

Chapter 0006

Layla's POV

Emerging from my room for the first time in days, I move downstairs to see everyone hustling and bustling to get the packhouse ready for the ceremony taking place tonight. Making my way to the kitchen to get something to eat, I was stopped by my mother who threw her arms around me and said, "Happy Birthday Sweetheart!"

I had almost forgotten that it was my birthday with everything that had happened over the last couple of days, especially with the episodes I had been having every night. "Thank you, mother." I said to her as she followed me to the kitchen.

"I was thinking that maybe we could celebrate your birthday tomorrow by going shopping. There's so much going on today that I honestly don't know when we could today." My mother now says to me, and I can tell by her voice that she is sincere about not being able to celebrate my birthday.

"That sounds great mother." I said as I pulled some yogurt from the refrigerator and a bowl of fresh fruit.

"Here let me get that for you." She said as she grabbed the contents from my hands and placed them on the island in the kitchen as she moved to grab a bowl and silverware. "I'm sorry that your brother doesn't want you to join us tonight. I do think its best since you lost your mate."

Trying to keep a straight face with her, I say, "Its okay mother. I'm

used to Lucas getting what he wants even though its my birthday." I really didn't mean for it to sound so harsh but what he was doing to me was.

"Layla, your brother is just worried about you and also it looks good if you don't show towards the Beta family. It shows them that you are in mourning over the loss of their son." Mother says as she finishes my bowl of yogurt and fruit and hands it to me.

I looked at the bowl of food in front of me as I suddenly lost my appetite thinking about what she had just said. I wasn't mourning the loss of Daniel one bit and I honestly believe that he wasn't my mate, but I still didn't want to say anything to her about it. Plus, there was the fact that I had every intention of disobeying my brother and his orders not to come.

"You're right mother." I said as I dropped the silverware into the bowl and turned around and left it laying on the counter.

"Layla, aren't you hungry?" My mother asks as I move to walk out of the kitchen.

Not turning back to her I say over my shoulder, "I suddenly lost my appetite." And made my way back up the stairs to my room.

On my way down the hallway to my room, I froze when I saw Brittany coming out of my brother's room. "Oh, Layla, I wanted to talk to you." she said as she moved down the hallway towards me. When she got to me, she stopped in front of me and took a good look at me. "It's a shame that you won't be joining us tonight. You're going to miss the announcement that I am going to be the new Luna of the pack. Plus, I was hoping that you would have found your mate tonight so that we

can have your room for our nursery, but I guess that isn't going to happen since you lost your true mate."

There was no empathy in her words or her tone and I could tell that she wanted rid of me just as badly as my brother did. Anger began to fill me knowing that her nor my brother wanted me here and I couldn't hold my tongue any longer. "If you would like me to switch rooms when you are with pup, I will gladly do so. I won't have to listen to the two of you all night. Better yet how about I look to move my room today, so I don't have to hear the two of you go at it after the ceremony to consummate the fake mate bond between the two of you."

Before I knew what was happening, I felt Brittany's hand hit my face and it stung as if I had been stung by a million bees at once. "I am your Luna, and I will not let you talk to me that way."

Moving my hand to my cheek, I let out a growl that rippled through the hallway. This was the first time my wolf had shown herself since the night of the rogue attack, and Brittany's eyes widened as she looked at me and took a step back as I felt my wolf taking control of my body. Through gritted teeth I say to her, "If I was you, I would run."

I didn't have to tell Brittany twice, as she ran down the hallway looking over her shoulder at me in fear as I tried to take deep breaths to calm my wolf. I had no clue what I was doing and realized that no one had shown me what to expect when getting my wolf, but something about the whole thing seemed so natural.

As I stood there taking deep breaths, I placed my hand on the wall beside me to stabilize myself from bending over on all fours and

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letting the change happen. If my wolf wanted a run, she would have to wait till we were outside. I wasn't going to draw any attention to myself before the ceremony tonight, especially from Lucas. As if my wolf could read my thoughts, she began to calm herself knowing that if we shifted right here and now, we would never be able to crash the ceremony like I had planned.

Opening the door to my room, I shut it behind me and threw myself onto the bed allowing my wolf and me time to calm down, but Brittany's words kept replaying in my head and I wanted to rip that pretty little head of hers off her shoulders. Of all the she wolves in the pack, why did Lucas have to take her as his mate. I never really cared for her, and it was apparent now why I didn't. She was just as anxious to get rid of me as Lucas was and I knew tonight what I had to do.

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