

## Chapter Four

Hope

My feelings were all over the place my heart broke as pain cut through me. But I'm strong so I stood straight as if nothing was wrong with me. Zayn was still holding on to my arm his eyes piercing through me.

"I shouldn't have to tell you what to do" He kept his gaze on me then ran his hand through his hair

"I know what I have to do, I told you I don't want anyone else but you! Mate or not but tell me what to do now to make you believe me"

"Nothing ...but you can check your phone and read me her messages"

"Okay" He said letting go of my arm we were still standing in the foyer. I crossed my arms across my chest.

"I am your mate and I know you felt it" he read his voice deep.

"You're reaction hurt me. We are mates"

"Why aren't you answering me?" He continued to read through her messages while I stared right at him. Jenna was ready to kill.

"Meet me tonight so we can talk alone please" his eyes met mine. Then he looked down at his phone and started texting. When he was done he handed me his phone but I didn't take it. So he read what he wrote

"I already have a mate. I'm sorry I won't meet you alone not tonight or any other night. She is everything to me and I cannot lose her" He read his own message then shut his phone off.

"Zayn why did she show up now?" I asked him, he kept quiet so I continued

"You were both adults when she left ve years ago, why didn't you feel the mate bond then?" He stayed quiet. "She just happens to come back to town now and claims to be your mate"

"I know baby you're absolutely right" he came closer to take me into his arms but I involuntarily moved back away from him. I saw pain in his eyes

"Listen to me, I don't care if she is or isn't my mate"

"If I have to go through anymore trauma because of you, I promise I will reject you and you'll never see me again I'll make sure of it."

He straggled back a step shocked at what I had just said, his eyes suddenly turned dark and he stepped towards me

"What? how can you say that?" He asked panicked "I won't ever accept your rejection" He pointed at me, his voice stern.

"Put your nger down" I sneered at him.

"Hope" He closed his eyes and took a deep breath before speaking "I won't let anyone hurt you ever again. You're everything to me, I'll nd out what she's doing back here, if she's up to something. I won't take any chances."

"I don't want you to see her"

"Okay I won't see her" He reached out to touch my face but I turned around and walked away to our room to get ready for bed. I heard his footsteps right behind me.

"Hope please"

"I want to get ready for bed" I said looking away from him.

I walked straight into my closet and shut the door behind me. I usually slept in my intimates or satin Babydolls and sometimes in nothing at all, but tonight I wore my pajamas. I walked out to nd Zayn on the bed with his arms behind his head he watched me walk into the bathroom I closed the door behind me and locked it shut. I took my time brushing my teeth, washing my make up off, putting on my lotions and combing my hair in hopes he would fall asleep. But when I nally came out he was still in the same position.

I could feel his eyes watch me as I walked over to my side of the bed and got in under the duvet keeping a lot of distance between us. I picked up a book from my nightstand and pretended to be reading

"That's a lot of distance between us" He said his voice deep

I didn't bother looking at him "I'm comfortable this way"

I heard him sigh then shift closer, he wrapped his arm around my waist and pulled me closer to him ignoring my attitude. He kept his arms around me and laid his head on my stomach holding me tight. We both were quiet until I felt his grip on me loosen a bit and he drifted off to sleep.

I thought about what this meant for us. Will he just ignore the mate pull can he even do that? Is she really his mate? My mind was all over the place. Jenna was there in the back of my mind but she was too quiet.

I looked down at my mate, he had a frown on his face reminding me of when we rst met. Will this be the end for us? I kept my gaze on him until I nally felt myself relax and drift off into slumber.

I woke up very early the next morning. Zayn's head still on my stomach I moved slightly and he sifted over a little clutching onto my pillow. I took the opportunity and slipped out of bed. I decided I would go for a run alone. I washed up real quick, wore black leggings and a matching black sports bra tied my hair up in a ponytail and left.

I got in my car and drove to over to a jogging trail about twenty minutes off our borders. The air felt fresh and the smell of pine ignited my senses. I needed the energy boost to help me kick start the day. I just wanted to jog today no shifting just me jogging and enjoying some peace and quiet because Goddess only knew what kind of day I would have today.

It was ve thirty and very few came out jogging this early. It was only me and my thoughts out here. I had been running for about thirty minutes when I felt a presence behind me. I didn't want to look back so I stopped to the side of the trail. A tall blond guy looked my way as he continued passed me. Jenna's ears perked up.

He was a werewolf for sure I could pick up his scent. But this wasn't alarming to me, there were many packs around us and this jogging trail was popular.

I waited a few minutes before I started running again. I ran for another hour before heading back to my car.

"Good morning" I heard someone say from behind me

I looked back and it was the blond guy "Good morning" I replied and continued to my car.

"It's nice to see someone else come out here this early, it's usually only me" He said again. I looked up at him but stayed quiet. Why is he talking to me I'm sure he can see my mark and smell my mate. And why is Jenna excited? I silently thought to myself

"Do you come jog here often?" He asked his eyes a brilliant green color

"No I don't actually I should though the trail is so beautiful" I said. He smiled at me

"My name's Marcus"

"Hi Marcus I'm Hope"

"Hope" He repeated my name and stayed quiet for a few seconds like he was thinking.

"Are you Luna of the Golden Moon Pack?"

"Yes how do you know me?"

"Well you're pretty famous you're basically the only Stark she-wolf" I looked at him confused. But word about my wolf had gotten around pretty fast and I knew a lot of other packs already knew my name.

"I think I'm the only Stark wolf"

"No you're not" he said condently

"I'm not? How would you know that?"

"Because I'm a Stark wolf" He said calmly. I looked at him in shock no wonder Jenna was acting weird when she saw him.

"You are?"

"Yes, your wolf can tell. But nobody knows about me. If my pack found out they might be intimidated especially the Alpha."

"He is just like me" Jenna said conrming his claim.

"Wouldn't he be happy to have you, you make his pack stronger"

"Not male Stark wolves, no. I'm strong and powerful I just don't have any significant effect on my pack. That's only the Stark she- wolves. You." He said.

"And Alpha Mason, my Alpha, doesn't like anyone to be more powerful than he is"

"So why stay?"

"I'm Beta and I like the pack I'm in. I'm hoping when I nd my mate things will be easier for me."

We stood by my car talking about our wolves, strength and powers. He was a very laid back nice guy. He was twenty four years old and very smart.

I have to go" I said "My Alpha Mate will freak out if he wakes up and I'm not there"

He laughed "Well I hope to see you here again soon I come every day at ve am"

I made my way back to our territory and when I entered the pack house I heard Zayn's voice

"Where the f\*\*k is she?" I heard Zayn's voice coming from the living room. I ignored him and didn't bother telling him I was back, knowing he'd pick up my scent. I went up home to take a shower.

I wasn't even inside the door when I heard his voice booming "Where were you?" He growled out

I looked down at what I had on "I went for a run" I answered and continued towards the kitchen

"Why did you block me out I couldn't mind link you I was worried"

"I wanted some time alone" I said getting some water "And there's no need to worry, I'm not a child"

He ran his hand through his hair and took a long breath "Hope please don't do that again"

"What? Go jogging?" I know what he meant.

"Don't f\*\*\*\*\*g block me out again!"

"Oh I'm sorry did you think I went out and found I had another mate?"

"Fine f\*\*\*\*\*g ne Hope what do you want from me huh?" He asked "I told you again and again mate or not I don't want her!" He yelled

"I only want you. I love you. How long are you going to keep making me suffer?" He was standing right in front of me.

"I had nothing to do with this, I didn't choose this. I was just as shocked as you." He shouted out "So lose the attitude and stop acting like something happened between her and I"

"I'm not acting like anything. I'm going to take a shower." I walked away and into our room

Zayn

She's driving me f\*\*\*\*\*g crazy. I woke up to an empty bed and an empty house. I thought for sure she left me, I panicked. I walked in the bedroom after her when my phone chimed again. I clicked on the message

okay well if you won't meet me, I'll come there. I'm on my way over we need to talk

Fucking Hell! When can I ever get a break.