

Bullet

Sage POV

Telling Zane to be safe as he left was completely out of character for me. Liking him, even in the smallest bit was dangerous territory.

After spending an hour or so of time alone, I went to the window and opened it carefully.

At rst, I thought about staying the night when Zane asked, but now that I was developing feelings for him, I needed to leave quickly. I cannot, under any circumstances, develop any type of attachment to him. Things never go well for me when that happens.

I hastily went through my bags and found a small bag to hold some clothes and my potions before quickly changing into a new outt.

Luckily, Zane's beta grabbed my knives, so I quickly strapped a few of them on to prepare for the streets.

Once nished, I made it halfway out the window and heard a voice behind me.

"Where are you going?" A person asked as I turned to face Zane's beta.

"Away," I muttered, pissed that he caught me.

"I can't allow that; Zane will have my head if you disappear on my watch," he responded as he came up behind me and pulled me back in.

"Fine, but I'm leaving as soon as he returns." I huffed as I walked back to a chair and sat down.

"He should not be long. He is only meeting with another alpha for a short discussion," his beta informed me.

"What Alpha?" I asked.

"Alpha River." He responded.

"Fuck." I hissed as I ran back to the window.

"What's wrong?" He asked.

"I'm leaving now." I snapped.

"I can't allow that," Alex repeated as he went to grab me again

"Alpha River is dangerous, and I can promise he has no interest in the casino. If we don't get to the casino now, Zane may be in danger." I yelled.

The idea of Zane being hurt drove me crazy, even though I shouldn't care. River made sure that they killed the last Alpha who entered the town since he was determined to be the only wolf in power and had a coven of witches backing him.

It's impossible for anyone, including Zane, to defeat River and his witches without a considerable army behind them, except for me.

"Zane can handle him if he causes any problems," Alex responded.

"No, he can't. I'm going to the Casino, and you can either follow or stay here, but I will ght you off to leave if need be." I snapped.

"I'll get the car and drive you to the casino to check on Zane if that will make you feel better," Alex relented.

"Fine, but hurry." I snapped as we ran out of the hotel and got in a car Alex had parked outside.

"So you care about Zane?" Alex asked in the car.

"I'm just helping to repay my debt to him for pulling me away from Kendric." I scoffed.

"Whatever you say,," Alex laughed.

"You don't seem concerned about your Alpha. I just told you he is most likely in trouble." I sneered.

"He would have mind-linked me if he were in trouble, and Zane is strong enough to take on River," Alex responded as we pulled up to the casino and jumped out of the car.

A loud growl erupted from the casino as I ran towards it. "f**k, you were right." Alex hissed as he ran in and shifted into his wolf.

"No s**t," I muttered as I ran around the side of the casino and pushed a storm drain cover out of the way, and jumped in.

The storm drain led to a hidden tunnel that covered the entire casino. I need to quickly determine what room Zane is in and catch River and his witches by surprise. Staying undetected would allow me to use some of my power in secret.

I aimed to guarantee Alpha Zane's protection, then depart and nd the perfect place to conceal myself within the city until Alpha Zane heads back to his pack lands.

I can't allow my emotions to get in the way and fool me; no matter my weird connection with Alpha Zane, he will always be my enemy. I am simply doing this, so we are even, and I no longer feel like I owe him.

Running through the tunnels, I nally caught the sound of wolves ghting and heard a witch chanting some spell.

The power she was releasing. I could feel it in the tunnels, causing me to worry for Zane slightly.

Further down in the tunnels, I could hear several other individuals in the casino ghting. Alpha River most likely had the room he was in with Zane blocked off with a protective barrier, making it impossible for Zane's Beta or guards to help him.

Luckily, the barrier was not likely to include what was below the room, since almost no one knew about this tunnel, giving me an advantage.

While climbing the tunnel steps towards the hidden door to the main conference room in the casino, I heard the witches and wolves inside.

I cracked the door slowly to remain hidden and saw a huge black wolf that was bigger than any I had ever seen.

Was that Zane?

The black wolf was ghting against River, but whatever spell the two witches were chanting was causing him to struggle. I focused on what they were chanting since I studied most of the standard spells they used, and it sounded like they were trying to force him back into his human form.

River nally landed a good attack as I concentrated on the spell, and Zane's wolf faltered slightly. It was time for me to act. I pulled one of my daggers from its strap and stabbed it into one of the binding tattoos on my arm.

The only way to activate my full power was to damage the tattoo. I would have to x it later to seal that portion of my power since I don't have complete control of it.

Holding my hand against the wall, I allowed re to release from me into the room, lling the entire conference room with smoke and ames. The witches would have to drop the barrier to escape with River.

River snarled as he nally caught sight of me, running in wolf form toward me as I walked out, making my presence fully known to everyone.

Zane's wolf quickly attacked him while he was distracted as I ran towards the witches, attacking them and getting them to drop the barrier.

Several more individuals ran into the room, as well as a few wolves from both River and Zane's pack. I was condent now Zane had the upper hand, so this was my opportunity to slip back into the tunnels and make my escape.

As I approached the door, I made it halfway through and heard the distinct sound of a gun being c****d to prepare for ring.

Scanning the room, I saw one of Rivers' men with a gun directed at Zane. My breath caught momentarily, and my body again acted out of my control as I ran towards Zane as the gun red, blocking the path and allowing the bullet to hit me.

For a moment, the force made me kneel as the bullet hit my chest, fortunately avoiding my heart, but causing me to cough up blood instantly. The giant wolf howled and attacked River's wolf aggressively.

As I struggled to breathe and endure the pain, I nally got to the tunnel door and left.

Everything was blurry as I pushed my body against the wall for support and kept moving deeper and deeper in the tunnel until I reached a familiar little room I used to hide.

With all my strength, I pushed the door and fell to the oor as soon as I entered the room, struggling for air as my lungs lled with blood.

"Just a scratch," I mumbled as I coughed up more blood as my body fought to heal itself. Death didn't scare me, and I sensed it approaching. I just needed to ensure Zane did not nd me, or he would learn all my secrets.

While trying to stay awake, a gurgled moan escaped my mouth. I did not know how much time passed, but soon, I heard frantic footsteps running through the tunnel as Zane yelled my name.

He sounded afraid. Why was he so worried about me? Soon, the door to the small room bursted open, my eyes no longer open as I continued to ght to remain conscious.

Warm hands touched my skin momentarily as I felt my shirt being ripped off. "Sage, stay awake," Zane demanded as his voice quivered, and I felt a sharp pain in my chest.

"I need to remove your bra to access the bullet easily," Zane whispered as I felt him snap it off.

"Mmm," I moaned from the pain as I felt him push into the hole in my chest. "Silver," I mumbled, trying to warn him.

Zane let out a hiss as he pulled the bullet out of my wound and tossed it fast. The silver burned him before he lifted my body so it was directly against his, holding me tight.

Despite his efforts to heal me, I felt like I was drowning in my blood as I choked, trying to breathe. "Don't you dare die on me! Sage? Why would you take a f*****g bullet for me?" He growled.

I felt remorse as I heard the desperation in his voice. I wanted to tell him I would be back but, as my heart ceased, darkness took over, and I took my nal breath with him embracing me tightly.