



Chapter 9

Third Person

Chloe collapsed to her knees, her usually pink cheeks turning pale. Two weeks ago, when they had been dating, Logan had been gentle with Chloe, although he had always been a little cold. Anything she asked for, he would give her.

At the time, she had assumed it was because of his low status. He was trying to make up for the fact he was only a Beta by showering her in the gifts she asked for. Come to find out, he had lied about his status, and he was actually the Alpha of the largest pack and one of the most powerful.

She had betrayed him. She had turned her back on him because she chose another man she thought was of higher status.

Was it a test? If it was, she failed.

Chloe clenched her teeth and closed her eyes. She must have hurt him terribly. That was why he was doing this to her now. He was trying to hurt her back. It was nothing more than that, not to her.

In any other situation, Chloe would have beat out Emily. She was sure of it. Logan was doing this out of spite.

It was all a game. Chloe just needed to play it. And win!

She would steal Logan away from Emily and claim him as her prize.

Hannah raged. She threw a vase from the hallway and smashed it on the ground.

"How could this happen?" she said bitterly. Emily's father, Dominic, was



as displeased, and he crossed his arms over his chest.

"I can't believe Emily would turn her back on," he said. Hannah laughed.

"Of course she would! She never cared about any of us, honey! All she ever cared about was herself and the money she thinks she is owed."

"That money is hers, Hannah."

"Taking it would destroy us. And the pack. We need that money to survive."

Dominic shook his head. "We have to do something."

"We will," answered Hannah. She turned her eyes to her daughter, who was still on the floor. Chloe looked up with tears in her eyes.

"I know he loves me," she said, "this is all a test. I can win him back!" Hannah reached out and took Chloe's hand, helping her to stand.

"Good. All we need is a good plan." Hannah hugged her daughter tight. If anyone desired a powerful Alpha in her eyes, it was Chloe.

"Do you have something in mind?" Dominic asked.

"Yes. You and I are going to make Emily out to be the weak match that she is. Meanwhile, Chloe," she took her daughter by the shoulders, "you need to get as close as possible to Alpha Logan. Do whatever it takes to get into his good graces again."

"Yes, Mother."

"There is a banquet for the packs in three days. We have until then to make this all come to light."



Emily

Logan's Beta, Anthony, had started the announcement. Logan and I, hand in hand, waited for our moment to reveal ourselves to everyone that we were officially engaged.

"Didn't you say you didn't want any scandals here?" I asked Logan. He smirked.

"Not any that I didn't orchestrate."

"Why did you do all that?"

"Didn't I tell you once that I prefer revenge?" I recalled the night of our meeting when Logan took me up to his room. He had told me that instead of punishing Chloe, he'd rather take revenge.

The revenge that night had been to sleep with me.

"What was the point of all this?"

"I want everyone to know that I've chosen you. No matter what. There are already rumors out there about us, and people are starting to think we are no more than a fling."

"That's exactly what is happening though."

"They don't know that. We are going to prove them wrong." I stared up at Logan's face. He was so calm about all of this.

He lived up to the rumors about him. He truly was a cold and indifferent businessman.

Everything he did was carefully thought out. All of the events tonight had



been a part of his plan. He was putting my family, the Crowley family, right where he wanted them.

"We are about to enter. Smile and look like a happy couple in love," said Logan. We stepped forward through the curtain, and I slapped on a picture perfect smile.

At least I was good at pretending. I'd been doing so my whole life.

Holding hands, the two of us walked up to the microphone, where Anthony had announced our arrival. He back off the stage, allowing us to be the only two in the spotlight.

Before everyone, Logan got down on one knee.

"Emily Crowley," he started, his voice booming throughout the room for everyone to hear, "from the moment I saw you, I knew we were meant to be together. I know that we can do anything as long as we stand strong side by side, as partners and mates. Having you with me makes me not just a better man, but a better Alpha. It is my hope that we will spend the rest of our lives together."

He opened a black velvet ring box and held it up in front of me.

There, sparkling in the lights, was a brilliant engagement ring with a bold princess cut diamond kissed by a moonstone on each side. It was stunning.

I couldn't hide my surprise. My hand automatically covered my mouth as I gasped.

"Will you marry me?" Logan asked. My breath caught in my throat for a moment, and I searched for a breath that would let me answer him.



He seemed so sincere. As he looked up at me, I gazed into his eyes and saw nothing but admiration. It wasn't love, but it was more than I expected.

I had to remind myself that it was all an act, that everything was part of his plan. He had probably memorized that amazing speech days ago.

I took a deep breath and found my answer.

"Yes!" I said, wondering if anyone heard me over the thundering of my heart in my chest. The crowd started to clap and cheer.

Logan stood up, then slid the ring over my finger. It fit perfectly.

For a moment, I watched as the diamond sparkled beautifully. It reflected the light in such a clear shade.

Logan continued to surprise me. It was like he was always one step ahead. If I wanted to match his pace, I'd need to be at my absolute best.

The cheers began to fade, and as it grew quiet, I felt like everyone was waiting for something.

"What happens now?" I asked in a whisper, listening as the crowd began to quiet. Logan raised an eyebrow as a smile tugged at the corners of his lips.

"Darling, you should kiss me."