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When I felt the tears stop I opened my eyes and looked at the three men surrounding me. They all showed concern and love. I squeezed my mate's hand but before I could say anything the small weight on my shoulder began to move and make the cutest little noises. His head came up and he looked at me and then at his father. A small smile formed when he saw Alexander that melted me heart. My mate was his whole world and I could see the love in his eyes for his dad. But despite his dad being close by on the couch he stayed in my arms. 1

He looked back to me and his small voice asked me as his head tilted to one side, "What's your name?"

He spoke with a bit of a slur and I wasn't surprised because of his age. It just made him more adorable.

"My name is Lorraine, but you can call me Raine if you want," I told him.

"Rainey," he said in the cutest toddler voice that I had ever heard. No one had ever said my voice in a way I loved more.

"Raine."

I take back everything I just said. Hearing my name roll of Alexander's tongue like that gave me shivers, it sent a rush to my heart and to my core. No one had ever made my

name sound sexy until now.

I looked up to see him watching me with his son. I felt another blush rise on my neck to my cheeks. What was it about this man that made me like this anytime he looked at me.

"I'm hungry," Cooper declared.

We all laughed and he wiggled to get off my lap. I placed him on the floor and he ran to the door, pulling it slightly and slipped out. He disappeared down the hall toward what I assumed was the kitchen, I turned to follow him but my mate stopped me.

"Don't worry, he practically runs this pack, or at least this house," Alexander told me, chuckling lightly.

"Nel, would you mind taking Anthony and showing him to his and Raine's house? Raine, if it's ok, could you stay for a few minutes?" Alexander asked, looking at each of us.

"Of course!" Nel said, standing and gesturing for my dad to follow. My dad gave me a kiss on the forehead and followed Nel outside, leaving Alexander and I alone.

He released the breath he must have been holding for awhile and he walked over the couch and sat back down at the edge of it. I turned toward him and looked him over, this time not hiding it. I could see now more than I could before. Yes he was handsome, actually he was drop dead gorgeous. But beyond that, I could see that he was tired. I doubted he

was sleeping well. He was worn down, stressed out, and probably over worked. He was running such a huge pack and raising his child alone. I couldn't imagine how exhausted he was. He watched me as I looked him over and I felt a frown form on my face as I looked harder.

"What is it?" he asked me, concern laced in his voice as he watched me watching him.

I didn't answer him, instead, for the second time in two days, I listened to my instincts when it came to my mate standing in front of me. I walked over and stood between his legs. He looked worried as I got closer, as if he was unsure what on earth I was thinking.

"Raine," he said quietly, hesitantly.

I didn't answer, I reached my hand out to touch his face. I ran my fingers over his eyes and he closed them. I ran them under his eyes, over the bags that were there showing his lack of sleep. I ran them over his forehead and the creases that seemed to live there from his stress. He groaned at the sensation of my touch and the sparks dancing everywhere I touched. I moved them slowly, over his cheeks and mouth and nose all the way down until both my hands rested on the sides of his face.

His breathing had gotten heavier and I could feel the tension had left his body completely and it made me smile knowing I had that effect on him. I pressed my forehead down against his and closed my eyes. I felt him release a short,

shuddery breath when we made contact. I stayed there for a minute and enjoyed the feeling that came. It was terrifying, the way my body and my wolf gave into him and craved him. But I was starting to feel like it was terrifying in a good way.

I felt little tingles erupt on my waist and by the weight that followed, I realized he had put his hands on me. I felt him tense as if he was gauging whether it was ok.

"that feels nice," I told him in a whisper.

He hummed in response and instantly relaxed again.

{ Alex POV }

"You're not sleeping."

She said it as a statement, not a question. So I didn't answer. I just sat there with her hands on my face, our foreheads together and my hands on her waist. My emotions were shakey at best. I was struggling with the fact that my wolf was madly in love with this girl already while I was fighting him every bit of the way to slow down but he was winning.

"Cooper doesn't sleep well," I told her finally.

"hmm. Bad dreams?" She asked.

"Yes." I answered.

"About his mom?"

I didn't answer which seemed to answer her question.

"He needs you to fall asleep?"

"Yes, usually."

"I didn't realize..." she said, her voice heavy with emotion.

I reluctantly pulled my forehead away from her and opened my eyes. I waited until she opened hers to and looked deeply into them. 1

"No, don't do that. I hold no ill will. He doesn't fall asleep on anyone but me, but he fell asleep on you instantly. This is new, it is scary for both of us, but I won't have you feeling any guilt. If there is one thing I would want for Cooper, its to have more than just me," I told her firmly.

A small smile graced her face and we just sat there for another few minutes looking at each other before the door burst open and my gamma came in, causing her to jump away from me. I was instantly irritated by the interruption as I turned to face my now entirely confused Gamma who was standing in the doorway with his mouth slightly open.

"I-uh-um, I didn't- um, know that you, had company.."
Carmelo, my gamma stuttered out.

Raine was bright red and standing uncomfortable by my desk avoiding eye contact with him. I sighed and psuehd down my anger so she wouldnt think it was towards her. I walked over and grabbed her hand, pulling her into my chest and she allowed me to. She buried her face in my shirt away from Carmelo. I turned back to him. 2

"Car, please shut the door,"

He did what he was told and turned back, still confused as he watched us.

"Carmelo, this is my second change mate, Lorraine.

Lorraine, this is my Gamma and good friend," she did not move but picked up her hand and gently waved, her face still in my chest which made me chuckle. I saw a genuine and shocked smile on Car's face as he took in what I said.

"Wow, that is incredible! Is this..? Is she, Nel's cousin?" He asked pointing between us. I just nodded, unable to hide the smile on my face.

"Wow," he cleared his throat and continued, "I just came to let you know that your parents called and will be delaying their trip another week."

"Thank you Car."

"No problem, I'll see ya later."

With that he walked out, leaving Raine and I alone.