

Chapter 83

Emily's pov

I'm as huge as a balloon!

"Come on you got this," Lucy teased as she watch me waddle my way through the garden. I glared at her playfully and pouted.

"I'm huge!" I whined, palming my very enormous belly. I could no longer see my feet.

I may be exaggerating on the size of the bump but it is still huge. And heavy too.

" You're not that big Em. You're just round and ripe with Bryson's seed." Lucy giggled.

I flushed. " Shut up."

The day was tickling closer and soon I'd get to meet him or her. I couldn't wait to hold the little bundle that was both part of me and Bryson.

" Can you help?" I asked Lucy in embarrassment as I attempt to settle myself on the grass so I can sky gaze. Being pregnant, I wasn't able to shift and have the joy of running around through the forest. Which is what one can really do around here.

I was bored and sky gazing while counting the stars seemed to be a good idea to get my mind off of him. At least for a little while.

Lucy nodded, giggling as she helped me settle myself on the grass. When I was seated, I leaned back until the back of my head touched the grass.

"There aren't much stars out tonight." I uttered softly as I gazed at the few I could see. Lucy settle herself beside me, side by side we gazed at the dark blanket with a few twinkling stars.

"There isn't but look at this one." She pointed to the left.

I followed her finger and focused on the brighter star she was pointing to. It hung in the night sky like a distant beacon of light. A serene feeling washed over me as I stared at it, imagining that somehow, Bryson was looking at the same star wherever he was.

"That one is special," I whispered, a small smile playing on my lips. "I'll make a wish on it for our baby."

"That's a beautiful idea, Em." She whispered, clutching my hand as I closed my eyes to make the wish.

I wish for a brighter future for our baby where he or her will be so loved. I wish that maybe one day we can reunited with Bryson. That just one day I get to see his face again.

As the wish made form in my head, a tear slipped from the corner of my eyes and disappeared into my hair.

Lucy's grip on my hand tightened. "Whatever you wished for, it will come true,Em."

" I just," My eyes peeled open and a fresh wave of tears crawl down the creases of my eyes. " It's painful without him Lucy. I don't want to go through this without him. It doesn't feel right to do this without Bryson. I need him here."

My throat feels impossibly tight as I thought about Bryson. I want him here to hold my hand. To whisper how beautiful I still look round with his baby. To tell me how good I'm doing. To reassure me that everything will be fine.

Sure Lucy and dad tried their best to make sure I knew I could do this, but it's not the same. I still need the reassurance of Bryson. I still need him to hold me. I still need him to be here.

I turn my head to look at Lucy, she's already staring at me.

Her eyes glisten with empathy as she squeeze my hand gently. "I know, Em," she whispered, her voice soft and soothing. "I can't imagine how hard it must be for you. But you're stronger than you think. And your love for Bryson and your baby, it's a powerful force. It will see you through this."

I nodded, though it felt like a weak motion compared to the overwhelming emotions flowing through me. The ache for Bryson's presence was a constant need, and it seemed to intensify as the days passed, bringing me closer to the day of the birth our little one.

Lucy continued to ease my worries, her words are like a comforting salve on my ruined emotions. "Remember, you're not alone in this. We're here for you, me and dad. And when the time comes, we'll do everything we can to make sure you and the baby are safe."

And I know that they will. They've been there for me and I trust that they will make things easier.

" I know Lucy, and I'm so grateful for both you and dad." I managed a smile that did reach my eyes.

After our little chat, we continued to gaze at the stars. The world felt a bit distant and magical in that moment. It was as though the universe itself was holding its breath, waiting for my wish to come true. And I waited with battered breath with it.

As the minutes tick by, Lucy eventually helped me to my feet, and we made our way back to the cabin. Our steps light to not wake up dad.

Inside the cabin, Lucy tucked me into bed with care, ensuring I was comfortable. She blew out one candle and left the other. It created a faint glow.

"Get some rest, Em," she said with a reassuring smile. "Tomorrow is a new day, and we're one day closer to meeting your little one."

I smiled. She was right, we're getting closer.

Lucy bid me a good night and left the room to go out to have a little run. She would always do so before coming to bed. We share a room and most times she would come to bed in the wee hours of the morning.

But this time when dawn approached, Lucy was nowhere to be found in the room or anywhere in the cabin. She wasn't even outdoor like she'd normally be, which I found a bit strange.

Where was Lucy?