

The Shift

As the clock struck midnight, those present seemed to hold their breath in anticipation, the air thick with tension and excitement. But just two minutes later, a piercing scream shattered the silence, cutting through the night like a knife. Elora's heart leapt into her throat as she turned to see her sister collapsing to the ground, her body convulsing with pain.

Wide-eyed and trembling, Elora watched in horror as her sister's transformation began, her parents rushing to her side to offer words of comfort and encouragement. Amidst the chaos, the sound of bones cracking echoed through the clearing, mingling with the anguished cries and growls that emanated from her sister's lips.

As Alena completed her transformation, the crowd stood in awe, their eyes fixed upon the magnificent sight before them. From her human form emerged a stunning pure white wolf, its fur gleaming like freshly fallen snow under the moon's gentle glow. Even the Alpha couldn't conceal his astonishment as he beheld the rare beauty of the white wolf.

In the werewolf world, white wolves were revered and respected, believed to possess exceptional abilities and strength, and usually were gifted by the Moon Goddess with special abilities. They were seen as symbols of purity and power, their presence considered a great honor to any pack fortunate enough to have one among their ranks.

As she struggled to find her footing, whispers of admiration rippled through the crowd.

But, suddenly, Elora was hit as well, with a sharp pain which made her collapse. With each passing moment, Elora felt her own body contorting and shifting, a searing pain coursing through her veins like molten ore. She tried to focus on her parents' voices, urging her to relax and embrace the change, but each word was drowned out by the agony that consumed her.

But then, amidst the chaos and pain, a sense of wonder began to blossom within Elora's heart. She felt a strange connection stirring deep within her, a presence that whispered softly in her mind. It was a voice unlike any she had ever heard, gentle yet powerful.

Introducing herself as Lina, her wolf, the voice filled Elora with a sense of peace and understanding.

And then, as suddenly as it had begun, the pain began to subside, leaving Elora lying on the ground in her new form. With trembling limbs, she pushed herself to her feet, feeling the earth beneath her paws for the first time. A swell of joy and relief flooded her heart as she realized that she had successfully transitioned into her werewolf form.

She could see everyone looking at her in shock and disbelief and for a second wondered why, but she got distracted by the forest sounds as all her senses became heightened.

"I am so happy to have you Lina, finally you are here!" Elora said to her wolf.

"I am so happy as well to be with you. I promise that I will be the best wolf for you and that you will not be disappointed in me." Lina replied shyly.

"Never, Lina! We are one and we will always be. I love you so much already." Elora added emotionally.

Finally, she was not alone anymore. Finally, she got her companion, her friend for life that she could trust and rely on. She never believed that she could be so happy.

"Are you sure, Elora, I would understand that I could come as a disappointment as I am a ..."

"Shift!" Alpha Ben's voice boomed, which interrupted their conversation, and she could not catch Lina's last words.

The directive rippled through the crowd, and Elora felt the familiar sensation of her body morphing and reshaping itself.

She shifted back into her human form, the transition smoother than the last time. In the world of shifters, nudity was something normal, but Elora moved quickly to grab her nearby summer dress, feeling a rush of modesty color her cheeks.

As she hastily dressed herself, she couldn't help but notice the agitated whispers and furtive glances exchanged among the other pack members. At first, she assumed the attention was directed towards her sister's stunning white wolf form, but the intensity of the stares felt different, almost unsettling.

Confusion gnawed at Elora's mind as she tried to decipher the reason behind the sudden scrutiny. Was it something she had done or said?

Despite her attempts to brush off the unsettling feeling, Elora couldn't shake the sense of unease that settled in the pit of her stomach. As she looked towards her family she noticed their cold and troubled look towards her, which made her frown in confusion.

The murmurs and whispers among the pack members came to an abrupt halt as Alex's voice pierced through the air.

"Mate," he exclaimed, his tone filled with exhilaration. With a wide smile on his face, he ran towards Alena, his steps filled with jubilation as he closed the distance between them.

But as he reached her side and enveloped her in a loving embrace, and kissed her lips with passion, his expression shifted from joy to confusion in the blink of an eye. His brows furrowed as he gazed into Alena's eyes, searching for the connection he had expected to find.

"You're not my mate," he uttered, his voice tinged with disbelief as he struggled to comprehend the truth before him.

Alena's eyes widened in shock, her own confusion mirroring Alex's as she shook her head in disbelief.

"But... but how can that be? It must be a mistake," she stammered, her voice trembling with uncertainty.

Alex's gaze swept across the assembled crowd, his eyes scanning the faces of those gathered around them in search of answers.

"I don't understand, as I can smell my mate" he murmured, his voice tinged with desperation.

And then, as if guided by some unseen force, his gaze came to rest on Elora, his eyes widening in realization.

"You," he breathed, his voice barely above a whisper as he took a tentative step towards her.

At that moment, Elora felt a surge of emotion welling up inside her, a mixture of shock, disbelief, and a strong smell of sandalwood. And then, she heard Lina's voice echoing in her mind, screaming in delight, "Mate!"

With a sense of surreal clarity, Elora repeated the words aloud, her voice barely a whisper as she echoed the truth that had been whispered to her soul. And at that instant, the world seemed to freeze around them, every pair of eyes fixed on her in shock.

As the realization had dawned upon them all: Alex's true mate was not Alena, the bold and confident sister who had always commanded attention, but Elora, the quiet and unassuming sister who had lingered in the shadows, unnoticed and overlooked.

Alpha Ben's voice boomed like thunder, commanding attention as he addressed the assembled group. "For tonight, please return to your houses," he declared, his tone brooking no argument. "I will have a discussion with the Black family."

As the others departed, leaving only the core families behind, Alpha Ben cleared his throat and turned his gaze to the Black family. "There are three main things that need to be discussed and clarified," he began, his voice steady and authoritative. "Firstly, Alena, you are a white wolf and a blessing to our pack. We are truly fortunate to have you among us."

Alena's eyes widened in shock at the unexpected praise, her chest swelling with pride as she exchanged a look of disbelief with her parents. But before she could respond, Alpha Ben moved on to the next matter at hand.

"Secondly, Alex," he continued, his tone becoming more serious. "You claimed to have found your mate, but you have confused everyone. Can you please clarify who your mate is?"

Alex, still reeling from the revelation, shifted uncomfortably under the weight of his father's gaze. "Elora is my mate," he admitted, his voice barely above a whisper. "Or at least, that's what my wolf tells me."

The declaration sent shockwaves rippling through the group, leaving Alena stunned and speechless. She stared at Alex as she struggled to comprehend the betrayal unfolding before her. "Your wolf is wrong, it can't be," she protested, her voice trembling with emotion.

But Alex could only hang his head in silent acknowledgment of the truth. "I'm afraid that it is true," he admitted, his voice heavy with regret.

Suddenly, Alena's composure shattered like glass, her grief and anger boiling over as she lunged towards her sister with a cry of accusation. With a resounding slap, she struck Elora across the face, her words dripping with venom. "You pathetic excuse of a girl, you f****g w***e, you want to steal MY mate? Alex is mine! I will kill you!"

Alena's father moved quickly to restrain her, his arms wrapping around her trembling form as he tried to calm her down. Meanwhile, Alex stood torn between the two sisters, his heart heavy with conflict and confusion.

As the tension hung thick in the air, Alpha's voice cut through the chaos like a knife, his words carrying the weight of authority and finality, which froze everyone. "Enough! This will be discussed and decided later on who will mate with whom. Now we have a third important matter."

When the Alpha's gaze landed on her, she felt a shiver of unease ripple down her spine. "Your wolf," he began, his voice measured yet heavy with significance.

Elora's eyes widened in shock as she struggled to comprehend the gravity of the situation. "My wolf? What about my wolf?" she asked, her voice tinged with confusion and fear.

With a conflicted expression, Alpha Ben turned to his Beta couple, Graham and Ava Black, his tone grave. "This is happening so, so rarely," he murmured, his words full of regret. "I am so sorry, my friend. I wish I could do something about it, but it is what it is."

Elora's frown deepened as she waited for an explanation, her heart pounding in her chest. Turning to her parents for answers, she felt a chill settle over her as she met her father's cold gaze that was looking at her with almost hatred and disappointment. "What's happening? What's the issue?" Elora asked, her voice tinged with desperation.

But instead of comfort or reassurance, all she received was a stony silence. With a heavy sigh, her father finally spoke, his words cutting through the tense atmosphere like a knife. "Your wolf is an omega," he stated bluntly, his tone laced with disappointment and resignation.

Elora's world seemed to crumble around her as the weight of his words sank in. In the world of werewolves, having an omega wolf coming from a high-ranked family was considered a rare and shameful occurrence, a mark of weakness and inferiority that could tarnish the reputation of a family.

A sense of dread settled over Elora as she realized the magnitude of all these revelations, as she felt her head spinning.