

## Chapter 76

Emera's pov

Bryson's eyes blazed with a mixture of anger and protectiveness, his stance unwavering as he faced down Sirius. The tension was thick, a noticeable force that seemed to hang in the air as if the very forest we were in held its breath, waiting for the outcome of this confrontation.

Sirius's chest heaved with ragged breaths, his face painted with a mix of fury and frustration. "You're making a crucial mistake that will end up with your pack being wiped out." He warned.

Even as the warning hung in the air heavily, Bryson stood his ground, his voice firm, his gaze unwavering. " You're in my territory Sirius. I'm the alpha, I protect my pack members no matter the cost."

Brent quickly turned into his human form and rushed over to hold Bryson back. "We can solve this without a fight."

Brent knew what would happen if Bryson ended up killing or hurting Sirius, the council will hunt down every single member of the pack and wipe it out.

Brent looked back at me in disappointment and my gaze dropped.

I will forever be grateful to Brent for accepting me, a rouge in his pack when I found my mate here. And even though I did not succeed in meeting up with my real mother after all.....I loved the years I have spent here.

Which is why I felt like I was betraying them even though I was doing this to protect my daughter and the very pack that opened their arms for me.

"Fine," Sirius said with no emotion in his voice. "You're an alpha," He mocked, eyes dropping to my form on the ground. I crumble the soil in my hold knowing he was about to say something that could change my fate.

"Use your alpha command on her," Sirius baited, a cruel smirk spreading on his lips. " Force her to reveal where her daughter has run off to."

My heart sank as his words hung in the air. The alpha command was a powerful tool, one that could force me to submit, to follow his orders against my will.

Bryson would force me to reveal where Emily is by force. A very painful force seeing as I will fight off the command as best as I could.

A painful knot formed in my chest as I realized the lengths I would have to go to protect my child and the pack that had given me a sense of belonging.

The gravity of the situation was like a heavy weight on my shoulders, threatening to crush me under its pressure. I was torn, not because of what I would have to do, but because I would not get to see my mates face one last time.

Bryson form was stiff, retained power that he was fighting off. " I won't use my alpha command on her. She will reveal it to me on her own."

Sirius snorted, the cruel smirk growing. " Do you really believe that the woman will reveal where her daughter has run off to without you enforcing the command on her? She has already betrayed you and the pack by helping your mate- sorry your ex mate to run away."

Sirius raised a taunting brow. " It's either you use your alpha command on her, or," His gaze dropped down to me once more, mocking me with cruelty. " The council takes this into their own hands and we will get it out of her by any means."

Bryson's eyes narrowed, his fists clenched at his sides. His control over his wolf was reaching its end point as the weight of the situation seemed to press down on him. The conflict within him was evident in his tense posture.

I could feel the tension in the clearing, the air heavy with uncertainty. Sirius's taunts and threats were like poison and I knew I had to do something.

"It's okay Bryson," I said softly, a smile on my face. I would go down with a smile.

Bryson looked over at me, a sad torn gleam in his eyes.

He really will be a good leader and hopefully someday in his heart he'll forgive my daughter.

And perhaps, maybe, just maybe down the line...the council will no longer hold weight in the werewolf world and just maybe...their two worlds will collide once more.

" You'll be a great leader," I smiled. "Please tell my mate I love him." With those last words, I brought my claws to my neck and with a slash, peaceful darkness swallowed me.