

## Tattooed 31

### Chapter 31

"She was a girlfriend my freshman year. She had an attitude problem, caused some issues so her parents moved." "I can't keep beating your ex's up. Anyone else?" "Why are you so chill about what she said?" Alec looked at me, still trying to control his anger. "Well, the rumors about Colt and I aren't wrong. Plus she told us Angela is trying to cheat. We can stay ahead this way." "She's in the cells, she can't cheat." "Never underestimate a woman's scorn. Ira came over with out drinks. "I got some appetizers for you to try. They are new to the menu. Let me know what you think!" "Thank you!" We each picked one up and bit into it. Juice ran down my face but the cheese refused to snap. Reaching over, I was able to grab a napkin as the spicy reached my tongue. Stuffed jalapeno peppers. "Damn, that's good." Alec almost moaned as he ate his. "Nope!" Finishing my bite, I chugged half of my tea. Alec watched in humor.

"Can't handle the spicity?" "No. I'm a massive baby. Mild is too spicy for me!" My nose started running. Alec laughed as I had to blow my nose and fan my face. "Seriously?" "Yeah." "Everything okay?" Ira looked at my face. "These are amazing." Alec prised. I just smiled in response.

"Oh good!" Ira walked away as Alec grabbed another. "Where is this property at?" I asked. "About an hour east." "That will be a nice ride." I leaned forward and looked out the window. "Did you find a dress when you went shopping?" Alec was taking a sip from his water, His eyes drilled holes into me over his cup. "Two actually. One for my birthday and one for prom." I smiled maybe a little too evil-like. "Uh oh, what's that look for?" "The birthday is a black tie event." "Yeah....?" "I have two dresses. One is black, the other is scarlet red." "Let me guess, you are wearing the red one for your birthday:" "Colt even approved of it. I'll make one hell of a statement." "Good girl." The way he said it and the look he was giving me, forced me to cross my legs. "Here are your plates! Enjoy!" The food smelled amazing. Grabbing the regular BBQ, I put it on my meat and started eating. "No bun?" Alec asked as he looked at my plate. "No, it falls out anyway." "Fair enough" Alec took a few bites. "This is amazing." "The best!" Smiling, I finished my pulled pork and side of fried okra. "Need anything?" Ira came over. "Just our check!" I said. Alec shook his head yes but his mouth was full. "It's on the house!" "Oh no! Let me pay!" "Nope! Girl you come here a lot. Enjoy your day!" She walked away before I could protest more. "Ready?" Alec asked as he pulled out his wallet.

"Yes but I can pay." "Nope. This was my idea, I'll pay." Alec laid a \$50 on the table. "Ready?" +15 BONUS That was way more than an average tip, even if they charged us. The gesture was enough that I felt my heart swelling "Thank you for that." I said when we got outside. "Even if they don't charge us, having to work with Brittany is enough headache. She should get paid for it." Alec slipped his helmet on. I got dressed and turned my bike on. "Ready?" I asked. "Yes, ma'am" Alec said before we got on the road to head out. We didn't talk as we followed the windy road. Alec even took the back roads to look at the scenery. The flowers were blooming, birds were flying and I felt free. My heart was happy. I hadn't realized Alec slowed down and was beside me, instead in front. "Enjoying yourself?" "Very much so. I

love this. The wind in my hair, the open fresh air. I feel free and happy.” “Good.” Alec moved back into the front position but he kept looking at me in his mirror. Alec slowed his bike and made a turn. It was partially gravel but we only went a short ways before he pulled into a field. Parking our bikes, I was able to admire the view. As soon as my helmet, gloves and jacket were off, I took a few steps to get the full view

## Chapter 32

We were on top of the mountain of a hill. Overlooking the city we just left. I was in awe over how perfect this view was. It would only be better at night. “What do you think?” Alec came up and stood behind me. Taking a breath, I didn’t have to back up far to be pressed against him. “This is beautiful. What an amazing view. How did you find this?” “We have owned this for generations. However, we haven’t used it or had a need for it. Lately, we been talking about making an event space out here. Something to bring in more revenue. However, we haven’t looked at the land in years. Dad wanted me to come look at it to see if it is possible. Get a sample of the ground to see if the soil is contaminated.” “What do you all own?” I asked. Alec sl\*pped am arm around my waist and turned me. “From down about 15 feet to a few miles in each direction.” “When you say a few miles...” “I think we own around 500 acres.”

“Dam n.” Taking alec’s hand that he offered, we started walking. “There is a wooded area that if I remember correctly, is a waterfall.” “Oh really?” We held hands as we walked into the trees until the path became smaller. Taking the lead, I just followed the path for about a mile, until I hear the sound of splashing water. “Hear it?” Alec asked. “I do.” The breeze felt wonderful so I wasn’t even sweaty. After another hundred yards, the trees opened. up to a gorgeous waterfall to a steam below. “Oh wow.” “Just like I remember it.” Alec passed me and walked over to a rock that was sitting by the waters edge. Following him, I sat down next to him but there was still space between us. Not much though. “When were you here last?” “Oh, it’s been years. I was in elementary school, I think.”

So no girls brought here. “That long? Why?” here, I guess.” “Ah. If I owned this. If be here everyday. Actually, I would have built my own cabin up here!” I laughed. “Well,” Alec laughed too. “It’s no beach or tropical place but you have permission to visit here anytime.” He put his arm around me and pulled me against him. My heart was racing. My head kept saying no but my b\*dy was saying yes. Laying head on his shoulder, we sat like this for awhile. That is, until my curiosity got the best of me. “Alec?” “Yeah?” Scooting back so I could face him, he turned and looked at me concerned. “Jasper had this weird feeling about Emmy. “Yeah, he said he was just drawn to her.” “Emmy felt the same. Do you think we can tell who is our mates are by that feeling before we are 18?” Alec sighed and looked at the water. “Maybe. I’m not real sure.” “Do you feel that way with anyone right now?” “You mean you?” Alec called my bluff, “Yes or just anyone.” “I didn’t bring anyone here. I brought you. As for your question, I’m not sure. I’m not sure exactly what Jasper felt. What I do know is I can’t get you out of my head.” His hand came up and cupped my head as his thumb rubbed my cheek. I’ve never had this feeling or even wanted to do this with anyone. If that’s the mate bond, I don’t know.” I wasn’t sure what to say. He told me the truth.

My heart fluttered but I was hoping for a defiantly yes, believe you are my mate. 2 “What I do know, everyday I look forward to hopefully see you. If you end up being my mate, I’ll be the luckiest dam n guy in the world. If not, I will be severely disappointed.”1 “Only because you won’t get to know my real IQ.” I joked to hide my real emotions.

“Do you do that often? Joke to avoid talking about your emotions.” Alec asked. His hand fell from my face. I instantly missed it.

### Chapter 33

“Yeah. I just find it hard to open up. I want to. I want to let you hold me, k\*ss me. Tell me everything will be okay. But come Friday, if you can’t give me that because you have a different mate, where does that leave me?” Alec sighed and turned forward again. He put his hands on his knees. “I’m sorry.” Standing up, I went to walk away but Alec caught my hand. “F uck it.” I heard him say before he whipped me around. His hand wrapped around my waist, pulling me again at him. His other hand wrapped around my neck, grabbing some hair and pulled my head back. Finally planting the most passionate k\*ss I ever had. 2 The moment his l\*ps touched mine, I was putty to him. My hands wrapped around his neck as I sank into his hold. A soft moan escaped my throat as my eyes fluttered. I never had this reaction to Ace. It gave me hope that Alec was my mate. Alec reached down and wrapped my legs around him before pinning me wrapped his hands around my thighs. Lifting me up, he

against a tree. As soon as his mouth moved to my neck, I knew I had to stop this. “W-we can-can’t go f u-further.” Grabbing his head, I started k\*ssing him hard. My arousal filled our nose, enticing him. His dick was pressed against my core. I was never more excited to finally go the way but I knew it needed to wait. Our k\*ss slowed as Alec set me down. One hand was on the tree, holding him up as the other was on my waist. “I’m not sorry. I’ve never felt this way.” Alec whispered. “Me too. I really hope you will be mine.” Alec didn’t respond but gave me a few more soft k\*sses. “We should get going.” He finally muttered.

“Okay.” I agreed but didn’t make a move. Opening my eyes, he was looking directly at me. “You are so incredibly beautiful.” Moving my hair out of my face, he looked lost. “What’s wrong?” “If you end up not being my mate, I’ll be shocked and I’ll have to challenge whoever is for you.” That both excited and scared me. If I didn’t have all these new emotions myself, I would be hearing a lot of red flags. Thankfully, a sound caught our attention and that forced us to move. suching Gown, We made our way down the stream. There was a second waterfall and at the bottom was a group of fifteen rogues. They were just swimming, eating and chilling basically. “We need to go.” Alec whispered in my ear. Nodding we turned and started running back to our bikes. This was a hiccup that we didn’t plan on. Since it was only a mile to the clearing. It didn’t take long to reach our bikes. “Get on, let’s go.” Alec said urgently. “Get your sample real quick!” The rogues hadn’t seen us yet and Alec looked nervous. Grabbing his stuff, he ran out into the field about 75 yards and started rotating a stick thing into the ground. I started

getting my gloves and a jacket on. As soon as Alec finished, I started hearing some rustling of the leaves. Alec must have heard it too because he came sprinting towards me. Motioning for him to hurry, I put my helmet on and anxiously waited. It didn't seem like the rogues knew we were here but I didn't want to wait to find out. Thankfully, Alec got to his bike right as the first rogue emerged from the trees. Alec shoved the dirt into his side pouch and got on. Ignoring his jacket and gloves. Only putting his helmet on, we started out bikes right as they spotted us. I almost ate it as we peeled out but Alec reached over and steadied me while he was in motion. Not even looking back as our tires hit the pavement and we opened the throttle. "Holy s hit. Are you okay?" Alec asked,

"Yeah, you?" "Yeah. I'm good. Wow, that was..."

## Chapter 34

"Yeah...." ..... We ride in silence the rest of the way. The scenery was beautiful but I couldn't decide if I was ready to be home or not. With our discovery, we needed to get home. Maybe even launch an attack. Take care of them before they take care of us. Alec even took the main roads to get home. Occasionally, he would make sure I was still behind him or ask me how I was doing but that was about it. to tell "This is my turn. Your dad is probably at your pack for you about the rogues." I said to him as my turn was coming up. "I'll make sure you get home okay." "It's really okay. Get home. I'll be okay." I could hear the hesitancy in his voice. "You sure?" "I'm good. Thank you for today. I'll see you at school!" I tried to sound upbeat as I slowed down to turn. Alec kept going and as soon as I had turned, I could hear his bike really open up. As if he was driving slow for me.

It was only another 10 miles until I got home so it took no time. "Dad, where are you?" "Training field. Home already?" I didn't answer as I drove to the front door. Taking off my jacket, gloves and helmet, I half ran to the practice run. "DAD!" "Kris, what's wrong?" He stopped their drill, making all the guys turn and watch me. I "We were looking at the land. There is a wooded area that I was looking around at it." I was not about to tell my dad what was happening there. Colt and Ace walked up as I talked. "Along a stream, there was a group of rogues. They saw us. We got away and got the soil sample but there was like 15 or 20

of them!" "S hit dad, that's not far from here. If they are setting up camp...?" "That's Alpha Marc's land, it;s his call but I'll reach out and see if he needs anything. Did Alec go home to tell him?" "Yeah, I told him not to follow me here. That would be wasting time. If they decide to head this way and attack since we saw them and they saw us...." "I'm calling." Dad pulled out his phone to show me it before dialing. I was aware of the looks I was getting but I did my best to ignore them. asked me as he tOL my shoulder. "Just worried they will attack, I'm good." "LISTEN UP!" Dad yelled. Everyone was instantly alert. "Black team, lets go!" Turning to Ace. "You're in charge." "Yes, sir!" Ace said extremely seriously. A group of 15 men ran forward and followed dad and Colt as they ran off. I assumed to help Alpha Marc. "Is there anything else you want to add?" Ace asked me in a very accusatory tone. "What exactly are you implying

Ace?" "Just asking a question." His eyes narrowed at me. "I don't like it." He didn't have to explain what he meant, I knew it. "Sounds like a you problem." I said before turning around and walking off. As much as I was concerned about the rogues, I still needed to be responsible to finish all, if any work gets done for all the events. It was hard to focus but after a few hours, I was finished with every single project for the rest of the ye Thankfully I had finished the other projects this week and budgeted the checkbook so I was able to for on the rest. It wasn't until I was getting ready for bed that there was a knock on the door. Since I had locked it, and

the entire packhouse was soundproof, I had to answer the door. "Hello?" "Hey, just figured I'd tell you, we were able to stop any attack. We met Alpha Marc just as the rogues were at the edge of town." Dad was standing there covered in dirt. The sweat had dried and his smell was thick.

## Chapter 35

"Thank you for letting me know." I said as I tried to hold my breath. "Headed to bed?" "Yeah, getting ready for school tomorrow." "Big week next week." Dad was fishing at this point. "What is it, dad?" His hand went up and rubbed the back of his head. "Did you find a dress?" "Yes." "One that fit the theme?" F uck.. colt wouldn't have ratted me out. I got two dresses, one for my birthday, and one for prom." I didn't want to lie. "Wear what makes you happy." Dad said after a pause before turning and leaving. "That was weird." I said to out loud to myself as I shut the bedroom door. Turning the lights off, I fell asleep right as my phone dinged. After a small internal debate, it wasn't worth me moving so I finished

going to bed. Monday mornings are literally the worst. This Monday was the worst one yet. Not even out of bed and I knew today was going to suck. An n is going to be going crazy with the birthday party and the challenge in Saturday. So many people will be coming and going all week. Tension will be high and I'll be the target for her stress relief. Not to mention the fact I may find my mate on friday. If it was Ace, there would be no escape. Part of me always had this connection to him. It was so easy and effortless. We just flowed and it came naturally. Then there was Alec. He was a wild card that I didnt fully believe in. He was the hottest f ucking guy I'd ever seen and boy could he k\*ss. The reality of him being my mate was slim. We fought and our tempers clashed. Like oil and water.

Reaching over, I was able to grab my phone without moving too much. I was feeling almost normal at this point. That was, until I saw I had two messages. One from Ace and one from Alec. Ace: Happy Birthday week! Try to have a good day. It was sent at 6:03am. The clock said it was 6:45am. Texting back, I said thanks before pulling up Alec's message. Alec: Everything got handled. Site has been cleared for construction. Thanks for your help. That was sent right before I went to bed. I didn't feel the need to reply. Instead, I just got up and took a quick shower. I could s kip today but that would mean more An n so I opted to go.. I didn't feel like messing with my hair so I braided it to the side, applied some light makeup before dressing in basic shorts and t-shirt. It was suppose to be a hot f ucking week. Picking up my phone, I pulled up Emmy's name before remembering she isn't here anymore. I'll be going to school

alone. Frowning, I just grabbed my bag and walked out of my room. "About time you woke up." Ace was standing right outside my door. "S HIT!" his presence startled me. "What are you doing?" Holding up a muffin and a water, he smiled. "I came bearing gifts." The chocolate smelled delicious. Snatching it, I just glared at him as we started walking. "What's the occasion?" "Emmy isn't here to accompany you. So if figured I'd fill in." He shrugged. I "Thanks." I said maybe a little too chill. He gave me a weird look. "Want to take my car?" He asked as he opened the garage door. "No, you have training and I have to go to the shop." I sighed as I walked over to my bike. okay, we will do "What's up. Ace? You have never done this before." Stopping at my bike, I just straight up asked him. "An n is already on it. Colt assigned one of us to escort you while at the pack house until you find your mate." Ace always told me the truth.

"Ah." Putting on my helmet, we got on our bikes. Putting the rest of the muffin in my side container, we drove off. Mrs. Smith Author Thank you all for reading! I may not post tomorrow but I will be back on regular schedule in July. My kiddo has ball! 28

## Chapter 36

It was a quiet drive, nothing out of the ordinary. Crisp morning air was already warming up. We got there a little early so after we parked our bikes, we sat on a picnic bench to finish eating. The sun felt amazing in my face. "Thanks for the muffin." I told Ace. "Yeah well, you didn't have that. I snuck it out when the kitchen gals were cussing someone out for sneaking food before it was ready for everyone." They were strict kitchen workers but they did damn good work. That got me to smirk a little as I took a bite. "Breaking the rules taste so good." "So, you going to wear the red dress?" Ace asked with a glimmer of something in his eye. I "Speaking of which, did Colt say something to dad about that?" My eyes narrowed as I asked.

"Why?" "Dad said something to me." "So you're wearing the red one." Ace nodded as he looked behind me. Emmy was walking up with Alec and Jasper. "You're here early!" Emmy gave me a side hug but didn't sit down. "You weren't there to make me late." I teased. It was me that made us late in the mornings. I had to squint looking up at her. "Yeah, okay. I'll see you guys at lunch." Emmy waved as they walked off. Sighing, I just turned back to finish my muffin. I watched as they walked away. She was holding hands with Jasper but there was a level of authority round her now. "You okay?" Ace asked, bringing my eyes back to him. More and more kids were showing up and I only had five more minutes of free time. However, I needed to get my books and print off some papers. "I'm good. I need to go to the library though. See you at lunch!" Jumping up, I headed towards the door.

He was right behind me the whole way to the library. The bell dinged as I was hitting print. I wasn't too worried as the teacher was part of the team that handles the extracurricular activities. I was literally handing him all of the organization, list of supplies and numbers for every single event left this school year and for next year. Usually, I don't get that done till the summers. Not that I particularly liked college level economics but it will look good on an application. As soon as I walked in, Mr. Ford pulled down his

glasses and looked at me. "Miss Kris, running late?" "Yes but I have this for you." Smiling, I walked up to him to hand him the papers I just printed out. "This is wonderful. Thank you. Take a seat." Looking over, my usual seat was taken but Angela's minions. Leaving the only seat open next to Alec. Wonderful. "I see I'm not the only one taking advanced classes." I muttered as I slipped into my seat. "These classes were made to entice you to stay." My body froze as he said those words. Although he wasn't wrong, he wasn't fully right. They were being discussed before I came around. Dad just gave them the push they needed. "Partially true." Leaning back, I crossed my arms and ignored Alec's presence. This was awkward. We had that non-date day and kissed but now we are sitting here like strangers or enemies even. The shitty thing, he was in almost all of my classes. As soon as the bell rang, my ass was up and out the door before anyone could stop me. I had to skip my locker earlier so I had to grab my books. As I turned the corner, there was a group of girls laughing outside of my locker.

My stomach dropped as there was only one person with enough balls to do this. "What's going on?" Colt walked up beside me. "Haven't figured it out yet." I sighed. "Allow me." Colt walked forward and growled at the girls. They all instantly scattered but then I was able to see what they were laughing about. There were pictures of me dancing with Ace and with Alec. Above it read: 'Ice princess playing the field'

## Chapter 37

Colt angrily ripped it down before storming off. "Colt!" Yelling after him did nothing. Instead, I watched in horror as he ripped open a door and stepped inside. "Alec! Outside! NOW!" I was curious how he knew Alec was there but now wasn't the time. Colt took off walking as a mix of anger and confusion. Alec stepped into the hall. Looking at me and at the back of Colt, his demeanor asked me the fuck that was about. Shaking my head, I followed Colt outside. Alec's presence was very much known as I followed Colt. It wasn't until we were outside that I could breathe. "Colt? Care to explain?" He was trying to hold in his own anger. Colt was not doing as well. "Explain this!" Colt slammed the poster into Alec's chest with enough force to make Alec take a step back. Alec's eyes drew black as he looked at it.

"Where was this?" "ON HER FUCKING LOCKER!" Colt yelled so loud the windows shook. "No one is going to do anything" I said looking between the two. "Ice, look..." Colt's voice was still elevated. "Watch your tone" I said as I glared at him. He instantly chilled out. "I'll be settling this in the ring on Saturday" "That's probably best." Alec muttered. "Seriously?" Colt looked pissed at Alec. "Colt, it will only make things worse. Let me handle this my way." "No, that's the fucking issue. You are petty as fuck. You will hit them where it fucking hurts and all hell will

break loose." Colt rolled his eyes at me. "Seriously?" Alec looked at me. "Where do you think Ice came from? I don't play fair. I'm not someone you want to piss off. I have my dad's temper." Shrugging, it wasn't a big deal to me.... Others may not agree. "That might be entertaining to watch." Alec smirked. "Don't encourage her!" Colt was slowly looking his mind. "Listen, I'll take the high road but if one more

thing happens, all gloves are off." Looking between the two of them, they nodding in agreement. "Well, we have 30 minutes till our class is over then lunch." Alec looked at his watch. "I got to go signed up for the S.A.T.s." turning, I headed back in. "Yeah" Colt muttered "Me too." Alec followed us in to the office. It was a short walk but since the hallways were empty, everything echoed. Even the sound of giggling girls. Slipping off my shoes and tiptoeing to the corner, I looked over. Angela and her gang were putting another one up. I felt Alec move beside me. Instantly, I put my hand on his chest to stop him. Shaking my head no, I walked quietly behind them. There were a few ways I could play this. Right as I was about to smash her head against the locker, something glittery caught my eye. Angela's journal was sticking out of her bag. Grabbing it, I hid it behind my shirt. "Little crooked, move the right up a little." The girls jumped and the poster fell. A can of spray paint roller on the ground to my feet. Picking it up, I looked at them. "Well, isn't it the slut of the school." Angela stepped forward. "The only reason you are breathing, is the fact I don't want any excuses for you to miss Saturday. I'm going to enjoy teaching you a lesson." Taking the spray paint. I put a dot on her stomach. "Here will be my first punch. Then here and here."

"You bitch!" She shrieked. One girl on the right tried to come at me. Chopping her in the throat. She went down. "Anymore?" As she was on the ground, I sprayed Xs over her eyes like she was dead. "Alpha?" Frowning, Colt and Alec stepped around the corner. "She attacked us!" "Lying now? Come see me in my office after school." Alecs eyes were pitch black and sexy as fuck. Angela got a half smile. "Like old times." Looking him up and down, she licked her lips. "Yes Alpha." They grabbed their friend off the ground and left. Colt had already started cleaning up.

## Chapter 38

"Why did you stop me?" I was disappointed. Colt just gave me a look. "Ice, c'mon," Pulling out her journal, I started skimming it. "Yeah, yeah. See you boys." Walking off to the cafeteria, it was already filling up. Putting the journal away, I waited in line. Colt walked in and sat down beside Kara. She looked happy but was at the same time. As soon as I got my lunch, I felt someone tap my shoulder. "Hey girl! Come sit with us!" Emmy had a huge smile on her face. Looking at their table, Alec just sat down. Looking at my table, Ace was staring at me. "Maybe tomorrow. I'm actually not hungry." Throwing away my food, I bee-lined right out of there and went outside. The wind caused my hair to whip my face as I kept going. I expected Emmy to follow me, or even Ace but it was Colt that caught up to me. Grabbing my shoulders, he forced me to turn and look at him. 1 "What's wrong? You never let that girl stuff bother you before."

"It's not them. Well, not directly. It's everything. You realize we will be 18 in four days. For you, nothing changes. For me, everything changes." I wanted to confess my feelings to him but something stopped me. "Come sit," Colt took me to a near by tree and we sat down. He put his arm over my shoulders to comfort me. "Tell me what's really bothering you." "Why do yo-" I started "Don't. The truth." "S hit. Everything. What if Ace is my mate? I'll be stuck here. This whole time we said no feelings and if one of us developed feelings, it would stop. He never told me and now if we aren't mates, he will be hurt."



“What about Alec?” Colt asked. “What about him?” Colt hear my heart skip a beat. “Do you think he is your mate?” The million dollar question. “It just feels different. Ace is like a protector, has been my whole life, but Alec feels like an equal. He doesn’t know me like you guys do so he just lets me do my thing.” “That’s not what I asked.” “Alec offers a new place to live away from Ann.” “Kristen, stop thinking with your head and start feeling from your heart. Your head isn’t going to tell you who your mate is. You have no control over that. Only your heart has these answers.” “Yeah...” I said lamely. “I see the way Alec looks at you. You can’t feel guilty for letting go of a childhood friend for your mate.” “So you think Alec is my mate?” I smirked looking up at him. “I just think you can’t feel guilty if it isn’t Ace.” Colt gave me a half smile. “Will you feel guilty if it isn’t Kara?” I asked. “In a way. She isn’t Luna material but I do have feelings for her. I don’t think I’ll have as hard a time letting her go.” He didn’t need to add the last part for me to understand his direction. ‘I just want to go to the beach and hide away’ I half joked. “Maybe for a graduation present.” Colt laughed as we stood up. “If I’d known that. I would have graduated 4 years ago.” “HA! I’ll see you later.” Colt said as he walked off. “Not forcing me to go to class?” I asked looking at the school “Naw, take the afternoon off.” A huge smile crept across my face. Colt came up and kissed my forehead. “Just don’t make me regret this and find trouble.” “I’ll go right to my shop.” I promised. “Good.” Colt turned back to the school and I turned to go my shop. It felt good and my spirit was lifted. I was such a good mood that I didn’t pay attention to what was going on around me.

Mrs. Smith Author Thank you all for reading! Please leave a gem and help me out! 22

## Chapter 39

Unlocking my shop, I was able to turn the lights on and set my stuff down. Grabbing the journal, I found some good entries. Nothing too bad but enough to blackmail her. I was making copies when the bell rang that someone opened my door. “Hello? I’m not open right now!” I yelled. No answer. I felt the presence of someone in my shop. My internal bells were going off. “Colt, get the guys and get to my shop. Something is wrong.” I mind linked Colt. “What’s happening?” I didn’t answer, instead, I kept the link open as I walked out from behind the wall. “Can I help you?” I asked, firmly. There were three men standing in my shop. They all gave off authority and danger vibes. Unlike Alec, they looked scary and dangerous as fuck. Hair in a bun, neck and face tattoos and piercings. Everything in me told me to keep my distance. I was no match for three massive guys. They stood over 6’5 and muscular.

Not body builder style but that didn’t fool me, “We hear you are the place to go for a tattoo.” His voice was like ice running through my veins. My first thought was, where is Alec when I needed him. “I don’t believe I got your name.” I stated as I kept my back straight. “Forgive me, beautiful. My name is Darin. This is Steven and Cash. Perhaps you heard of us?” “Holy fucking shit.” Colt cursed in my head. “I’m coming!” “Can’t say I have.” I told them as I didn’t move. Something moved in the back of his eyes. Anger? “Let me properly introduce myself to you, Miss Kristen. My name is Darin Knight of the Midnight River Pack. This is my future beta, (Steven nodded) and gam ma, (

Cash nodded).” Holy s hit was right. They don’t play nice with others. Everything in me told me to run away. “I assume you want a tattoo?” I skip ped the pleasantries. “Come on now! I wouldn’t want to have a miscommunication and think you aren’t being friendly. My father, Alpha Rip would appreciate that from the daughter of Alpha Brian.” Steven and Cash shared smirks as they shifted in their spots. “I don’t my father would be too happy to hear what’s going on here without his approval. This shop is his territory and I don’t believe you were invited in.” It was the only other thing I could think of to try to get them to back down. “You are a feisty one.” He took a few steps closer to me. His eyes never left mine as he got closer and closer to me. Standing inches in front of me, his hand moved the hair off my neck and his face moved down so he was whispering in my ear. “I like you.” “Step away from my sister.” Colt’s voice was thick with authority. I was proud of myself for keeping my head up but I was shaking internally. Darin just laughed as he took a deep breath before he stood up. “I assume you are Colt.” He stood at his full height and turned. He was taller than Colt as I underestimated their height. Ace and I took a few steps away from Darin and looked over at Colt. He brought everyone. Not Jacob but Alec and Jasper. All of them looking rather pissed off. I found myself looking between Alec and Darin. “I am and you are very much aware of the rules you are breaking right now.” “Don’t get your panties in a twist. I was just here to introduce myself to this beautiful woman. I want to seek her services” The way it said it made it sound dirty. Almost S\*\*ual by the twi nkle in his eyes. “Her books are full” Colt continued.

“We were not told you were back in town.” Alec spoke up. “And you are...?” Darin rocked back and forth on his feet. “Alec, son of Alpha Mark of the Blue Fang pack.” “Great, able to meet everyone. Since we all share the same cities, I was hoping to meet up.”

## Chapter 40

“You were suppose to be overseas for another year.” Colt said blantly. “Came home. Got an invitation to a birthday party?” I was cussing out An n in my head for sending them one. “I heard you found your mate already.” Alec stated. “Unfortunately, she didn’t make the cut. I am in search of a replacement.” He turned and looked at me. “Yup” he licked his l\*ps as he looked me up and down. “She isn’t 18 yet.” Colt said. “Neither are you. That is, until Friday, I’ll be waiting to see who I will be challenging for her hand.” After nodding, the three guys walked out of my shop. Getting into their sports car and sped off. I was just frozen in my spot. What the actual f uck just happened? My eyes stayed on the door. His words echoed in my head. ‘who he will be challenging for my hand’. “Kris!” Colt had me by the shoulders and shook me. Snapping me out of my trans, I finally looked up at him.

My mouth opened about nothing came out. My tongue was dry, my nerves were shot and my energy was drained. Colt just pulled me into a hug. “When did he f ucking get back? Jacob was on a rampage. “This isn’t good.” Jasper agreed. “Can you guys come over for a meeting? Colt asked Alec. “Of course. We will be there in an hour.” Alec looked at me. “You okay?” All I could do was nod. That seemed to satisfy him and they left. “We need to get home. Cancel your appointments.” Grabbing my appointment book, I held it close. “I’ll do it at home.” I had never wanted to go home to the pack house so bad

before. Colt nodded as he grabbed my bag and watched me lock the door. Climbing in Jacobs car, he dropped

Ace off at my bike. Ace rode it home for me so I could stay in the car. The whole thing took about 45 minutes before we were back. "Kristen, go to my office. Make your calls and stay there." Dad was angry. Nodding, I took off running. As "No, I'm not going to fucking cry." I yelled at myself. Keep your head up and focus. Opening my book, I dialed the first person. "Hello?" "Graham, this is Kris. I'm going to have to reschedule. Something came up and dad is requesting I am present for it." It wasn't lie. "Damn, okay. Just let me know what works." He was a pack member so he couldn't argue with a command from dad. "Thursday at 4?" "Sounds good. Thanks!" We hung up and I called the next person. It went about the same. The last person was a human and would be more difficult. "Hello?" He sounded angry. "This is Kris, I am going to have to reschedule your appointment to day as something came up and I will not be in the shop." "That's bulls hit. I already paid and I want my tattoo finished." Dad and everyone walked in. Including Ale Marc, Jasper and Emmy. "I understand that and I apologize for the inconveniences but this is unavoidable. Can you come next week?" I'll have to call you back." Click! Frowning, I put my phone down. Everyone was looking at me, waiting. "Kris! Are you okay?" Emmy sat down beside me, looking very concerned. I just looked at her. Not sure how to answer that. Looking at the room, my eyes landed on Colt. Giving

that twin vibe to get him to change the subject. "Dad, why was an invitation sent to them? They aren't allies!" Colt was pissed. Emmy tried to put her arm around me but I pushed it off and stood up. If I let her comfort me, I might crack. "Ann, get in there." Dad pressed the intercom button, calling for Ann. No one spoke as we waited for her. I moved to the window and looked down. 1 "Hune-" Ann walked in thinking it was just dad but when she saw everyone, she frowned. "What's going on?" Her whole tone changed.