

## FOUR

(Xeraphina's POV)

Today is my eighteenth birthday, well my twin brother, Xavier and I's.

I never really cared about birthdays, what was so great about them anyways? Xavier got his wolf for our tenth birthday, I already had mine. At sixteen you are supposed to find your mates, neither my brother nor I have found them. I got knocked out of my thoughts by someone barging in my room. He popped down on the bed as he sighed exaggeratedly. My brother. Who else is stupid enough to barge in here on me?

"You know... If you possibly showed some emotions, you might not scare everyone away." Xavier said as I glared at him. I stood up straight, staring at him blankly. He wasn't paying attention though, flipping through a book next to my bed, the Dragon culture. "Happy birthday by the way. Why do you read stuff like this? We don't associate with the dragons."

"So?" I asked in a bored tone. Why would I care what he wants me to read? Why would I care if he didn't like my books? That reminds me, I wished that book I need to run to the Pack Library today.

Xavier sighed, "Xeraphina I want to be with you but when you push everyone out, read about information that will never be of use to us and always out training. I mean I haven't even gone on a run with your wolf. Why are you so secretive? We are supposed to be one."

"One day you will understand." I whispered, as I walked past him. My wolf is different. I can shift halfway; I can shift into a standing part wolf – part human monster. My normal wolf is the size of a bus, which isn't normal. An eight-foot-tall wolf for a royal, like my brother's, is normal. A twelve-foot beast, the color of red, is very abnormal. When I ran through the forest, Grandfather Ty said it looked as if I was setting the forest on fire. Flames seem to be erupting all over my fur. This is the reason he has not met my wolf yet, only Grandfather Ty has. He only met my wolf form because he was strolling the forest with me when I first shifted.

"There it is again, that monotone voice. That is one of the reasons you have no friends. Everyone fears you, even the Alphas we trained a few months ago. They begged father to not allow you as their trainer." Xavier sighed out in annoyance.

\*Memory\*

I was walking towards the training grounds when I heard arguments coming from my father's office. Who dares to raise their voice at my father? I may not show emotions and I may feel different than others but one thing I will not hesitate to act on is when others harm, hurt or disrespect my family.

I changed the direction I was headed, picking up my pace as I ran towards my father's office. As I became close, I heard them yelling at my father.

"HOW DARE YOU ALLOW THAT... THAT... MONSTER TO TRAIN US." One man yelled in anger. Monster? They should be grateful I was doing this for my father.

"WE WILL NOT TRAIN UNDER HER ANYMORE." A different voice rang out. I couldn't place him, maybe a beta.

"SHE SENT TEN OF MY WARRIORS TO THE INFIRMARY." Ah, that was Alpha Alex. I may have done that. If his warriors paid attention, they would have left with less injuries.

"TWENTY OF MINE, WHICH TOOK LESS THAN AN HOUR." Of course, Alpha Reese, he should be happy that his men and himself are learning from me. How much better would these Alpha's be if they could take down creatures the way I could?

"I would appreciate you all to calm down." Father said calmly, he always knew how to keep his cool around the arrogant, big-headed alpha's. I am not sure how he does it sometimes.

I was done allowing them to disrespect my father, they needed a refreshing new lesson in who the King was. No matter their feelings, they had no right to disrespect him. I barged into the office; the door ricocheted off the wall. Everyone grew silent due to the bang. They almost seem in shock, well other than father. He must have known I was out there listening.

"How dare you all stand here in the King's office as you all scream disrespect in his face. It seems not only your warriors need a lesson, but you also do as well. Let me show you something." I told them, my monotone voice echoing off the walls while they gaped at my blank face. Within seconds I had two down whimpering in pain, two alphas under my feet, as their necks lost the ability to suck in air, and the last two held against the wall, their necks constricting under my grip. I could kill them, but I won't yet.

I stared at them, my blank eyes digging into their souls. I whispered eerily calmly, sending a shiver of threat down their spines. "This is your King. You will respect your King. I am the only one who will train you because you lot are a bunch of weak, pathetic excuses of leaders. You cannot take me, and you cannot protect your packs, that is why you are here. As soon as I release you, I will be watching your every step. Any sign of disrespect, I WILL KILL YOU. I WILL NOT HESITATE."

With that I dropped the men and stepped away from the others. All six of the big babies got on their knees, bowed to my father and begged for forgiveness. Father accepted their pleas and sent them off, out of his office. Father turned to me, and I saw the exhaustion on his face. I don't know what stress he constantly held but I knew I didn't make it easier.

"No need to thank me." I said nonchalantly as I left the office, proceeding back towards the training ground. I am pretty sure my father was going to lecture me, not thank me. I wasn't going to stick around for either.

\*End of Memory\*

"I don't need friends," I replied as I straightened my body. Everyone called me one name, a name my counterparts and I will never forget, 'The Sanguinex.' A Latin name they came up with meaning blood. They all consider me this bloodthirsty monster, not that anyone has even tried to get to know me. All they have seen is how I fight, defend and act in my human form. Could you imagine what they would think or call me if they knew about my counterparts, or had seen them?

An abnormal existence like myself has stronger speed, strength and eyesight. I can do things I have never seen another creature capable of.

I was different, but I couldn't imagine being anyone else.

Xavier has always tried to make me less anti-social and less frightening to others. It hurts me seeing how much he expects, only everyone runs at the mere sight of me. I try to tell him I don't need friends, I only need him, our parents and Grandfather Ty. I can survive without anyone else. I think they fear how my mate will react, but if he doesn't want me, why would I fight for him?

Lately rogues of all species have been attacking packs. I usually get sent there to handle them; it must be where they got their name for me from. See, I fight the rogues viciously without the use of my counterparts.

Mother and Father got the vampire commander, the Queen of witches second in command and my father, with grandfathers help. They all trained each and every one of my counterparts. They were sworn in secrecy by my parents, but my threat made sure they stayed quiet. They learned my strength and then I threatened everyone they loved. No one talked, they always said they were good friends with my parents and were always meaning to visit. I haven't had to kill any of my trainers yet.

"Are you even listening to me?" Xavier pulled me from my thoughts, I glanced over at him, looking in his eyes, expectantly. He knew I wanted him to repeat himself.

He sighed in annoyance, "Forget it, it wasn't important anyway. Father and mother are throwing a ball for us this weekend. Trying to help us find our mates, or something like that. Would you like to go get coffee with me?"

"I will but I am going to the library after." I said quietly, as I took off towards our normal coffee shop. Brother and I only liked one kind of coffee throughout the whole kingdom, the rest tasted like dirt, or mold. Yuck. Just thinking about it made me feel sick. We walked in silence, entering the coffee shop. I sat at our normal booth that always seemed to be empty as Xavier went to get our coffees. Our walk was peaceful and comfortable even if it was quiet. Xavier knows I say more things in my silence than when I speak. It just seems he is the only one who can guess me out.

I wonder if my mate will be able to? Wait, what? Where are my thoughts going? I do not need a mate, nor do I want one. I am me and happy on my own.