

Chapter 39

All my life, I had never upset my wolf. She had been the only constant 'person' I have had, so upsetting or betraying her wasn't an option.

But I didn't mean to. I took the wolfsbane so I could feel better and get another remedy to get rid of this mark. I did it to put us both out of our misery.

As I sat there with my fangs emerging and my wolf shaking awake, I noticed that instead of feeling sick again, I felt pumped. My body was writhing in euphoric adrenaline though I was scared out of my mind.

My eyes shifted next. I was no longer looking through my human eyes but through the eyes of my wolf. Maxim held my hand again, seeming just as confused as I was.

"Melissa, what's going on?" he asked urgently as he grabbed a robe and wrapped it around my naked body.

I shook my head and jumped away, as his voice only made it worse. I suddenly wanted him more, and I didn't think that was possible. My teeth ached, and my fingertips burned as my wolf tried to let the claws emerge as well.

"I don't know," I admitted. "I think my wolf is trying to shift. I... I..." My stomach ached, and my body caught on fire. I felt like I was going into heat, even though I had no idea what that felt like.

But it wasn't a full moon, so I felt assured that it definitely wasn't a heat.

"Just breathe with me, okay?" he mumbled as he approached me slowly.

"Please don't touch me," I snapped, but I didn't mean to be harsh. He stopped instantly as his face fell in a hurtful expression. I immediately felt guilty for hurting him. "It's not you, Maxim, but it seems like the more you talk, the more I catch your scent and the more you touch me; I just want to pounce on you even more," I explained.

Luckily, he didn't seem hurt again, only more confused until his expression eventually changed to determination.

"So, pounce," he simply said as if he didn't just hear what I said. I knew my wolf wouldn't kill our mate, and Maxim wouldn't allow it either. But I had no idea what she wanted to do with him.

"What?" I questioned.

"Melissa, we were taught to trust our wolves and their instincts. If your wolf wants me, don't fight her."

What he said was true. Our wolves saved our lives more than one time. It was the sole instinct of our nature that kept us alive and safe. Our human side was to carry out mundane acts like working and loving, while our wolves were solely instinctual. Every decision was trusted because we knew it was right.

But this once, I couldn't trust my wolf. She was sick, after all.

"What if the bite makes her do something bad to you? If I give her control, I don't know if I'd be able to get it back," I explained. Yet again, he didn't seem phased. Maxim trusted my wolf more than I did at that moment. That wasn't good. How could I not trust my own

It all came back to the fact that I didn't want to take any chances when it came to Maxim.

"Come here," he mumbled with open arms. Slowly, I moved towards him until our bodies touched again, and he wrapped his arms around me.

I drew in a sharp breath as my nerves went wild again in tingles. I trailed my arms around his neck as I tried to level my breathing.

"That's it," he cooed, "Just let go. Don't fight it."

I nodded slowly as I stopped resisting my wolf, and when I did, I realised that it was a great decision. I didn't feel like hurting Maxim. I felt like making endless hours of love, which was a good sign.

"Kiss me," I demanded softly, even with my fangs aching. A smile pulled on his lips as he heeded my request.

Just like always, my body erupted in flames that never burnt as he moved his lips roughly against mine. I tried to be as careful as possible to not bite him with my fangs. His grip on my waist tightened as he lifted me skilfully and pushed me against the wall. I kept my feet around his waist as I sank my fingers in his silky hair.

Before I knew it, the kiss became heated again, just like before. My centre throbbed for him, and I could feel his erection rubbing against my wetness through his pants.

Moaning, I threw my head back as his lips connected to my neck. I had no clue where the desire came from, but I suddenly wanted him to mark me so badly, even though I knew the consequences. My wolf whimpered at the thought, but why?

We all knew the consequence of a mark in my state. I would die. So, why does she want him to mark me so much?

But as I thought about this, a quick memory came back to my mind from earlier. It was something Toya told me.

'A bite is all it takes.'

A bite? From who!

"What's wrong?" Maxim asked as he lifted his head from my neck. He still held me against the wall, and I still had my feet around him, but my expression was no longer excited. I was thinking too hard about what Toya said.

"I don't know," I admitted. "I feel like I know the answer, yet I can't quite put my finger on it." My wolf whimpered again as I said this, and Maxim's face grew more concerned.

"You mean the mark?" he asked, and I nodded.

My gums ached even worse, and my wolf became restless in my mind. It was then that I thought I figured it out, and my eyebrows shot up in realisation as it all came dawning on me.

"I want to try something," I told him eagerly. "Just stay still, okay?"

He watched me in scrutiny, but he didn't oppose me. "Okay," he agreed.

I hoped my wolf knew what she was doing. I still gazed at him through her eyes, so I

trusted that whatever happens will only be good.

I kissed his lips softly before trailing kisses down his neck. His scent drove me insane again, and I instinctively tightened my grip on him.

His breathing was heavier as I flickered my tongue over his neck before grazing my teeth over the particular spot. I had never heard of marking being reversed, but it never caused any harm if or when it was done.

So, slowly, I sank my teeth in Maxim's neck, and the immediate taste of his blood swamped my taste buds as I sank them deeper and deeper. And then it happened.

My body, soul and mind felt as if it was being lifted and soared upon the highest mountain, and I moaned as my entire being became one with Maxim. He squeezed me tighter throughout it all. It was a wonderful feeling. I could literally feel Lukas's mark disappearing as my wolf finally got the chance to connect with Maxim's.

He knew it too because he lathered my face with kisses and trailed them down my neck, where he placed his mark on me too. If it wasn't already incredible, this made it even better.

I instantly felt our bond strengthening with his mark, and I felt our link being made. We now shared a mate bond and mind space. I couldn't help the smile that took over my face as he licked the area dry of blood.

I was finally claimed by my mate. MY mate.

And it was the most marvellous thing in the whole world.

I slid down from his hold as we both recovered from our highs. Maxim rested his forehead against mine as we stared into each other's eyes. I felt like a new person. I was no longer Melissa. I was a part of Maxim too.

"We did it," I whispered through a short, happy laugh.

He nodded. "Yeah, we did. You're a genius."

"It felt so right. Is it supposed to feel so right?" I laughed in joy, and he did the same.

"Yes, baby. It is supposed to feel just right."

I crossed the room towards my mirror with a smile plastered on my lips. Indeed, Maxim's mark made a difference.

Soon after, he joined me and snaked his arms around my waist from behind. I caught a glimpse of my mark on his neck too, and I could see the pride shining in his eyes as he stared at it too.

"You're perfect," I mumbled as I relaxed in his arms, finally completely happy and whole.

"And I love you," he returned quietly. My heart raced as he said this as I snapped my eyes open and gazed at him through the mirror.

His eyes were closed as he kissed my hair, but all I could do was hear the words over and over in my head.

He... loved me?

He did. He just said he did.

And though I had never heard those words in my life, this was by far the best thing that could've ever happened to me.

I sighed in contentment as I relaxed against him, allowing the words to replay over and over in my head.

Maxim loves me.

My mate loves me.



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