

Chapter 63

Maxim's POV

After a few more hours, the men at the border patrol mind linked me to tell me that someone was asking to cross the border.

I told them to let her through and called the others to the living room. I checked on Melissa one last time before meeting the others, and I greeted Toya at the door when she finally arrived.

She got here faster than I expected. It was late afternoon, but I assumed she wouldn't have made it until around six in the evening.

Leonardo took her overnight bag to the guestroom as Fiona got her a glass of water. What I didn't miss, however, was how oddly Lukas looked at her.

"It's so good to see you all again," she said as she sat.

"Likewise," I returned. "I wish it was in better circumstances."

She frowned. "Me too."

Fiona returned with some orange juice, and Toya beamed at her. "And Fiona. It has been ages! The last time I saw you, Leonardo had only just found you."

Before Melissa, Lance and Toya had only been here once for a meeting years ago. That's how we knew each other and why Lance could arrange the agreement with Melissa.

"Yes, it has been ages," Fiona said as she sat across from her.

"Melissa tells me you're pregnant, but I didn't know you were so far in. May I?" Toya reached over the couch and rested her hand against Fiona's extended stomach.

She was indeed ready to pop any minute. I was excited, but I wanted everything sorted by the time Fiona and Leo's baby joined the family.

Toya smiled. "Hhmm. He's going to be a strong Beta someday. He's going to do great things, this one. Might even change the world and Primal Pack as we know it. In the best way, of course."

"He?" Leonardo bellowed. Even in the seriousness of the moment, I

tried to suppress my laughter. Everyone knew that Leonardo didn't want to know the gender of the baby until it was born. His face was hilarious.

"Oh, you didn't know?" Toya frowned. "I'm sorry. But most high-ranking wolves' firstborn are always males anyway."

"I know," he sighed as he snaked his arms around Fiona. "I guess I just wanted that moment at birth, you know?"

I smiled as I watched them. I hope Melissa and I can have many children one day. One day when our lives didn't revolve around moon shards and strange dreams and dragons.

"You'll get it. Trust me." She winked at them. "Something tells me the birth of this baby will be very exciting."

I watched as both ether eyes lit up. It was a beautiful moment indeed. They deserve happiness.

"I'm sorry," Lukas said as he sat on the arm of the chair. "Toya, it must be hard talking about their baby. Did you . . . did you lose yours?"

We all stared at Lukas in confusion. "Luke, what are you talking about? You know it's hard for Toya to get pregnant." I gritted my teeth to tell him to drop it. It was evidently okay with her to talk about someone else's pregnancy, but it might be harder to imagine her own.

Lukas shook his head. "But . . . but you were pregnant. I'm sure of it."

"I wasn't." Though she was smiling, I could see the pain in her eyes. "Perhaps you're getting it mixed up with Camille. She's pregnant. Not me."

That's how we all remembered it, but the look on Lukas's face told us all that this was the first he was hearing of this news.

"Camille? As in Logan's mate?" He shook his head. "No, Toya was the one who was pregnant. Not Camille."

"Lukas, stop," Fiona snapped. "Do you know how inconsiderate you sound right now? Rubbing it in Toya's face like that?"

"But-"

"Why do you believe that I was pregnant, Lukas?" Toya asked, seeming

intrigued rather than upset.

He shrugged. "At the gala, Melissa told me that Loan found his mate and that you, Toya, were pregnant. She even showed me pictures. How . . . how is it different now?"

Lukas seemed sure of himself. He was positive that Toya was pregnant.

"But she's not."

"Maybe I was," she said softly. "Lukas, you said that Melissa has no memories of you whatsoever?"

He nodded. "That's right."

"And the rest of you? She remembers, but it's hard to make her memories whole because she had to cut Lukas from each of them."

"I think so, yeah," I said, not sure where she was coming from.

She stared at Lukas. "Tell me everything you have been feeling today. Each of you."

And so we did. We told her how we felt like something significant had happened, stripped from our memories. I told her how I felt like I lost a part of me when I woke up, yet everything was in order.

By the time Lukas was finished talking, she seemed surer of whatever theory she had made up in her head.

"Tell me something else that might seem normal, but you think it has changed. Like my pregnancy," Toya said, staring straight at Lukas.

"Well, it's not as big as pregnancy, but the colour of the house is different. I only thought they repainted when I was gone."

I pulled my eyebrows together. "The colour of the house hadn't changed in years, Luke. What are you talking about?" I asked. He stared at me, seeming awestruck.

"The house was white, and now it's beige."

I shook my head, and so did Fiona. "No, it wasn't. It has always been beige."

"It was white," he insisted.

Toya nodded. "Maybe it was white. Tell me something else."

Lukas thought about it for a while before pointing at Leonardo. "Leo had freckles."

"Oh, please!" Fiona scoffed. "Leo has always had freckles!"

Lukas shook his head. "No, he didn't."

"But—"

"I think I know what's going on here," Toya announced. "I wished I lived in a world when I was pregnant." Her eyes fell sadly to her flat stomach, and my heart broke for her.

Melissa told me that it was hard for her to get pregnant. And now, to believe that she was must've been hard.

"I think all of this was true. I think there has been a rift in the timeline and the natural order of things. That's why you all feel like you're forgetting something. That's why things feel so strange. And Lukas is the centre of it."

Lukas's eyes widened. "But I did nothing!"

Toya chuckled. "I know. Melissa did."

"Melissa?" I echoed, but she still stared at Lukas.

"You saw an oracle once, no?" She asked him, and he nodded. "And did he happen to tell you about Melissa's gift, that might also be a curse?"

"The moon shard?" I asked, but he shook his head.

"She's a dreamer," he mumbled, looking down.

And my entire world stopped spinning.



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