

Chapter11

Jaxson

The broad eye look she gave me made her look so cute and scared I wanted to wrap her in my arms and hold her,

"Mate?"

She spoke softly,

"Yes. You, Rose, are my mate. I knew the minute I saw you lying there,"

"I..I." She started then shut her eyes, taking a breath,

"Im not worthy of a mate. You are an Alpha and need a strong Luna to be by your side. Im nothing more than an Omega and a servant at that. Im not strong; Im broken in a lot of ways. I would be of no good to you. I would not hold it against you if you wanted to reject me,"

She never opened her eyes the whole time she spoke, But the sadness in her voice nearly shattered me. How could someone think so lowly of themselves,

"Mate hurts," I heard my wolf whine in my head,

Slowly, I reached out for her hand, her eyes still closed. Her breathing was quick and sharp. Touching her hand, I took it in mine,

Her eyes snapped open to look down at our hands,

"Rose," I called her name, making sure to keep my voice low and soft, "Im not going to reject you. You are my other half; I do not care that you are an Omega; statues do not bother me. You were made for me, and you complete me and my wolf. We need you to be by our side. I do not need a strong mate. You alone are even to make me stronger; without you, I will become weak. You are not broken, princess,"

Lifting her hand, I place a soft kiss on the top. I saw goosebumps appear on her skin,

Looking up into her eyes, I could see tears building again. Her heart was beating fast. She looked at me with so much I wanted to pull her to me,

"We can take all the time you need. This will only go at your pace. I know we dont know each other, but we will. I want to know everything about you, And I will tell you everything about me, But please dont shut me out before giving us a chance,"

I trace my thumb over the knuckles,

I could see she was struggling, Afraid of trusting someone, of letting someone in. She has her guard up, and it makes me wonder what entirely happened to her and how long she has lived with this fear,

She swallowed, Then took a breath,

"Im not sure what to do. I haven't been around people in a long time. I have been alone and trying to survive every day. I always thought my mate would reject me the moment he saw me. I do not know how to answer you,"

Sliding closer to the bed but not letting go of her hand,

"How about this, we can spend time together, Not as mates but as two friends. I think once you get to know me, you will like me. I will not pressure you or force you to take a role you are not sure of, but I truly want to know you,"

"Freinds," She whispered, "I haven't had a friend in a long time."

"I would like to be your friend, If you let me," I gave her hand a slight squeeze,

I didnt want to push, but I also didnt want to back down,

"Will I be staying here?" She pointed to the room,

"No, you will be released as soon as Dr Mary thinks you are well enough. Then you can come to stay at the pack house,"

She sucked in a breath,

"What? What's wrong?"

"Um, you will let me stay at the pack house, Like yours?"

I chuckled, "Yes, Where else would you be staying?"

"I.. well, I do not know; I mean, you do not know me, so I thought."

"Rose, I wouldn't let you stay anywhere else. Our cabins and smaller houses are for mated couples who have started families. The packed house is mostly made up of unmated wolves, both female and male. My beta and his mate stay there, as well as I and my Gamma. My parents have a small cottage as they now like their quiet time,"

She seemed to think about what I said. I saw she was ghting with herself. I sat quietly and let her work whatever it was out in her head,

"I would not want to be a bother. I mean, I can work for my room and board. I did all the cooking and cleaning back at," She paused

Her eyes scanning my face, She cut herself off from whatever she was going to say,

"Rose, what were you going to say?"

She shook her head,

"It's nothing, Um, I wouldn't mind working, though,"

She closed herself off again,

"Well, let's get you healed rst, then talk about work. I doubt you will be able to get around with your leg cased up like that,"

"Oh, it's not trouble I worked with," Again, she stopped closing her eyes like she was kicking herself,

"Rose, Im not going to ask for details, and all you have to do is nod; you dont even have to speak, okay?"

Her little head nodded but didnt open her eyes,

"Have you always been a servant at the Alpha place?"

She shook her head no,

"Are your parents alive?"

Again, she shook her head no,

I frowned,

"Have you always been mistreated while in the Alpha's care?"

She hesitated. I could see her face pinch,

"Rose, I know they hurt you. I do not know the extent of it or who did what, but I know some things have happened to you in that pack,"

She gave a slow nod yes,

My wolf snarled in my head, Pushing him back. I didnt need him scaring her,

"Was it just the Alpha and his family?"

She shook her head no,

"Was it the whole pack?"

A slight nod yes,

I saw a tear left her closed eyes, reaching up I wiped it away with my nger. She lifted her head, looking at me,

"Im sorry you went through all that, and like I said, im not asking for details now; when you are ready, you can tell me your story only when you are ready, But I want you to know that. That will never happen here. I or my pack members will never hurt you,"

Uncertainty ashed in her eyes. I couldn't blame her. She hasn't been able to trust anyone in god knows how long; her pack hurt her when they should have protected her; as a pack, we look out for each other. I wanted to ask about her parents, but I felt I had pushed enough for one day,

There was a knock on the door. Dr Mary's head popped in, "Im sorry to interrupt, but I brought Rose something to eat,"

She carried in a tray. It had cut-up apples along with some broth and cheese,

"You probably haven't eaten anything heavy, so I brought you something light. As we go we will add more to your diet, but right now, light is better and in smaller portions,"

Rose smiled. It was an actual smile as she looked at the food, then up to the doctor,

"Thank you, this is good,"

I watched as she reached out with shacky ngers, picked up a slice of apple, brought it to her lips, took a tiny bit of it,

"Alpha, I had them prepare something for you as well. I gured you would not want to step out to eat, so they brought it to you,"

The door opens again, and one of the house Omegas carries a tray. Setting it down next to me,

"Thank you," I tell her,

Dr Mary left us; we sat there eating quietly. Rose picked at her food with little bits. I made a mental note to ask Dr Mary what else we could do for her eating,