

## CH 30

## Slade

He'd walked into that nightclub to find Ori sitting at the bar, downing shots, wearing very little at all. He hadn't been going to come down here and try and talk to her, he knew it was too soon, but both his and her father now, along with everything that Alpha Gretta herself had said. Had gotten into his head.

He had to see her, try and fix this, tell her why he'd done it so she could start to see a way into forgiving him, explain to her, he'd had nothing to do with what had happened today, had no idea of what his father had done.

He knew he couldn't actually tell her that everyone was expecting them to scent each other out in less than 24 hours. 19 hours was all, before the full moon came and set, but he had to talk to her so that she wouldn't reject him if they did scent each other out.

Had to at least try, show her he was sorry. It was late 2am now, and he wasn't getting any sleep up there in his suite and he knew it. He also knew she was here, her own father had told him she was

here and had wanted him to go and talk to her. He'd actually refused to do it.

Told that man, 'no' because he knew it was too soon, Ori needed time. It had only been four hours since s\*\*t had hit the fan, not enough time for her to be calm and over it. But now here he was hoping she'd had enough to drink that she would take one look at him, and march herself right over to him.

Want to have it out with him, he knew it was coming. They had to at some point, so he could try and explain things to her. She'd actually not screamed at him at all when it had gone down. She had directed everything at her brother. No surprise there as far as he was concerned. Because so had he.

He walked into the nightclub and the crowd actually parted a way, for him to see her. They all knew what had happened, he could hear them all now, "it's Slade, s\*\*t's about to get real." He ignored the comments including the one "Man he's got some balls looking for Ori right now."

Had to ignore it, but that one statement likely told him of her mood, but she'd been his best friend for a lifetime, literally. They all knew that him, coming here on his own, with her already here. There was

only one reason for it, he was here to see her.

He stopped walking at the sight of her, was more than shocked by her clothing. A tiny white top that left nothing to the imagination, barely covered her breasts. In fact, she had cleavage on display for all to see, and a mini skirt to match, with a tiny frill around the bottom edge. She'd been sitting on that stool and all her legs were on display, the girl wasn't even wearing any shoes either, barefoot. She was practically naked, he realised.

If she was his Mate, that outfit was being burned or only for him in their bedroom.

His eyes met hers as a massive snarl ripped out of her, all aggression, and he knew it, watched as those eyes he loved so much filled with pure anger at just the sight of him, heard the words and understood why she said them. That insult he'd paid her in the car about her not being a girl in his eyes. He'd just been looking at her, looking over her, in fact, and she was pissed off about it.

Told him where to go and what her brother could do to himself, saw her stand up, down another shot, and then threaten all in the pack her father sent to keep tabs on her. She was not at all in a calm state to be talking to anyone, was likely still in control of her emotions, but barely so.



He sighed, as she stood there and downed most of what was left in the bottle, not ready to talk like he'd thought, but he had to try. He stepped towards her only to have her hurl that bottle at him as she screamed "Regardless of Rank."

Understood she thought he was here because her father had sent him to try and talk to her.

He didn't deflect the bottle, let it smash into him, she needed to hurt someone, and she actually wanted to hurt him, he realised. She was in so much pain and trying to hide it from everyone. He felt the impact, the sting of glass embedding itself into him, only turned his head from it.

He heard many wolves around him gasp at her brazenness to attack the future Alpha of the pack. Slade just sighed once more, and turned to look at her, only to see her walk off, into the crowd. The music had not stopped and those at the other end of the room, drunk and dancing away, were unaware of what was going on down here near the bar.

His eyes tracked her through the crowd only to see her latch onto a man, a warrior he knew, to be a few years older than her, and watched her pull that man's mouth right down to hers and kiss the hell out of him. Wind her arms up and around his neck and press herself up against him without

hesitation.

This was not who she was, and he knew it, she was actively letting that man slide his hands all over her, grope her ass and grind himself on her. No one was allowed to touch her, not ever. She hated wolves with sticky fingers and now here she was letting that wolf be all over her.

She recalled them being together, that he didn't recall it, but he did now know that they had been together, that his father and hers, the entire alpha unit, had seen them having s\*x. Thought she was going to be his mate even.

19 hours until the full moon, he still couldn't scent her out as his Mate, and though he did not like seeing that wolf all over her, the laws dictated that he couldn't go over there and yank her away from that wolf, tell her what their parents thought. It would be considered trying to coerce her.

Though he didn't think she would believe him at all, not with how he'd been at Alpha College when she'd picked him up, all he'd said about Audrey to her. Also, because she was so very angry with him as well, she would laugh all angrily in his face and likely grate out can you scent me? Which he could not.

He couldn't even tell her that was why his and her

father had removed her from her position, because they weren't allowed to tell her what they thought. It was still considered coercion, only not from him, but from them.

They had gone about this the wrong way, and even though a part of him now understood why they had done what they had done. Their need to replace her, before the full moon, their own concerns, had outweighed everything else. They didn't truly understand her, not deep down, because Ori never let them see that insecure girl that was inside of her, struggling every day for approval and love.

They saw a girl who fell into line with threats of irresponsibility, saw her as being capable of handling this; they were dead wrong. On the inside she was screaming to be loved and approved of by her parents, why she was so tightly controlled all the time. Because if she let that girl out. And yelled and carried on, threw that tantrum, they'd tell her she wasn't fit to be a pack Beta.

Nothing she ever did but falling into line got her approval from them, and now that was gone, they'd screwed her over.

He stood watching her, even if she was his Mate come the full moon, that girl before him now, was



the insecure girl that lived inside of the Ori, she presented to the world, and that girl was going home with that warrior she was now lipped locked with, and he knew it.

She was actually over there trying to punish him for not remembering what they'd done, how it had been, showing him he was nothing to her at all. Just a drunk f\*\*k she could forget about; like she was to him.

He turned and walked out of the nightclub. She was not going to talk to him. Not many would actually have the balls to tell him where to go, let alone smash glass over him and get away with it. Tonight, she was getting away with it, because she'd been screwed over in the worst way possible, not only by both their parents, but by him as well.

Because of Wolfen Mate Bond laws about coercion.

They were worried she was going to flee the pack and go rogue, but he strongly doubted it, it did not look like that to him. She was however, getting drunk off her ass and going to try and obliterate the memory of him and her being together, after the betrayal she'd felt. He had to let her do it.

Didn't like it at all, the thought of that warrior

pulling her into his bed and touching her, taking her for however long it took her to pass out or forget about their night together. She was an insecure 18-year-old girl looking for someone, anyone to actually want her.

The girl that she actually was, not the Beta she'd always been trying to be. That girl part of her, she always denied because she never felt would get her family's approval, a part of her that was in desperate need of love and attention, craved it in all likelihood and right now she didn't care how she got it, or who from.

That included a man wanting to touch her, have s\*x with her, making her feel wanted and desirable for however long a time it took her to get up and walk away from him. She was not in any state of mind to talk to him, to talk to anyone at all.

He walked back to the packhouse, picked the glass from his skin and flicked it away, found her father pacing around in there, and looked right at him as he stepped through the front doors. Anders frowned at the blood on his shirt instantly.

"Remove everyone on her, she'll likely put them all in the hospital or worse." He stated.

"I need to know..."



Slade cut him off, "No, just stop it, she's in so much pain and doesn't want to be spied on. It will only make it worse, Anders. I barely got out. Can I talk to you?" he sighed "I've not seen her like this before. She's also not going home alone."

"Slade?" he saw the man's horrified look, understood it even, considering what they thought she was to him.

"What can I do about it? I can't scent her, and I did just try to. I got nothing, she doesn't scent me. I can't, no one can tell her not to have s\*x with anyone. She's 18 and legally allowed. We don't even know if she is my actual Mate, it could still be Audrey." He murmured.

"If she is your Luna, you're just letting some wolf have s\*x with your Luna." Anders was staring at him more than shocked.

"Just stop it, Anders, there is no proof of what you and father think. There can't be until the full moon. Leave her be, let her have this moment, do whatever she needs to, to get that anger and pain out. The way she needs to."



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