

Chapter 166 I Want You To Listen.

Kane POV

"Are you sure you want to do this?" Rolo asked as I looked down at the angel sleeping against my chest, her head tucked into my armpit as she lay motionless with fatigue. Sighing, I tucked a loose hair behind her ear and smiled, hating myself for the words about to leave my lips.

"We have to." I whispered, trying to keep my emotions even, in case my little smart ass woke and asked more questions than she had done when she was giving in to slumber. She knew something was going on, and for that, I assumed I had Knox to blame.

"We don't have to. You're just too scared to let go of the reins and trust Charlotte to do what needs to be done."

"No, it's not that." I sighed, getting fed up with people telling me that I was a control freak. I seethed for a few seconds before I composed myself.

"Then what is it?" Rolo asked skeptically.

"The only way people would believe that we had given up on each other is if they thought WE had cheated on her... OR she had cheated on us. And if people even suspect for a second that SHE betrayed us with Mike... If there was even a chance of it, that brings the pup's parentage into question. I can't.. I refuse to let them be born with any shadow looming over them. I can't and won't allow them to go through life with people whispering behind their backs. OR worse to their face."

"That might not happen."

"We don't know that, but we DO know that people are dicks and like good gossip! My pups, my mate will not be subjected to that bullshit. I would rather.."

"You would rather be labelled as the dick or dicks that cheated on your pregnant fated mate, then have her face any more scrutiny." Rolo sighed, understanding more than Knox did, apparently. He had shut me out of his head since Astaroth had left and, apart from the pretence he put up for Charlotte, he hadn't looked at me, let alone spoken to me.

Even now, as Knox slept, his body wrapped around

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our little mate, his knee wrapped around her to the point that even a slight movement meant his body grazed mine, just slightly and not at all inappropriately. Not that you would know that, given the way, he would flinch back and hiss like I had scolded him or some bullshit.

It seemed even in his sleep Knox was pissed.

"I don't know what else to do." I emitted honestly to Rolo as yet again my brother pulled away in his sleep.

"I understand what you are saying, I get why you feel you need to do this. I think you should loop your brother in, because maybe then he will understand. Right now, they just feel like you're giving up."

"They?" I asked my brows knitting. How could anyone think I was giving up? I loved Charlotte.

"Havoc and Knox." Rolo confirmed, and my eyes closed tightly, knowing my wolf was right, and I had to speak to my brother. As if on cue, Knox twisted in his sleep, his eyes drifting open for a moment to glance at Charlotte, as if checking she was still there, before they darted to me. Something painful passed between us and I couldn't help but

scoff.

"You think I would scurry off with her while you slept?" I asked him through mindlink.

"I am not sure what you would do anymore." He growled back, his arms tightening around her. Without thinking, I lowered my hand to her face and touched those rosy cheeks of hers. She was completely breathtaking, even now in her sleep.

"I am not trying to hurt you." I whispered to my brother, but he shook his head, refusing to meet my gaze again as he squeezed her tightly to him and then let her roll away so he could slip from the bed and walk away.

"Knox." I hissed as quietly as I could, but he refused to answer like a child pretending I did not exist. Well, the bastard seemed to have forgotten that I had put up with years of him and Lilly playing these games. And I only play to win. Doing the same as my brother, I slipped from the bed, making sure to cocoon our mate in the sheets and our pillows. Pressing a kiss to her head, I followed Knox out of Charlotte's room and down the corridor to his bedroom.

"Seriously." I laughed, finding the door locked.

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Without warning, I elbowed it, a grin splitting my lips seeing it slam open.

"That's it, wake her up." Knox muttered as he pulled a shirt from his drawer and pulled it over his head. Pausing, I looked back down the corridor to check I hadn't disturbed her. Luckily, the bond indicated that she was still asleep. Not that I was surprised, we had exhausted her for the last few hours.

"She's fine." I muttered, walking over to lean against the drawers Knox was looking through.

"I don't want to talk." He growled, slamming the top drawer closed with such force the handle fell to the floor with a clank.

"Good. I don't want you to either, I want you to listen." I started to say my hand pressing my brother's mouth the second he opened his smart-assed gob to reply. "I thought you didn't wanna talk." I reminded him with a cocked brow.

"Look, I know this seems like I am trying to take over, but hear me out, please. I promise if you have another idea or option I will be all ears. Brother, I will welcome it, because honestly Knox I don't want to do this. Ok?" I nodded before moving my hand

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away from his mouth, confident he would let me speak.

"Fine but make it quick." He barked, shoving his legs into his sweatpants and moving to sit on the bed. Leaning back fully against the headboard I bit my lip, a new habit and one I would bet that I had picked up from Charlotte.

"The pack watched you 'kill' our father because someone insulted Charlotte. They watched her stand up to a wolf that everyone was terrified of. They watched and felt those feelings Knox. Do you truthfully think people will just believe we stopped caring for her?" I asked with a shake of my head.

"They won't. And those that are smart will use her as a way to get to us, control us and.."

"You know all about controlling people, Kane." Knox growled, but I let it go, knowing that was not the fight we needed to have right now.

"They will use her to bring the pack down. She and those pups will be seen as leverage. Targets."

"So this is about the pack? Because fuck them, we can go elsewhere!" Knox murmured, but I shook my head angrily.

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"The Moon Goddess has demanded we make a choice... Either Charlotte rejects us, or the babies are gone." I felt my throat tighten at the thought of losing them. "That demand doesn't just stand when we are with THIS pack, Knox. It is a condition of Pops staying alive."

"We need for people... For the Moon goddess, for everyone to think and believe that those feelings are gone." I admitted into his mind hoping to elude the Moon Goddess and hear earwiggling. "We need people to really think Charlotte is no longer of care to us.." I admitted. [1](#)

"And the only thing that could come between us is her cheating with Mike... OR us with... Connie."



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