

# Prologue

## Beta Miles POV

### Wind Howl Pack

#### One Year Ago

"How are you holding up, Beta?" Alpha Rex Stone asks as I slip into his office.

The air leaves my lungs in a whoosh. "Marissa took off again last night. Packed her bags and left. Said she is going to the city to start a new life." I rake my hand through my hair. "I love her, Alpha. I know she's not my fated mate, but my heart is a wreck. She leaves, then comes back and then does it all over again in a vicious cycle. I can't take it anymore."

Alpha eyes me with compassion. "I've not found my fated mate yet, Beta, but I can understand what you are going through just by watching it. That woman has you turned inside out."

"Yes, she does. We've been together like this for ten years now." I sigh. "I am 33 years old, and Marissa is 28. We aren't kids anymore. I don't think we are going to find our fated mates. We haven't yet. Why can't she just settle down? I don't understand why she is so flighty."

"Do you think she's gone for good this time?"

"I don't know. Your guess is as good as mine." I grunt. "Anyway, I have a job to do. Why did you want to see me, Alpha?"

"If you're reading this on teenfic site or similar ones, you're reading on a mirror site."

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"We have a new member coming into the pack today." He picks a paper up from his desk to read it. "Paisley Woods. She's 22 years old and is going to be teaching at the school this year." Laying the paper down, he looks at me. "She will be staying on the singles floor. I need you to get her settled when she gets here."

"Will do, Alpha."

"Good." He rises from behind the desk as we hear a car coming down the driveway. Looking out the window, he points. "I believe that is her now." We watch as a little blue subcompact turns up the lane toward the pack house.

I nod and sigh again. "I'll take care of her." Leaving the office, I trot downstairs to the main living area of the pack house. Opening the front door, I am surrounded by the most pleasant scent of wildflowers and honey. Where is that coming from?

I glance to the car that just pulled up. Time stands still as I am mesmerized by the beautiful, curvy female stepping out of the car; her presence and scent overpowering. Her long blonde hair floats around her as the wind rushes through it. I am spellbound by this beauty struggling to take her suitcase from the trunk. I feel an urge to help her, but my feet won't budge.

As our eyes lock, we whisper simultaneously, "Mate." confirming the bond between us. The air sizzles with a mixture of surprise, promise, and exhilaration as we both suddenly realize our connection.

As I stand here, silently soaking in the new bond between us, my thoughts confused about the future. My messy relationship with Marissa and now this moment that could mean an end to the rollercoaster of that emotional pain. With these newfound feelings of hope, I also feel insecure, especially because of my past with Marissa. This is a brand new adventure to begin and I want to seize it with my arms wide open.

Smiling, I walk forward to my mate and fold her in my arms. She lays her head on my chest as I embrace her and this new hopeful beginning. As the scent of wildflowers and honey lingers in the air, I know that whatever lies ahead, our lives are about to change.