

THREE | YOU FOUND YOUR MATE?

Alaia POV

The rest of the day went by pretty quickly, as did the rest of the week, and before I knew it, it was Friday. I'd made it through the last day of school, and was preparing to have my commencement ceremony.

It was all nally over, and when I woke up, I couldn't help but do a happy dance. I stood up in the middle of my bed and did a quick twerk, so giddy that I never had to deal with petty high school drama again.

Having zero regards for privacy or personal space, Aaron barged in, saw me, then yelled. "Ah, my eyes! What the hell is wrong with you?"

He scared the crap out of me, and I fell off my bed with a loud, "Oof."

"Ugh, Aaron, why are you in my room?!"

"Mom told me to come to get you unless you don't want the special graduation day breakfast she had made for us. I'll gladly eat your share," he said before he turned to leave.

"Touch my food, and you die!" I screamed as I ran across the room and leaped onto his back.

He stumbled a bit but quickly regained his footing before he started heading for the stairs, laughing the whole way.

By this time, I was laughing as well, thinking he'd forgotten all about the embarrassing twerking episode.

As soon as we stepped into the kitchen, though, Aaron decided to share my embarrassment with the entire room.

"Mom, Dad, I just found your little princess in her room 'practicing' her sexy moves for her mate."

I turned bright red and jumped down. Aaron, Dad, and a few pack members found my embarrassment hilarious, which was evident by their loud laughter booming through the kitchen.

Mom, on the other hand, shot Dad a look that had him silent in seconds. "Big bad alpha gets taken down a peg," I thought to myself with a small smile. She then walked over to Aaron and smacked him on the back of the head. Before he could say anything, she asked, "What have I told you about walking into your sister's room? She's a young lady, soon to be a woman, and she needs her privacy."

Aaron simply replied, "Yes, ma'am," before rubbing his head and sitting down at the table.

I smiled in his direction, so happy that at least someone in this house was on my side.

As usual, Mom and Dad sat at the head of the table, as the Luna was just as highly regarded as the Alpha, with Aaron to Dad's left and me at Mom's right.

This breakfast was a special occasion, so there were way more pack members here than there would usually have been.

Mom took in the room, stood, and cleared her throat.

The entire room fell silent, and I was in awe of her grace, beauty, and power. She looked around before addressing the crowd. "Good morning, Opal Moon pack."

"Good morning, Luna."

"Today is a special day," she continued, "as is tomorrow. Today my beautiful children celebrate their graduation, and tomorrow they celebrate their eighteenth birthdays. And we pray to the Goddess that they also nd their mates. As both events are so close together, we will take tomorrow night to celebrate both milestones in true style!" With this, a gorgeous smile adorned her face, and I couldn't help but return it. My mother was such a beautiful person inside and out, and I was lucky to call her mine. She continued by stating, "Our amazing alpha has invited four of our neighboring packs to celebrate with us, and each will be bringing a few guests of their own. We hope that this will help strengthen our alliances and maybe produce a mating or two," she added with a wink shot at both me and Aaron.

"Alpha Xander Black of the Blue Moon pack, Alpha Elijah Roland of the Red Sky pack, Alpha Julien Grey of the Crystal Moon pack, and lastly, Alpha Jackson Beck of the Crescent Moon pack will be in attendance, and I want all Opal Moon pack members on their best behavior."

"Yes, Luna."

"Great! Now please enjoy this amazing breakfast that has been prepared in honor of the twin's graduation, and get ready because soon it will be time to party!"

She then let out a small squeal, and as much as I was not looking forward to the party, her enthusiasm was infectious, and I found myself feeling slightly less apprehensive about the whole thing. Maybe this weekend wouldn't be so bad after all.

As that thought passed through my mind, loads of breakfast foods were brought out of the kitchen and began to ll the table.

Cinnamon rolls, pancakes, eggs, bacon, sausage, fresh fruits, croissants; the list went on and on. My mouth immediately started to water before Mrs. Wilson, my favorite kitchen omega, sat a steaming, overowing plate of heaven right in front of me. A sinful moan followed by a giggle slipped past my lips, which made Mrs. Wilson smile.

She'd always been like a grandmother to me and treated me like I was one of her own. She leaned down and kissed the top of my head before saying, "Congratulations on your graduation, my sweet girl. I pray The Moon Goddess continues to bless you with her gifts."

I mumbled a heartfelt thanks through my mouthful of bacon, which caused her to chuckle. She smiled at my parents and Aaron before she made her way back into the kitchen with the rest of the staff.

Everyone began to dig in, and we all talked and laughed, simply enjoying the food and one another's company.

When breakfast ended, I headed up to my room and started getting ready for commencement. I jumped in the shower, and when I stepped out, I walked into my bedroom only to be scared shitless by the sight of Jordyn sitting on my bed, texting on her phone. "Ahh!" I screamed at the top of my lungs, and since she wasn't paying attention, it caused her to go into attack mode and hurl her phone right at my head.

Luckily, I ducked just in time for it to miss me and sail over my shoulder before crashing into the wall behind me.

"What the f**k, Jordyn?"

She was holding her chest, trying to calm her breathing before she could reply. "Don't scare me like that, you b***h!"

That made me laugh; she couldn't be serious. "How is this my fault, huh? You're in my room, sitting on my bed." I raised an eyebrow at her.

"Whatever," she mumbled, before stomping around me and into the bathroom to pick up the pieces of her ruined phone. "We were supposed to get dressed together for graduation, remember? And you owe me a new phone," she stated before walking back to the bed and throwing herself onto it.

"It was just getting good, too," she said, almost to herself.

"What was?" I asked as I headed into my closet in search of underwear. Once I'd gotten my bra and panties on, I walked back into my room and sat at my vanity to apply my lotion.

"Well?" I said, waiting for an answer to my previous question.

I looked up and saw Jordyn starting to blush, and instantly I squealed in delight. It had to be a boy. "Ahh! Who is it?" I jumped up and down.

"Shh, do you want to tell the whole pack or what?" she asked while trying to calm me down. "Sit the hell down, and I'll tell you!"

I obediently sat, but with my excitement, I couldn't stop my knees from bouncing.

Jordyn saw this, gave me a small eye roll, then smiled. "Ugh, ne! I think I found my mate last week, but-."

Hearing this, I happily jumped up and wrapped her in a tight hug. "I'm so happy for you, Jordyn! Who is it? Is he from our pack? Oh my god, he hasn't marked you yet, has he? Because if he has, I'll -"

"Alaia! Only the goddess knows how I put up with you. Would you let me nish, please?"

"Sorry," I sheepishly replied.

"Anyway, as I was saying . . . I think I found my mate last week, but I can't be sure since he's not eighteen yet."

My lips formed an "o," and I nally realized what she was saying. Jordyn turned eighteen last week, which woke up her wolf. She expected to nd her mate right away, but when she didn't, I didn't overthink it. But now, hearing that she may or may not have found him, it made me feel a bit bad. She could feel the beginnings of the mate pull, but at that point, it wasn't being reciprocated by him. "Well, when does he turn eighteen? Have you told him that you think he may be your mate?"

"His birthday is coming up soon, so I don't have too much longer to wait," she said with a small smile. "And no, I have not told him. If he is my mate, I want him just to feel it and know. I don't want to taint that experience for him."

"Well, that makes perfect sense," I told her. "He better be amazing and treat you like the gift you are, if he knows what's good for him."

"He is fantastic, and if the way he deals with the people closes to him is any indication, I think he'll be the best mate I could ever ask for. And he's beautiful, Alaia. Like, you would think the gods designed him; he's so perfect."

"Is it Alexi?" I asked, now suddenly extremely suspicious.

"No, it's not Alexi! And he's already eighteen you goof," Jordyn replied.

"Oh, right. Then he can't be that beautiful; no one on earth is as beautiful as Alexi," I smiled.

We both laughed and continued to chat while we worked to get ourselves ready for graduation.