

NINE

I opened my eyes to a pair of green ones staring down at me and I forced them close almost immediately, my heartbeat picking up again. I'm not sure where I am or what time it is and the air surrounding me is almost suffocating. Pull yourself together, I tell myself before forcing my eyes open again and I'm met with the same green eyes one more time. This time, he has a smirk on his face.

Seeing him up close made it even harder to breathe properly. My cheeks were instantly flaming hot at his close proximity. He's the cutest thing ever, and I could keep staring into those eyes forever and get lost in them.

"She is awake," a particular female voice says and I whip my head to see the princess and Petra on the other side of the room, looking down at me as if they were too scared to come close.

I blink severally as the thoughts of what happened came flooding back and I look away in embarrassment. Just one touch from Prince Ryder and I literally passed out. He didn't need to be introduced to me before I knew his name, every living werewolf probably knows it. I must look like a fool or a clown right now, but when I think of it, it's so hard to take it all in at once.

One minute we were being introduced to the royals and Prince Louis had been flirting with me. The next thing the whole atmosphere changes and the first prince is standing a few inches from me, his arms around my waist and saying I'm his and that's the last I remember.

I've heard about some people getting a second chance mate but It's a very rare occurrence and if it must happen, it takes years for one to find their second chance mate. It's just three days since Jordan rejected me and now I have another mate? And he happens to be the alpha prince? He's



too damn good to be anybody's second chance. Something is not right. I have a lot of questions but I'm not sure who to direct it to. I'm scared to my bones right now. I'm going to get rejected a second time no doubt. If Jordan rejected me then why would a prince want me?

Princess Elsie moves closer to her brother who is seated in a chair next to the bed I'm lying on and looks down at me, then a smile curves her lips "Can you sit?" She asks me. I'm still too dazed to speak so I just nod my head. Her brother is just sending death glares at her without saying a word but she doesn't seem to mind. What's up with his mood? I wonder if he is always this scary.

I sit upright with my back leaning against the bed frame, all the while his gaze followed me, peering into my soul, making me hot all over. Is it just me or is it unusually tensed in here? I avoid the prince's stare and focus more on Princess Elsie.

"What happened? Where am I?" I ask her and the prince gets to his feet, bringing our attention back to him. Boy, he's so tall, maybe six feet seven or more, broad muscular shoulders from a lot of training and fighting. His red lips are calling out to me. Oh snap out of it already! the way he stares at me as if he can see through my soul.

"You passed out," Princess Elsie says and Prince Ryder scowls at her again. He's one scary man if you ask me and his face once again takes up a hard and expressionless look.

"You are still in the royal palace and-" she was still talking when Prince Ryder cuts in.

"She's coming with me," he says flatly and I look at him, then back at his sister with soft eyes that say 'save me'



"She can't go with you. Not until father has seen them at least," Princess Elsie says and he scowls at her again. What is this? Prince Ryder has got to be the most arrogant man I ever met, he's not even going to let the princess speak. 2

He moves quickly to my side and lifts me up from the bed to his shoulders. I feel electrifying current pass through my body from his touch and it's exciting. I have never felt my wolf like the way I feel her now but I don't like that he picked me up like some property.

"Put me down," I manage to let out and he froze but he didn't drop me. I'm staring at the princess upside down from the position I'm in and she looks amused. I think I may have succeeded in angering the prince with my words but I couldn't take them back.

"Ryder, you are scaring her. Stop it," Princess Elsie again, but Prince Ryder doesn't respond. Instead, he carries me out of the room, leaving Princess Elsie and Petra following behind. Petra did not say any words at all in that room. She's an elderly woman but she appears to be too scared of the prince to even speak in his presence.

I start to wiggle my legs in the air and twist my body in an attempt to free myself from his grasp but it's all a waste of time. He's way too strong and I'm only angering him more with my act. He continues to walk fast, taking me past several doors and stairs that I may not remember again and then, we are out of the royal palace. Princess Elsie has not stopped following us, although Petra has.

I hope I did not just get myself into trouble. I shouldn't have objected to the prince. What was I thinking? Aargh. Why does moon goddess keep punishing me? I didn't calculate having a second chance mate, especially not the prince and now that I have angered him, I'm so going to be in big shit. I'm not sure where he is taking me but I'm glad that the Princess



was following behind. She had to run occasionally to catch up with his long strides.

We enter another building, the one next to the castle. It's a little walk from the castle but the Prince covered the distance in no time. As we enter this other building, everyone we come across bows their head as he passes. There's not much staff here like there is in the royal palace but it's equally beautiful and has a high taste and class to it.

Prince Ryder keeps climbing the stairs till we get to a large door . Princess Elsie was now lagging behind but I could still hear her trying to climb the stairs. He opens the door and I'm welcomed by his sweet scent everywhere. I close my eyes and inhale deeply before finally opening them.

He puts me down on the bed with unexpected gentleness before turning to go outside and slamming the door hard behind him, making me flinch.

"What in Heaven's..." I hear Princess Elsie's voice but I didn't catch the words that followed.

I looked around the environment, his scent filling my nostrils and it was soothing in a way. The mattress beneath me feels so soft and the sheets has his scent all over them. He brought me straight to his bedroom. That's right. I can now feel anger beginning to build up within me.

The bedroom is very large and spacious with a walk in closet and drapes running from ceiling to ground. I jump to my feet to inspect the rather large room. I can't believe I'm in the bedroom of the future alpha king! The room is really masculine. A large TV is directly opposite the gigantic bed with a fire place underneath. I've not seen a bedroom so magnificent before and the fact that his scent was everywhere made it even more enchanting.



I can't believe he forced me to his room. A frown crossed my face as I thought of it again. He may be the alpha Prince but he's the rudest, most arrogant and proud person I ever met. 2

I wonder what the others are up to right now. I was already getting along with Sadie and Nora before all of this. What am I now? His prisoner? Oh moon goddess. He's a hot prince no doubt, definitely the hottest man on the planet right now but I don't want to be trapped here. I wanted to leave Eclipse because I wanted my freedom, I was tired of the slavery over there. I didn't bargain for this. I want to be with the others and have a life, to have real friends and not to be trapped in here.

I thought of Layla too and wondered what she would be up to. I haven't called her since and she may be worried. I gnash my teeth and make my way to the door and I was more than relieved to find it open. I'm not going to sit here and wait for him, consequences be damned.

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