Anna Campbell

Chapter 2- Mistake

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My mind kept buzzing with what my brother said to me.

I had no idea what he meant when he said I wouldn't be around much longer. The only thing I could think about was leaving for human school.

Our pack had our own high school, and most of us went to college in the human town, but we weren't allowed to go too far from home. I understood why, though. Being a wolf meant being with the pack. And if a wolf were to leave for college across the country, they'd basically be a rogue—lone wolf, which means they are more susceptible to attacks.

But for me, I have always been a rogue living among the pack. None of the wolves here in Armor Pack saw me as an equal. Even though I was the former Alpha's daughter and current Alpha's niece, I was nothing to them.

Mostly it was the things my brother said about me. They feared him too much to go against him, and the girls were too busy trying to get noticed by him to even care about me. I have had a few friends here and there, but they were always doomed to social injustice on my behalf, so I simply distanced myself from everyone.

Whenever I'm lonely, I knew I could call on my only friend, Josh, and he'd be there. We barely hung out in public, so we barely hung out at all. But he was the only person keeping me sane.

So, because I knew I basically had no pack here, I thought my brother and uncle had actually considered making me go. I went to college in town, but I always wanted to go to Canada to study. I heard their forests were great to run in as well.

Anxious and starving, I followed Logan to the dining room, where my uncle and Toya were seated. I had no idea why, but he always insisted that we ate 'as a family'. Apparently, my dad loved the habit, so Lance upheld it.

My uncle didn't even spare me a glance as I sat, and immediately I could see my reflection in the silverware—fake silver, of course.

My black, long hair was messy from shifting, and the single light-blue streak at the front was the only section that remained smooth. It was a feature I was born with. I had no idea how, but I had natural black hair with a blue streak at the front.

It was not dye or bleach. I had always had it. It was just another reason for the pack members to see me as a freak too. Who is born with blue hair? Me, that's who. The girl who killed her parents.

My plump cheeks were flushed, and my sapphire eyes seemed bright. Probably with anxiety.

The coat my brother had given me barely covered my body. I knew he didn't bother searching for something that could cover my womanly form. I no longer had the figure of a sixteen-year-old, and I hated that he didn't allow me to go change before coming to dinner.

Just another day of being Melissa.

My reflection on the empty plate was soon gone as the cook filled the spot in front of me with food. I mumbled thanks as the women left. The food smelled splendid.

I then lifted my head towards Toya and my uncle. Toya smiled at me, and I nodded in acknowledgement, but I wasted no time in asking my uncle what Logan had meant.

"Lance—I mean, Alpha." I quickly corrected myself, remembering I was only allowed to call him Alpha. He raised his head from his plate as if just realising I was at the table. "Logan told me that I will be leaving. Why?"

Not that I wouldn't jump on any train out of here. But I simply wanted to know.

Lance threw a glare at Logan. It seemed he wasn't supposed to tell me anything yet. "We will discuss

after dinner. How was your run?" he asked, but I knew he was only trying to change the subject.

"Uncle Lance, please tell me."

He never usually minded when I addressed him as uncle. In fact, I believed he secretly liked it. But he was barely an uncle to me, so I rarely ever acknowledged him as such. When I did, everyone knew I was in my most serious mode.

He sighed, defeated as he dropped his fork. "You haven't touched your food."

"I am not hungry. I ate a rabbit. Now, tell me, please." I didn't actually eat the rabbit. I fell in love with the little fellow.

He studied me for a while, and I could see that Toya was uncomfortable and pretty upset. It made me wonder if I had done something wrong. But as I scanned my mind, I realised that the only bad thing I had done in weeks was showing up late to dinner.

"Uncle Lance...." I urged further. His stormy grey eyes flashed to mine, and I could just smell how excited Logan was.

"As you know, our pack is tremendously weak and vulnerable. We had five rogue attacks in the past year, and we've lost over twenty wolves because of it, including pups."

I nodded as he spoke. I knew about the attacks, and I knew we weren't the most robust pack, but I didn't see what that had to do with me leaving. Did Logan somehow convince him that I was a bad-luck charm and the pack will get stronger if I'm kicked out?

Lance continued. "I have been tirelessly seeking alliances from stronger packs, but most of them simply had no reason to want to help a small weak pack like ours."

"But?" I asked, sensing that there was more to it.

"But, I have managed to strike a deal with the Primal Pack." My eyes widened as he said this.

"The Primal Pack?" Lechoed.

The Primal Pack was the strongest and largest pack in the country. Their ties were endless, and no rogue dared to go four hundred feet near their borders.

Recently, they were known for their uniqueness of having two Alphas. I believed I heard that they were brothers. I had no idea how that worked, but having two Alphas only made The Primal Pack more powerful and feared.

"You see, the eldest brother had been searching for his mate for a long time, and he has reason to believe she is dead. Every Alpha also knows that having a Luna only makes them stronger," he said suggestively

as if I was supposed to guess the rest.

But I was blank.

Suddenly, Toya slammed her fork down on the table and stormed out of the room. I underestimated her mood. She wasn't upset. She was pissed. And by the look of guilt on my uncle's face, I could tell he was the cause.

Yet, as if it wasn't even there, he wiped the look from his face and met my eyes again.

"To get their alliance, I struck a deal with them. You will be his luna, and they will help make us stronger. They will also send warriors to train our men so in a few years we won't have to depend on them for protection anymore and—"

"Wait," I interrupted with wide eyes and heart racing.
"You... bargained me off to some stranger just
because you're scared?"

I wanted to cry. I wanted to stream. I wanted to climb to the top of the Alpha house and jump from it. My non-existent heart shattered to a million pieces as I registered it all. My uncle sold me to the Alphas of Primal Pack? Just like that?

I could see the anger in his eyes, and I knew I had overstepped. But I was far too upset to care.

"Don't be selfish, Melissa," he spat. "Our pack needs

this, and you know it!"

"No, I don't!" I screamed as I jumped from my seat.
"You have a mate! You know the importance of finding my mate. If you sell me to these Alphas, then I'll never find...." I couldn't finish my sentence. I was stopped as a sob broke from my lips and my tears streamed down my face.

I have never felt love all my life. Even with Toya and Josh, I've never actually felt love from them. I knew they cared, but that's as far as it went. I didn't believe I would find love in my home pack, but the only thing that kept me going was the stupid hope that one day I'd find my mate.

I've heard and read wonderful things about finding one's mate. I've dreamt about it all my life. And now, it was being stolen from me.

"You're overreacting," he dismissed. "Plenty of wolves fall in love with people who aren't their mate."

"But the connection is not the same. Would you be able to live without Toya?" I flung back, and that much shut him up. However, my stupid brother had to intervene.

"Enough!" Logan shouted. "This has nothing to do with Lance or Toya. You little ungrateful, selfish brat. First, you kill our parents, and now you want to kill the pack too. You don't see the relevance of this union, but you

don't have to. You're going, and that's final." He ended, standing above me with challenging eyes. Naturally, my wolf submitted to him, but my tears only fell harder as I glanced between the two of them.

"I hate you both so much. You have ruined my entire life and will ruin it forever!" And with that, I fled from the dining table, starving and heartbroken all the way to my room.

I felt like I had lost myself at that moment. I wasn't meant to be alive, and my whole life proved it.

I was surely a mistake.