

CH 34

Slade

He'd seen the dozen messages from Audrey when he'd gotten up, had sighed and been going to answer them, but had come across Hayden in the hallway. Then his temper had flared. He didn't want to see that boy. But he had seen that his wolf had healed him from yesterday. He also noted as he sank down with Palmer and Yuri, that Palmer himself was healed up, "How's the face?" he asked the man.

"Alright, she really does pack a wallop when ticked off. She has never hit me that hard before." He muttered, "Broke my bloody nose, though that wasn't my biggest concern."

"What was?" he asked curiously.

"The one thing you don't want someone in a bloodlust or almost there, smelling: the blood." He'd sighed. "I had to leave her and

flee to not let her smell it, and have that bloodlust evolve fully. Why I left her instead of staying with her."

"I don't think you would have been able to lay hands on her. Honestly, no one would have been able to in that state, out of curiosity, were you rolling your Gamma aura at her."

"I was, it did nothing, she was already too far gone into her rage. Only actually laying hands on her would have worked and, even then, I don't know." He shook his head "I do know dad wasn't going near her, stopped way before I did."

"He's felt it before, you haven't, your bond with her is also stronger than his. You'd be the best person to try and calm her down."

The man just nodded at him and muttered "Not that I could."

"How'd you fare, Slade? We heard from your dad she attacked you last night. Your dad wasn't happy about it. On a rant about she

was out of control, to attack his heir." Yuri sighed, "Both Palmer and I actually stepped in, and he got yelled at by both of us about what the hell did he expect?"

He sighed now "You should have woken me."

"I threatened to." Palmer nodded "He was quiet for a moment and then just huffed and seemed to let it go."

"I bet he did, likely knows I'd blow a freaking gasket over it and lose my s**t, I don't think he wants a pissed off Alpha Wolf as well as a pissed off pure-blooded Beta on his ass. He might not win that fight."

"Her father actually stated you were fine and didn't even seem phased by it, but had to report it due to being the Beta and knowing about it." Yuri stated, "Can't they just leave her alone for a day?"

"They will, I'm guessing, dads just looking for a way to put her in the cells, I imagine."

"What!" they both gasped.

"Thinks she's going to leave the pack. Apparently she threatened to do so, he wants to contain her here until she calms down." He murmured; but didn't tell them the actual reason his father wanted her to stay put.

His phone dinged, and he looked at it, another message from Audrey; he sighed he'd not texted her once or called her since he'd gotten back. He had too much s**t going on. Took the opportunity to do so now 'Sorry Audrey, s**t hit the fan when I got home, I'm still dealing with the fall-out.'

'What happened? Are you okay?' she texted right back.

'Yes, physically fine. My Beta got replaced while she came and picked me up. No one told her it was going to happen, found out by seeing the new Beta lined up with my unit out the front of the packhouse, when we got home. It's not good here.'

'What!!! That's so wrong, Slade, how'd she handle it?'

'Not very well, neither did I, the fall-out is still ongoing. I've got a busy day, so I might not get back to you as quickly as I normally do.' He warned her.

'That's alright, I understand. I miss you though. Just call anytime, I'll pick up if you need someone to talk to outside of your unit. Tell Oriana I think it's wrong too, that I hope she's okay...who'd you get as a replacement?'

'Her brother, though I doubt he'll stay my Beta for long, I don't like him, and already want him gone.' He sighed a little, it was the truth, had taken a piece of him last night and threatened him this morning as well, 'I wanted to kill him, he's a smug little asshole, I put a beat down on him last night, and nearly again this morning already.'

'Don't do anything rash.'

'Trying not to.' He admitted.

'It's your unit Slade, just reinstated her.'
Audrey sent.

'I can't at this point.' He texted back, 'not until I actually take over. Pack law wise and that doesn't happen till I'm 30. And by then...'

'I get it, she's likely to be mated off by then, or no longer interested in being reinstated.'

'Yeah, I gotta go Audrey.'

'Okay, love you, try not to stress too much.'
She sent back.

He stared at that last message and sighed out loud, that was the first time she'd said those words. She loved him. He liked her a lot, and being with Audrey had actually made him forget about all that had happened, or what he'd thought had happened with Ori. He'd not thought about anyone else at all those last few days. The closer the full moon got he'd only had eyes for Audrey. Itched to be with her and please her every need.

Another reason he thought that she was going to be his Goddess Gifted Mate. If she was what he thought, because of all he'd seen, and her confirming it. This mess here inside the pack was all for naught.

Though he now remembered that he'd told Ori he was sure Audrey was his Goddess Gifted, that Audrey herself felt the sparks of a Mate Bond, she'd questioned him right back about him having scented her out. Had been shocked but not worried or concerned at all.

If Ori turned out to be his Mate that girl was getting the shock of her life tonight, that was a certainty. He was pretty darn sure she was not looking for him to be her Mate. Had likely never once even thought about it.

He looked out the window of the dining hall, and could see that things were well underway for Dariah's first shift. It had been planned months ago and nothing, not even losing Ori as his Beta, was going to stop it.

Because you couldn't put off or delay the inevitable, a wolf came the full moon after one turned 16, 90% of the time. And he already knew his sister could talk to her beast, that her name was Crystal. He'd called her the day she'd turned 16, to wish her happy birthday, seeing that he hadn't been there for that.

His attention returned to what was left of his unit. They still didn't look happy and were just watching him. He sighed "just ask what you want, or state it plainly."

Yuri smiled a little. "You know you sound like Ori, she always tells us to state it plainly."

He just nodded because she did.

"Did they at least tell you why they did it that way?" Yuri sighed "Dad is closed-lipped on the subject."

"They did, and to be honest, it was completely unnecessary." He told them, though he did not tell them what their

father's or his father's thoughts on it were, even though he knew they wanted to know, they were both sitting staring at him kind of expectantly.

"I'm not going to repeat it." He stated simply
"Unfounded and no proof is all I will say." He sighed.

He was also not going to tell them about him and Ori hooking up before he went away. If she'd not done it herself over the last month, then it was clear to him that she didn't want them to know. He certainly wasn't going to say that all their parents had seen it either, and that things had snowballed out of control from that very moment onwards.

Knew if he did mention it, that Ori herself would just have one more reason to hate him right now, she also had enough going on and didn't need to deal with these two teasing her, or ribbing her even playfully about it. Something they would normally do with each other, but it wasn't the right time.

Likely never would be after last night.

It was a private and personal matter between him and her, and he'd not even told her yet, that he knew about it. Wasn't likely to, seeing as he could only recall the barest of details, and what their fathers had told him. Again, something he didn't think she would want to know: that their parents had seen them having s*x.

He himself honestly wished they had not seen it at all, because if not, none of this would be happening, they'd not have pushed Hayden's training up and shoved her aside, certainly wouldn't have relegated her to nothing as she was now. She'd be sitting right here with him, Palmer and Yuri, hanging out like normal, only now she wasn't, and he didn't know if everything would ever go back to normal.



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