

Rejected To Be Your Second Chance: Rejecting My Alpha Mate

Rejected To Be Your Second Chance: Chapter 31

~Layla's POV~

How much longer are you gonna run?

'Until the urge to turn back and rip that girl to bits is gone'

So not anytime soon then

'No' Clara growled and ran through amongst the trees and jumped over rocks and hills. She ran down a stream and her paws splashed in the water as it flew up on our sides.

She eventually came to a stop somewhere deep in the woods far, far away from any pack.

She dropped the bag that she held between her teeth and we shifted back and got dressed.

I looked around at the wilderness and couldn't hear or sense a single car or human which meant we were far away from civilization. Just as I had wanted.

We couldn't go back to my old pack because I would be putting everyone there in risk so this was where we were gonna stay for the time being. My back hit the trunk of a tree and I slid down the bark until I was sitting on the damp grass.

The sky was bright and the suns hove but a gentle breeze was swinging through the trees and playing music on the branches.

The stillness of the environment awoke a peace within me that had been long lost.

It was broken however by snatches and breaks heard from behind the trees.

"Hello?" I slowly got up and extended my claws.

"It's me, don't attack." I recognized the voice. The man from the memory stepped around the tree and walked through some bushes pressing the branches apart as he walked up to me.

"What do you want?" He smiled and placed his hands in his pockets, he pressed his shoulders down and tried to look smaller than he was.

"Just talk," he said softly.

He walked away from me, down the unpaved road and I figured that I either stay here alone or I follow him and see what he wants.

"It all began centuries ago," he started and walked through the forest without sparing me a single glance. I could tell how deeply devoted he was to what he was about to tell me and truthfully, I wanted to hear it. This was my history too.

"A werewolf was born into a regular pack not unlike any other. With time, people started noticing his strange behavior and his parents started asking questions. It was unheard of for a werewolf to see into peoples memories or to plant their own into inanimate objects and yet, that's exactly what the boy did. When the day came that he gained his wolf and shifted, everyone grew more and more curious and scared of his odd predicament. His father grew angry and accused his mother of cheating on him with a wizard." He stopped talking but we moved deeper into the woods and i was focusing on nothing other than his voice.

"The father, succumbed by rage, killed his wife and his son out of fear and jealousy. He later killed himself as well. That is the first ever known werewolf to be born with the gene," he said and looked at me.

The shadow of a smile of sadness pained his face and i saw how much this was hurting him but chose to stay silent and hear what else he had to say.

We walked up a hill, the sun was bouncing off the leaves and the grass and it looked enchanting.

"After him, another boy was born only this time history would repeat itself but not quite in the same way. The boys parents were killed by rogues and he was adopted by another couple in the pack. The boy grew up and the parents noticed his strange behavior. They told the Alpha and he, worried about his people and his power, had the boy killed. This was in the 1800's, Layla, you can imagine how many more have been born since then. Eventually, some would come to be seen as anomalies and their powers would be used instead of feared but most of these werewolves never felt at home in their packs. They were different, just like you. Strength, speed, agility and supernatural powers beyond the understanding of a werewolf or a witch caused them to seek sanctuary away from all those would harm them. Eventually, as though it was written in the stars, they found each other and formed their own pack with people just like them." On the top of the hill we looked out over a gigantic field filled with sparkling green grass and surrounding the field in a circle was the dense forest. It was perfectly symmetric and you couldn't see past the trees that aligned the circle.

"Welcome home." I quickly turned my head and with a questioning gaze I looked at him. He smiled.

"Home?"

"There's a reason your wolf took you here. This, all of it as far as the eye can see, is ours. This is our home, with werewolves just like you and me. This is where you belong." We walked down the hill and I was looking around in confusion and excitement.

Glaring from behind the trees were people that I saw only when we entered the circle. They stepped out and nodded their heads. With big arms and smoldering eyes one of the guys lifted his head.

"Justin, you're back. And who have you brought with you?" His name was Justin, I couldn't believe I hadn't asked.

"This is Layla Lecruest. Layla, meet the guys. This is Derek, Aiden and Freddy," they all reached out their hands but I was just staring at Justin.

"How do you know my last name?" He chuckled and I looked at everyone's smiling faces. Freddy slowly pulled his hand back when I wasn't grabbing it and looked awkwardly between us.

"I know a lot about you. Whenever we notice someone with the gene I make sure to get all the information."

"Why?"

"Because I make it my business. Because that's how I know who to protect," his dark eyes were glaring into mine and I felt the confidence he held in his words. I nodded my head and looked back at the others. Freddy smiled, Aiden was glaring and I felt some hostility coming from him but Derek was different. He eyed me up and down before settling his deep gaze on my eyes and staring past the walls.

"So the Alpha finally pulled his claws from you, did he?" Derek asked and raised his head.

"I don't believe it's any of your business," that hit a nerve, I'm not gonna lie.

"Come on, let me show you your new home." a sense of ease washed over me and we walked into the forest.

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~Kade's POV~

"You need to stress down,"

"How?" I said and saw Anna jump back from my raised voice. My blood was boiling and my nerves were jumping around like crickets in a field. This hadn't happened before, never in my life had I been this disoriented and unfocused. I needed Layla back.

"Honestly though, what did you think was gonna happen?" Cara was staring at me with a befuddled expression and her eyebrows were hunched together like they did when she was angry. Only she was better at hiding her anger than I was.

"What do you mean?" She scoffed and looked back over her shoulder at Danielle sitting outside the office talking to some pack members.

My office was sound proof but as though she knew we were talking about her Danielle turned her head and smiled as she looked at me.

Her rosy cheeks blushed even more and I remember her sitting there waiting for me when I had meetings.

She would throw me a glance every now and then I couldn't wait for the meetings to be over so that I could go and grab her but it was different now. I didn't feel an urge to be with her, the bond was still there of course but there was a reason for that. Danielle and I never properly rejected each other. She just left one day and the bond grew weaker, I felt it when I was with Layla, how I could never truly commit to her and the bond as I should've.

"What did you think was going to happen when you let Danielle stay here?" I sighed and leaned back against the desk.

"I don't know, I wasn't thinking. She came back, you know," I said and looked through the glass at her profile.

"Yes but the problem isn't that she came back, it's that you accepted her in. You pushed Layla aside and made room for another woman, for your ex."

"You guys were just as happy to see her!" I was getting defensive and Cara laid her head on her shoulder and frowned.

"We weren't in love with her and she isn't our mate."

"You need to talk to her," Mason said but no, I didn't.

"I need to find Layla."

~Sebastian's POV~

I was pacing around the pack house waiting for my father to finish up with the meeting and I was growing more and more impatient with each passing second that the door did not open.

It clicked and creaked as they walked out and I turned, fumingly I stared at them and walked over.

'did you do it? Did you find her?' I asked and my father seethed.

"No, we didn't. How could you be so stupid to let that girl go?"

"I didn't know what she was! Find her and bring her back here!"

My father sighed and shook his head. He looked past me and I saw his demeanor changing. He nodded to his friend, Alexandria, and he went into the office. People were piling into the house pushing and shoving as the chefs served the food.

'hey watch out, dickhead!' Jackson looked at me and tossed his head.

"Come on let's eat!"

"I'm busy." I looked back at my father and he gestured for the door.

"Let's talk in here."

The door closed and my mom sat on the chair looking at her diamond bracelet and playing with the rings on her fingers. Anything shiny caught her attention more than a fight ever could.

"i want her back!"

"It's not that easy, son. We first need to find her."

"And then what? Are you gonna kidnap her? Alpha Kade will never allow that," Alexandria said and glared.

Everyone was looking at my father who stood stale in his spot.

"Layla is no longer with Alpha Kade. I have gotten word that she left, we don't know how to find her. She's gone." My blood froze in my veins and I felt my face heating up.

"I don't care if it takes weeks. Tell all our warriors to get out there and find her! I don't want them back before they do!"

"Sebastian, we can't leave the pack unprotected."

"I don't care! She's mine and I want her back!" my mom rose her head for the first time since we walked in.

"Oh honey but why? She's nothing special and honestly she's not that pretty and she has no money. What do you see in her?" It took every ounce of restraint I had not to lash out and scream bloody murder in her face.

"She's an Emberclaw, mom. She has abilities, powers, she's valuable and with her by my side nobody would ever touch this pack." She scoffed and turned back to her bracelet.

"She's a freak you mean," she said.

"I want her, threaten the family, start a search, I don't care. Just bring her back!"

"Son, we believe she may be with the Emberclaws and if that's true than she's untouchable. If we go in alone we're doomed."

"Get Alpha Kade on the phone." Alexandria said. It looked in his eyes like he had a plan and it better work.

~Kade's POV~

I hung up the phone and looked at Anna. Her brows furrowed and her blue eyes turned dark.

"Why the hell does Sebastian want to find Layla?" Mason asked.

"She's an Emberclaw, he wants power." Anna scoffed and shook her head. Her eyes were now pitch black and her wolf was rising and growing angry.

"No. Sebastian's a man-child. He wants what he can't have and as soon as you walked in and claimed Layla, he wanted her back. Her being an Emberclaw only makes it worse because now he'll have help from his father and their contacts to get her. Now they want her power and he wants her as his mate and Luna. Sebastian won't stop until he gets her, he's used to getting his way and this time will be no different. Even if it means sending every warrior they have into their deaths."

Fuck.

The door opened up and Danielle poked her head in.

"Sorry to disturb but I was wondering if you guys wanna grab some dinner?" She asked and everyone stared at her. Anna was growling lowly and her wolf was front and center but it didn't look like it bothered Danielle in the least.

"No, we're good.' She smiled and nodded her head but her eyes pierced mine.

"Maybe we can talk later?' Anna turned her gaze on me and though she's sweet and bubbly and normally wouldn't hurt a fly, Anna was strong and her wolf had strength like our best warriors.

"Probably not, I have a lot on my mind right now." Danielle walked in and closed the door behind her softly.

She walked over to me and dragged her fingers over the desk.

"That's why we should talk, it always helped clear your mind before." I grabbed her hand just as she was about to touch me and held it back. Though I have to admit it took a lot for me to hold her at a distance. It was probably the memories of what we'd had together, the life we shared and the bond that was still very much there. But despite all of this I still wanted Layla back. I knew I couldn't have two mates but part of me desperately wanted to invited Danielle back in again.

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