks as pulls me in for a hug. "You want to stay here with me?"

Her hold on me tightens when she realizes that mom and Charlie heard what she just said. Her eyes meet my mom's and the same sadness from earlier is there. "I'm sorry. We are so

thankful to have you and Charlie to love and take care of us. I just wish we could all be together," she says. My mom steps closer to us and brushes a stray strand of hair off her face.

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"You never have to apologize for telling us what you want, Samantha. I'm never going to be upset or angry because you want to spend time with your sister, Lily, or Emmett. They are your family. They are our family and that's why we will be moving here to be with them." Sam blinks a few times before a genuine smile spreads across her face.

"We are going to live here, all of us" she says. "Yep, I'm sure mom and Charlie will want to stay in one of the family homes, but we will get to see each other every day. She releases her hold on me and wraps her arms around my mother's waist. "Thank you" she whispers. "Mommy can we have a snack now," Lily asks, and I can't help but chuckle.

"Absolutely" I say, offering her my hand. "Colton, are you ready to go get a snack?""Can we have icecream" he asks. "I think fruit for now and maybe icecream after dinner."I can see the disappointment in his eyes, but he nods his agreement. Sam, Colton, Lily, and I head down to the pack kitchen. There are a few women bustling about, I'm sure, preparing, dinner. When one notices us, she immediately rushes toward us. "Luna" she says while bowing. "There is no need to bow. I am not that type of Luna. What's your name?" She looks shocked by my question. "Bridgette" she says, keeping her eyes cast down. "Bridgette, I can only imagine what it was like to be an omega while the last two Alphas were in charge, but that is not how things will be now. I appreciate your respect, but I do not expect you to stare at the floor when you speak to me."

After a few seconds, she looks up with a soft smile on her face. "What can I help you with Luna?" "I was wondering if you could point me in the direction of the peanut butter. I wanted t get Lily, Samantha, and Colton a snack." "Luna, I am more than happy to get that for you. You

shouldn't be," she starts to say, but I cut her off.

"Bridgette, you are busy preparing the dinner meal. I do not expect you to stop what you are doing to wait on me when I am perfectly capable. Now just point me in the right direction, and we will get out of your hair!" "Of course, Luna" she says. She leads me

over to a large pantry and to a refrigerator that is for fresh fruit only. I wash and cut up apples while introducing myself and the pups to the other ladies who are working hard in the kitchen.

My hope is to learn every pack member's name. "It is admirable for a Luna to show such kindness to the omegas of the pack," a masculine voice says. I turn to see the man that Jayden called Fredrick standing in the doorway to the kitchen. "All pack members should be treated with kindness, regardless of their rank. It is not admirable to do what is right. The omegas are the backbone of the pack. They do all the heavy lifting while higher-ranked members enjoy the fruits of their labor."

I can tell he doesn't agree with my statement. I know wolves like him. Wolves that think they

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are better than others simply because they were born into a higher rank. "Omega" he calls to Bridgette. "Yes, Warrior Fredrick. What can I do for you?" "Her name is Bridgette, Fredrick." "My apologies, Luna. I do not know all the omega's names." "You grew up in this pack, did you not? I would think by now you would know the pack members, especially the ones that feed

you." "I will do my best in the future to learn them, Luna. Bridgette, do you have any sandwiches I can take on patrol?"

"Of course" she says, grabbing him a few and placing them in a bag along with fruit and drinks. She hands them to him, and he takes the bag with a smile that makes a wave of unease flow through me. "Thank you, Bridgette," he says, before he turns to leave. "Zora, what do you think?"

"I think he's an a**hole. We need to talk to Beck about his sh**ty attitude toward omegas. We will not let pack members be misused" she growls. "I agree, I think at some point we should talk to Bridgette alone. I think she may be afraid of him. He won't have to worry about learning anyone's name if he is hurting her."

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It takes all my control not to teach our new Luna a lesson she won't soon forget. Obviously, her mate is not only a failure when it comes to being an Alpha, but also at teaching his b**ch her place. As I take the bag that the f**king omega prepared from her hand, I think about all the ways she will suffer by my hand later as I offer her a predatory smile. Once I'm out of the kitchen, I head back to my room. My patrol isn't until later, but I needed a reason to follow my future mate into the kitchen.

As soon as I'm in my room, I throw the bag of food into the trash. Even my wolf is pissed at the disrespect that woman showed us in front of the omegas. When I become Beta and mark her, she will be mine to teach. She will become my perfect little submissive mate. Just the thought of her at my mercy makes my c**k twitch. I grab a shirt from my floor and lay down on my bed. I close my eyes and my mind conjures images that make my c**k rock hard. Fantasy

I push open the door to my room to find Rosalyn in the same position I left her. I smile at her naked form splayed out on display on my bed. Her beautiful ivory skin is wearing my marks from my earlier attention. Her dusty pink n**ples that tip her perfect breasts are begging for my mouth. My eyes move down to her perfectly trimmed mound. I lick my lips needing another taste of her perfect p**sy. She tastes better than I ever imagined. My eyes travel back up her body until they fall on her tear-stained cheeks. Her eyes meet mine

and I can see the defeat in them. Now that she seems completely broken, I offer her a small gift. "Are you ready to be the good girl I know you can be, "I ask as I move closer to the bed.

She closes her eyes and I wonder if she still has some fight left in her as I run my finger down

her neck over my fresh mark.

When her eyes open, she finally answers me. "I'll be a good girl," she says, her voice soft. Her words send a jolt to my c**k. "So if I take off your restraints you won't do anything stupid?" "No, there is nothing left to fight for" she says, defeated. Her words make me smile. I knew she

would learn her place once that pr**k was dead and her pup was taken from her. I pull the key from my pocket and unlock her right hand. I press a kiss on her palm before I unlock her left hand.

Once she is free of the restraints, I rub the red marks that were left behind on her wrists and ankles. "Now that I've released you I think you should show me how much you appreciate my gift." Her eyes meet mine and I wait for her to protest. "What can I do for you sir?" I stand from

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the bed and look down at my perfect little mate who finally knows her place.

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"Be a good girl and get on your knees." She hesitates for only a second before she does as ask. Looking down at her on her knees before me at my mercy is the stuff wet dreams are made of. I rub my thumb over her lips. "Are you going to s**k my c**k like a good girl until I c*m down your pretty little throat?" "Yes sir" she says. "Take me out of my pants." She reaches for my button and unfastens my pants. She pushes her hand past my waistband. Back to Reality

The banging on my bedroom door has me groaning. What the f**k? My c**k that was rock hard seconds ago becomes soft in my hand as I hear my name being called through my bedroom door. What the f**k does he want? I wipe my hand on the shirt I had grabbed and tuck myself back into my pants. I yank open the door to find that pr*ck Brent smiling at me. "What the f**k are you doing on my floor?""Sorry, the Alpha sent me. Leo was pulled from patrol because of his pregnant mate, so you have to fill in" he says.

"I'm already on patrol at dusk. So find someone else to take his place. I'm sure your buddy the Alpha will be happy to kiss your a** after he left you in the dust."Brent growls and takes a step closer to me. "Your patrol has been covered now unless you want me to alert the new Alpha that you are disregarding his orders, I suggest you move your a**."

This time it's my turn to growl. "You would do well to remember who outranks who here, Brent You never did get the title you were promised. I am the head warrior, which means you answe to me." "It also means we both answer to the Alpha. So are you going to follow orders or do I need to report your insubordination to him? I'm sure he won't mind making an example out of you if you can't follow simple orders. Maybe he'll even give me your spot," he says smugly. "Get your a** off my floor. I will meet you in the pack yard in ten minutes.' He nods before turning to leave. I slam the door seething at that little d**khead's audacity. Does he think he will weasel his way back in with Beckham? I'll snap his neck before I allow him to take anything from me. I smile when I hear an unfamiliar ringtone coming from my dresser. I fish

the phone out and press the green button to connect the call.

"Fredrick" I say, not really sure how to greet who I assume is Alpha Marco. "Fredrick, this is Beta Carter. The Alpha would like you to do something to prove to him that you are truly willing to help us take over your pack." "Of course, anything." "He wants the

pack's statistics and patrol schedules. We will be meeting with your Alpha tomorrow under the guise of forming an alliance," he says.

I freeze, wondering why he would need to meet him. I must be silent for longer than I realize when Carter breaks me out of my trance. "Fredrick, are you still there?" "Yes, Beta, I was just a 2/4 S~Earch the Findnøvel.net website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

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little shocked you said that you're meeting with Beckham Forester." "As you are just a warrior, you are used to following orders, but there are many steps in battle. Assessing your opponent is an important one of them."

I grip the phone so tight I'm surprised it doesn't snap in my hand. Wait, this f**ker will be sorry when I take his title completely. I'll convince Marco that I am a far better choice to be his Beta. He thinks he can talk to me like I'm beneath him. I'll show him what a true warrior can do the first chance I get.

I have heard stories of him being of omega blood. He should never have been given the opportunity to become a Beta with such low breeding. Both my parents were warriors, which makes me much better suited to be the Beta of the Golden Leaf pack. "Are you able to get what Alpha Marco wants, Fredrick" he asks. "Of course, how would you like me to get the documents to you?"

"Call this phone when you have the documents and I will tell you where to meet me. I think it goes without saying but you better not f**k us over, Fredrick." He doesn't wait for my response before he cuts the call. Goddess, if I didn't need this phone right now I would pitch it against the wall.

My mood has completely soured despite my earlier fantasy because of those two pr*cks. I quickly hide the phone back in my dresser. I throw on sweatpants and a t-shirt. When I reach the pack yard I notice that d*ck Brent has the Alpha pup in his arms. Rosalyn, a girl that looks eerily similar to her, and a boy that looks about five are standing next to him.

When he notices me, he hands the pup back to the woman that will soon submit to me. I lick my lips before I make my way toward them. "Who is this little lady" I ask, never taking my eyes off Rosalyn. "This is my daughter and the future Alpha of this pack" she says. I chuckle

thinking she is being funny, but her face lets me know she's serious. "You can't be serious. She

is a girl. The future Luna maybe, if she doesn't find an Alpha mate, but not Alpha."

"I'm going to be strong when I get my wolf. I can be Alpha if I want to," the brat says. "No disrespect, Luna, but you shouldn't fill her head with these ludicrous ideas. "What ideas might

that be?" I turn in time to see Alpha halfwit walking toward us. I bare my neck to keep up pretenses when all I really want to do is rip his f**king throat out in front of his mate that will soon be mine. "Alpha, I was just explaining how this little lady can't be the next Alpha of the pack."

"That's funny because she is my heir, so why is it that she can't be Alpha if she trains?" "Heirs are first born son's, Alpha. Surely you're not suggesting that you would pass your title to a girl simply because she was born first. "That's exactly what I'm saying. If my daughter wants to be the next Alpha of this pack, then she will be. This is no longer a pack led by simple-minded 3/4

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men who didn't have the morals or foresight to run this pack properly," he says. Goddess, I hope Marco lets me end this ba**ard when the time comes. I'm going to enjoy every minute of

Betrayal 69

69 He Ran from Me Addison POV

I step out of the shower and pull on my favorite pair of jeans and a hunter green tank top. I pull my hair into a messy bun and leave my face bare. I coat my lips in pink lip gloss before I give myself a once over in the floor-length mirror.

"Looking good girly," Adina, my wolf, says. I smile and slip my feet into gladiator sandals. I double check my bags to make sure I have enough stuff to stay a week in Rose and Beck's pack.

I've never really visited other packs, so I'm excited to see the differences between the Black Rose and Blue Crescent. A knock on my door makes me smile. I know who it is before I pull the door open to find a smiling Logan. "So, your brother just told me that you're abandoning me for a whole week. Who the hell am I going to gossip with if you're gone that long" he says. I throw my head back and laugh.

"I'm sure you can just fill your time with training. I swear you remind me of the Grinch, but instead of your heart, your body has grown three sizes.It's Logan's turn to laugh. He really has bulked up since he formally took his title. He was never a small guy, but he is almost as big as my brother now. I'm sure some of it has to do with him training a lot more. I've tried to talk to him a couple of times about everything that happened with Bryce, but he shuts me down.

I know he says it's over and not worth mentioning, but losing your mate isn't easy no matter the reason. Even my poor mother is suffering and she hates my sperm donor. She thanks the goddess every day that he is dead. The bond between wolves is both a blessing and a curse. "Well, I'll miss you squirt." I glare at him. "What did I tell you about calling me squirt? I may be short, but I'll still kick your a** Logan."

He smiles and pulls me into a hug. "I'll text you when we get there and every day just to check smile. "Despite our rocky beginning, your brother is an amazing Alpha. I'm proud to be his Beta. Besides that pr*ck that I will not name, he was never sorry about all the pain he caused. Your brother, on the other hand, was truly sorry for what he did," he says.

For the most part, I've forgiven Reese, but it is still hard for me to accept that he betrayed my best friend. We were supposed to be sisters and raise our pups together. I'm glad she found

Beck. He treats her the way a mate should be treated. "So have you thought about the

possibility you might find your mate" he asks, and I can hear sadness in his voice. I'm not sure if it's the thought of losing me or that he doesn't have his own mate. The likelihood is it's a

combination of both.

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I pull back, offering him a reassuring smile. "We are not going to live in what ifs. No matter what happens or where I end up, we will always be friends, Logan. Hell you and Rose are my best friends. I refuse to give that up, no matter what distance is between us. Besides, I highly doubt I'll find my mate. Someday, soon, I'll make Reese have you drive me from pack to pack, so I can find my mate. Maybe you'll find your second chance on our trip."

I hate the sadness I see in his eyes, but I don't push the issue, knowing he will just shut me down. I don't want to argue before I leave. He grabs my bags and we make our way

downstairs. My mother is hugging Mindy and Reese in the foyer. She smiles when she sees me on the stairs. "Hey sweetheart, I'm going to miss you" she says, pulling me into a hug. "I'm going to miss you too, mom. Are you sure you can't come just for today?"

"I'm sure, I don't want Logan to be left unsupported. Besides, a little birdie told me that there will be a formal Alpha and Luna ceremony in a couple of weeks that I have to attend. I wouldn't miss seeing Rose become what she was always meant to be" she says as her voice cracks. Rose is my mom's second daughter, no matter how things turned out. Just like she is my sister, even if she didn't end up with my brother.

We head out to the SUV and Reese and Mindy are already waiting inside. Logan puts my bag into the trunk and hugs me one more time before I slide in next to Mindy. The SUV behind us has four warriors and my unconscious pr*ck of an uncle. I wonder what the council has in store for him. I have no idea what he did but I'm sure he is just like his pathetic brother.

The drive takes two hours and my excitement builds with each mile closer to the pack. Adina is unusually quiet, but I know she is just as excited about seeing Rose. I can't wait for Adina and Zora to spend time together. A few minutes later, the warrior that's driving takes a left off the main road.

After another ten minutes, we approach a large iron gate. A guard steps up to the window and a few moments later we are driving toward a beautiful modern-looking pack house. It's mostly brick with ornate white pillars. I can see a bunch of smaller homes surrounding the pack house. They must be for families. We have a similar set-up but ours are like log cabins. They have a different number of bedrooms depending on the size of the families living in them. "Are you ready? Rose is practically jumping up and down waiting for you," Reese says, bring me out of my thoughts. I smile watching my best friend who has a little girl in her arms. Oh my goddess her pup, my neice. I throw the door open and rush toward her. I wrap my arms around the both of them. "I've missed you." "I've missed you too, Addie" Rose says. "You two act like it's been years since you've seen each other," Reese says.

I turn glaring at him. "Love, maybe you should keep your mouth shut before. your sister pummels you" Mindy says with a giggle. She moves up the steps and pulls Rose into a hug. 2/1

+50 Puntos

69 He Ran from Me

"Lily, you remember Mindy. This is her mate, Reese. This is mommy's best friend and your Auntie Addie" she says pointing to me. I fight back the tears as Lily reaches her arms out to pretty too."

The door behind Rose opens, and Beck steps out, followed by a man that is most definitely what I'd call a silver fox. Adina laughs but before I can ask what the hell that's about, Mindy rushes toward the man. "Uncle Barrett" she says as she launches herself at him. "My little Mindy. I've missed you." After a few seconds, they separate and the man smiles at me. "Uncle, this is my sister-in-law Addie and this is my mate, Reese." His eyes move from me to Reese and his expression turns cold.

Oh, f**k, he isn't happy that Mindy is mated to Reese. He closes the distance between them and extends his hand. When Reese takes it, Mindy's uncle pulls him close. "I'll accept you because my niece says you make her happy and have atoned for your wrong doings but make no mistake. If you hurt my niece, there won't be a rock you can hide under to keep yourself from my wrath" he says. A shiver runs down my spine at the cold delivery of his words.

"I love your niece, sir. I've made mistakes, but I would die before I would cause her a moment's pain. She is my everything." Mindy places her hand on her uncle's shoulder. "Alright, my dad would be proud that you offered such a threat, but it isn't necessary. We love each other. In fact, we are having our first pup." Rose and I both squeal even though I already knew. A genuine smile crosses Barrett's face, and he pulls my brother in for a hug.

I'm just about to awww when Adina starts to lose her mind as she begins to pace. The scent of orange and vanilla overwhelms me. "Mate" she says, and I start to look around. "Addie, what's wrong," Rose asks, but before I can answer the door behind her opens. The man that steps out has me practically drooling on myself. He growls and everyone looks toward him except Rose. Her eyes haven't left me. A huge smile spreads across her face, and she mouths the word sister to me.

"Mate" he growls again, moving toward me. "Mate" I say before he pulls me into his arms. He buries his head in my neck, but before I can enjoy the moment, he pulls away. His eyes are black and he looks pissed. "Why do you smell like another man?" I can tell it's his wolf speaking. F**k, he smells Logan on me. Before I can explain, he runs shifting in midair. As he

takes off through the trees, my heart feels like its been ripped in two. My mate ran from me

without letting me explain. I can feel tears start to flow down my cheeks.

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Strong arms wrap around me and I bury my face in an unfamiliar chest. "It will be alright little

go talk to him after I give him a swift kick in the a**" Barrett says, before he releases

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+50 Punt

69 He Ran from Me

wrapping her arm around my shoulder.

"What's an a**hat" Lily asks, and I can't help the laugh that escapes me. Seeing Rose with her little girl has me praying that my mate will pull his head out of his a** and listen to reason. I want him to accept me, but I refuse to beg or apologize when I've done nothing wrong. Adine whimpers but she knows I'm right.

Betrayal 70

70 No Guarantees

Jayden

POV

As Atlas passes through the trees, I feel defeated. Smelling another man's scent on my mate is worse pain than any I suffered because of those pr*cks. I've waited so long to find her and, clearly, she has someone in her life. Atlas whimpers as

he finally hunkers down near my mother's stone. I should have known he would bring us here. We shift and I grab a pair of basketball shorts from behind the large tree that shades my mother's grave.

I sit near the stone and drop my head into my hands. "I met my mate, mom. She is beautiful. She is the most beautiful woman I've ever seen. She has long auburn hair and chocolate brown eyes. The only problem is, I think she already has someone in her life. What do I do if my mate doesn't want me, mom?"

"I feel like everyone leaves me, mom. Losing you was one of the worst things I've ever had to live through. Then, after you were gone, dad became a cold ba**ard. He treated us like an annoyance. It was like he died right along with you. Beck left without a second thought about me. I know he had a really good reason, but I feel like everyone leaves me.""

The thought of my mate rejecting me is devastating. I don't think I'll survive, mom. I've tried to stay strong through all the pain, but I don't think I can survive losing her."I smell him before I see him. "If you came to tell me I have to talk to her, I already know. I know

I can't stop her from choosing someone else. I just wanted a few minutes of her being mine before it's ripped away."

"Jayden, you are a very smart young man, but right now you are being very stupid," Barrett says. Anger is very clear in his tone. I get to my feet and turn to face him. "I should kick your a** for that bulls*t you just pulled" he says, and I'm a little shocked. "She smelled like another man. Clearly, she has a boyfriend. Excuse me for being angry and upset. Everyone has abandoned me and now my mate will probably do the same," I say through gritted teeth. His features soften, and he takes a step closer to me.

"Jayden, I know your hurt and angry about the past, but you need to stop looking through glasses that paint the future with the same brush that painted the past. Your mother died, but she didn't want to leave you. Hell I'm sure she watches over you every day. As far as your father goes, he let his grief change who he was. It was never about you boys, it was about him. He made the choice to become the monster he became," Barrett says.

I can't stop the tears that are flowing down my cheeks. "Beckham, never meant to abandon

you. You know one of my powers is being able to feel if someone is telling the truth. Every

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50 Puntos

70 No Guarantees

word Beckham has spoken to you was his truth. He regrets being lost in his own pain. He regrets leaving you and Jacob. It weighs heavy on his heart."

"Now let's talk about your mate. Besides claiming her, you didn't even give the poor girl a chance to speak. Have you hugged Rosalyn since you met her?" I'm confused by his question. "Of course, I have, she is my sister-in-law." So, did it not occur to you that your mate could have hugged another man that she has no romantic feelings for. You know what I think. Scenting this other unknown man gave you the perfect excuse to run before she could hurt

you."

I turn my face away from him. "You didn't talk to her because you were too afraid of what she might say, good or bad. Even if she accepts you today, what's to say she won't change her mind in a day, a month, or a year? You're afraid that either way you'll end up hurt and abandoned again" he says.

He places his hands on my shoulders and waits until I look at him to speak. "There are no guarantees in this life, Jayden. Did you know I had a mate and pup before?" I shake my head and he continues. "She was amazing. A white wolf with emerald green eyes. She was the love of my life. She was pregnant with our pup when she was killed" he says before taking a deep breath.

"I had ten amazing years with her before she went home to be with the goddess. I don't know how I survived, but I did. I needed to make sure that the man responsible for their deaths paid, no matter how long it took. The point of me telling you this is I wouldn't take back a moment of the time I had with her. Despite the agony of losing her, it was worth the love we shared." My heart breaks for him. Losing his mate and pup makes me think of Beck. What if that b**ch and my father had come to the room before Lily was born? The anger that I was holding towards Beck seems to disappear like a puff of smoke. An image of my beautiful mate fills my mind and the thought of never having her in my arms snuffs out the fear that was raging

inside me. "Don't let the fear win" he says. I nod and a silent understanding that I'm ready to face my mate passes between us.

He offers me the same smile he did when I finally stood up against Corey. His pride in me

seems to mend another piece of my brokenness. We walk in comfortable silence until we finally reach the pack house. I'm just about to pull open the door when he stops me. "I suggest you prepare yourself before we head inside." I look at him confused because, despite his words, he's smiling. "You just managed to piss off every woman that was standing with your

mate" he says before he pulls the door open.

As soon as we step inside, I can hear my brother's voice. "I'm not saying what he did was right, my love. I think he was just shocked to smell another male. I'm sure he will apologize to

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70 No Guarantees

Addie. I just want you to calm down and give him a chance to explain himself" he says. "You better be right because, brother or not, I'll kick his a** for hurting my best friend," Rose says. When I step into the room, my mate is nowhere in sight. "You, what the hell is wrong with you," Rose says, stalking toward me. I probably have a foot of height on my new sister, but the look in her eyes has me taking a step back. "You better be afraid.

How could you do that to Addie? She has been waiting to find you since the day we learned about mates," she says, poking me in the chest.

"I'm sorry Rose." "I'm not the one you need to be apologizing to. Hell you better get on your knees and beg for her forgiveness after breaking her heart and making her cry." "Rose" says the sweetest voice I've ever heard. I look toward the doorway where my beautiful mate is

staring at me. Without another word, I close the distance between us. "I'm so sorry. Can we go some place private and talk?" The pain and sadness I see in her eyes nearly guts me. I hate that she thinks I don't want her. I have to make this right.

Addison POV

After freshening up, I decided to head back down to find Rose. I refuse to sulk in my room. I came here to visit my friend. As I approach the large living room I'm shocked hear Rose so angry. When I finally make out what she's saying, I realize she is yelling at my mate. Adina growls, but she knows that Rose is angry on our behalf. Goddess, I love my best friend. I step into the room just as she is telling him he needs to beg my forgiveness. I don't want to cause problems between her and her mate's family.

When Jayden asks to speak to me alone, I don't hesitate. If he wants to reject me for Logan's scent without having a conversation, then so be it. He leads me up a set of stairs and down a long hallway. I realize this is on the same floor of the room I'm staying in. When he pushes open the door, he leads me over to a sitting area. Before I know what's happening, he is on his knees before me. "What are you doing?"

"What my sister-in-law suggested. I'm begging your forgiveness." "First, I don't need you to beg my forgiveness. Just tell me why you didn't even let me explain Jayden.Goddess, even his name is s*xy. I push those thoughts away and focus on the hope I'm feeling. I'm not sure what I expect, but it isn't Jayden telling me about his fear of me leaving or all the pain that he has endured. With every word my heart breaks a little more for my mate.

"I'm so sorry, Addie. Even if you have a boyfriend, I had no right to run and not talk to you. Please forgive me" he says. I place my hands on his face and the tingles make my heart beat a bit faster. Jayden's eyes darken and I know he's enjoying my touch. "Jayden, I have no boyfriend. I have never been with anyone else. I saved myself for you. The scent you smelled was from a goodbye hug from one of my best friends."

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+50 Punto

70 No Guarantees

The hope I see in his eyes makes warmth spread through my chest. "Addie what's your full

name?" I can't help the tears that start to flow when I hear his question. "Addison Marie Orick"

I say. "I, Jayden Michael Forester, accept you, Addison Marie Orick, as my mate and Beta Female." A sob escapes me and he pulls me close.

I feel the bond start to form between us. "I, Addison Marie Orick, accept you, Jayden Michael

Forester, as my mate and Beta" I manage to say between sobs. He wipes my tears from my

cheeks before he presses a soft kiss on my lips. As his lips move against mine, I vow that this man will know how much I am his every day for the rest of our lives.