



## Bonding

### LOGAN POV

"Hi," I say quickly looking over Chloe's depressed state.

She put her hair up and changed into her comfy day off clothes that hide away her beautiful curves. But the thing that sticks out the most is the blatant hate in her eyes. As if I am her enemy and not her mate.

"Bye," she snaps while trying to move around me.

"Please wait...The rejection had nothing to do with you, okay. You are gorgeous. My childhood fucking crush, to be perfectly honest...It's just your human body is groomed for being an Omega. Even though mom betrayed my trust, she had that part right. I value my mom's counsel. She has always been closer to me than my dad...I. Look, I get it. The truth hurts. Knowing my mom ran," I explain before she raises her hand. 1

She stares at me like I am the biggest dumbass in the whole world and the rest of my well thought out apology disappears.

I wanted to explain how scared I am for her safety and how killing someone might be impossible for her due to how sweet she is. Being the Alpha pair isn't rainbows and roses, it's tough. But it doesn't look like Chloe wants to hear it.

"Your mother's body trained as a warrior before she got her wolf...tell me why she didn't stand with my mom...You see, Logan, sometimes it's about character, not training. I was born to be your Luna and mate. The wolf that I will receive tonight...alone, instead of in your company, is one with the wolf you will receive. You will have to explain to him why you rejected his mate's human body, and I hope you have a better excuse than that



because all throughout history, Omegas have made great Lunas," she states, and my eyes widen.

I try to think back to history class, but all that comes to mind are my favorite battles and the Alpha's behind them. I never focused on the Lunas or their backgrounds.

"Maybe if you had read up on your history instead of focusing on your muscles, war, and girls, we wouldn't be having this conversation," she whispers, practically reading my mind before shoving past me like I'm nothing to her but an obstacle.

My mind goes into a panic as I watch her walk away from me. I had so much left to say to her. So much to say....

"Chloe, I'm sorry," I call out trying to at least get a backwards glance from her, but she keeps right on marching.

As if she is eager to get away from me.

My head falls into my hands for only a moment, before anger mixed with betrayal explodes from me. I immediately begin punching and kicking the wall.

"FUCK. FUCK. SHIT. WHY. WHY DID I FUCKING TRUST HER," I scream as angry tears fall from my eyes.

I know the other Omegas who live on this hall can hear me, just like they can hear all my family drama, but I kept spilling my guts over and over again. Only when my knuckles are completely destroyed do I stop and sink to the ground.

A tall shadow falls over me, but I'm too tired to look up to see who it is. I'm spent both physically and emotionally. My mother betrayed me, lied



to me, and convinced me to betray my mate in front of our pack in the most brutal of ways.

"Son. Get up," Dad's voice orders, and my body moves without my permission.

My eyes meet his brown ones with open hostility, and he sighs.

"Come on," he orders, and once again, my body snaps forward to do his bidding.

"I can walk on my own," I growl, but he says nothing.

He keeps walking, and I realize we are heading to my office. He hasn't been in the space since he gave it to me, to my knowledge, and now he wants to return to it.

I scoff, "great, another secret meeting with one of my awesome parents."

Dad's body pauses for a moment before he turns around to face me.

"What," he asks, and my feet keep moving.

I walk straight into his chest, before he realizes I can't stop.

"Stop," he orders, and my body freezes.

"What did you say," he asks, and I shake my head.

"Nothing," I mumble, and he gives me his "don't bullshit me" look.

"We will be circling back to that," he growls before turning and walking up the stairs looking even more tense.

I grunt and follow.



"Sit down," he orders after slamming the door to my office, and my body complies.

I sit in the chair I normally do, and his forehead creases.

"Sit in your chair! This is your office is it not," Dad growls, and my eyes slightly widen.

I move to where mom normally sits as dad begins to pace next to the large window overlooking the gym.

"I don't know how your mother got you to believe an omega is too weak to be a good Luna, but I do know you need to fix this shit, Logan. You need to go to Outcast during the next hunt and win your mate back. A mate is a wonderful gift, Logan," Dad barks angrily, and I scoff again.

"Oh really, then why do you treat your mate like shit? She wouldn't be such a bitch if you just showed her a little bit of love," I yell, and dad's eyes flick to black.

He roars, and my head snaps down in submission.

"MY MATE IS A HATEFUL JEALOUS LYING BITCH," he thunders out, and the hairs on the back of my neck stand up.

"You wanna know why I can't touch her? Why I can't make love to her. You wanna know what she leaves out when she fills your heart with hate towards me?" Dad growls, getting right up in my face.

I shake my head, and he chuckles darkly.

"Too late..Your mother cheated! She cheated on me, Logan. It was right after we first mated. She didn't know I would be able to feel her being pleased by someone else, and when I confronted her about it, she



immediately confessed. She told me it wouldn't happen again before turning it all around on me. She blamed her cheating on me. She said she needed the extra attention because I was always sniffing after Hannah's skirts. Which, to be honest, that was partially true! Hannah was my first love. I wanted her to be my mate so bad I couldn't sleep the night before I turned eighteen, but instead of my friend who never looked at me in that way...I got your mother. Hannah got Arthur. We were both happy though. I was grateful for my beautiful mate. Until I started realizing how hateful she is.. How ambitious she is. Your mom hates anything that isn't the best, and I wasn't the best Alpha. I wasn't the strongest; shit Hannah pinned me. I'm strong mentally, but physically I'm nothing special. I mean, I'm an Alpha, but I'm not the top. Your mother wanted the best. She hated that Hannah was stronger than her growing up, but Kandace loved that Hannah got an omega mate. She felt like she had beat her," Dad sighs and moves away from the desk.

He gives me a sad look and I gulp down the rising bile in my throat.

"I was...after she cheated and I forgave her...I was good. We were good. I was happy. A couple of years later, we had you, and I was overjoyed. Your mother was too. She kept saying how you would be the Alpha I should have been. She was peeved that Hannah had a baby too...said Hannah tried to steal her day by delivering on the same day as her. But the two seemed to bond over being mothers together. They formed a strong friendship and I fell into a happy routine, but around the time you were about four...the terrible pain hit again. I immediately knew what it was, but I didn't say anything to her. I just decided to live with it. I haven't been able to touch her since. She brought it up...told me it was a stupid mistake, but what we had is gone. I would never reject her or try to turn you against her. You love her. I just backed off. I gave the both of you space. I guess she has been using that space to mold you into the Alpha she wants you to be," Dad whispers, looking out the window again. 2





Mom's rants about dad begin to swirl in my head. My mind puts Dad's point of view on all her yelling fits, and rage begins to overwhelm my shock.

"She hates that Hannah got to play the hero. She forced me to reject Chloe because of jealousy...She told me it would be dangerous for an omega to be Luna," I whisper, and dad snorts.

He grabs a book off of one of the bookshelves I've never touched and throws it at me. The title says History's Greatest Lunas, and my stomach turns.

"I gave you an office filled with knowledge, son! You spend hours in here. What the hell have you been doing—listening to your mother rant? She didn't pay attention in school. She was busy flipping her hair at every boy in a fifty-meter radius. I knew you wouldn't listen to me, so I stocked your office with as much information as I could," Dad snarls, and I lift my head shamefully to meet his eyes.

"I'm sorry," I whisper, and Dad freezes.


"I'm sorry I believed her. I'm sorry I behaved like a well-controlled puppet...I just. I have been lonely, dad. And mom, she's always been there for me," I whisper, and dad's head hangs.

"She was just the loudest wheel on the wagon, son...meaning just because she squeaks when she turns doesn't mean the other wheels aren't turning. Just because your mom is loud and in your face all the time doesn't mean I haven't been there. I have always been here. I have tried to let you grow up independent, but I reprimand you when you step out of line. Like when you bad mouth the omegas... I guess I could have done some more one-on-one with you, but I never didn't want to. I'm just busy being the best Alpha I can be," Dad says, and I nod. 1



Silence falls as I begin to look at the bookshelves stacked with books hand-picked by my dad to make me a good Alpha.

"I'll get her back," I mumble, and dad nods.

"I know you will," he says. 

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