

Alex POV:

When I suggest bringing the Rogue Pack here, to the White Mountain Pack, I watch the emotions that cross both Axton and Luca's faces closely as Nova slowly lowers herself back down waiting to see what is said. I see a mixture of surprise, hope and concern on the mens faces.

Sitting back, Axton furrows his brows as he considers what I've said, while Luca turns his attention to his Alpha, his eyes glazed over as he mind links him.

"I think that's a good idea" Nova says quietly, making her brother and Axton both turn to her. "From my point of view, it brings more support to this pack, which after the stunt Bruno has just pulled will be a good thing. It also gives this pack an idea of the pack that their Beta is moving to if all goes ahead, it could increase their support in

your move. Because, I have to admit they will be upset about losing you won't they Luca. Also, it gives my fathers pack an opportunity to see how you handle yourself and the pack members here, it could increase their support in you becoming their leader and rid them of any concerns they may have. Plus it gives you more choices for the future, it could be the start of a strong pack relationship.”

“Do we address Luca and Sophies opportunity yet?” Axton asks me.

“I was going to address it soon, I am now planning on informing the rest of the packs at the Alpha meeting that Elder Martin has arranged. I suggest informing them once we return” I tell him. “I need to have a meeting with Sophie and Luca, I would also like to see what Kingsley made their pack grounds like and how he handled them, but I know it needs some thought put into my visit. I

imagine a visit from the Alpha King may make them nervous.”

“Actually, I believe they will be willing to meet you Alpha King” Luca interjects quietly. “Kingsley was well liked in that pack, they looked up to him as their leader, the way they view Sophie is the same. Many were very supportive in Kingsley’s need to find Nova, they helped him tremendously from what Sophie has told me. I think, although many may be nervous, they will want to meet you and also others.”

“Interesting” I murmur as I ponder over his words. “Well we will arrange speaking to the entirety of the pack once we have returned from the Alpha meeting. For now, I would like Sophie to bring the Rogue Pack warriors here, she is still this packs Beta female despite being in a transition of power at the moment. Do you think you could speak to her and arrange for their travel tomorrow?”

“We both will” Axton answers. “Our pack knows of Sophie’s background as a rogue, our warriors know more due to the fight. But I believe it’s time for everyone to know, Sophie is well liked in this pack despite the short time she has been here, she will be supported by many.”

“That’s good” I say in relief. ” Jax and Nova, I will travel with you back to The Midnight Sky pack once we have finished at Bruno’s pack tomorrow. We have lots to discuss and I would also like to speak to your mother Nova, do you think she will be up for it?”

“Yes” she answers immediately. “The more she feels like she is helping and contributing, the stronger it will keep her. She is responding well with Laurence from what I’ve been told, but I’m anxious to see her again.”

“Then we will speak with her before we leave for the Alpha meeting. Are there any

questions?” I ask as I look around the room, taking in everybody’s tired features.

Seeing them all shake their heads, I stand to dismiss them, “get some rest everybody, it’s been a long few days. We need to be prepared for tomorrow. Jax, do you mind coming with me briefly?” I ask as I gesture towards the door.

“Of course” he answers before leaning down and kissing Novas temple, whispering something quietly in her ear making her blush. Looking up at me, I shake my head, ” I don’t even want to know.”

“Good thing I wasn’t telling you then” he smirks back at me, the first time I’ve seen him show any emotion other than concern and anger since learning Mila has been taken.

“Good night everyone” I say quietly before we leave the room. Walking downstairs, I

lead him outside and we begin walking down towards the training grounds.

“How are you holding up?” I ask him after a few moments of quiet.

With a sigh he shrugs, “as well as I can be. I have faith in Mila, but it doesn’t stop me worrying. I know what Bruno did to her last time, I just hope he won’t go down that path again.”

“That’s partly why I want to speak to you” I admit. “The messages he sent Mila, it seemed he still had a fondness for her, he believes he still has a claim on her as he referenced her as “my Mila” which does concern me.”

“He doesn’t like that he’s lost her, he accepted the rejection because he knew he had no other choice” Jax agrees. “The man on the phone, and the man who messaged Mila sounded different don’t you agree? On the phone he was openly taunting us and

Mila, but the fact he actually did as she requested shows how serious he was about getting her back. But I wonder why that is.'

"He is mating Rebecca" I tell him, "my sources confirmed this to me weeks ago. But there is yet to be a date for her Luna ceremony which confuses me. He has been with her for a long time now, yet seems to be in no hurry to make her his Luna officially."

"Her father is the Alpha of the Red Sun Pack isn't he" Jax says quietly. "I think it's about power once more, with their support it greatly boosts his numbers. Perhaps he is only using Rebecca. If his end game truly is to become the Alpha King of the South."

"I did consider that, and to an extent I believe he is. Like you said, the support and added power he gets from having a close pack relation to The Red Sun Pack is tremendous. Perhaps he persuaded Rebecca to agree to have Mila as a breeder so that in

the future he could take Mila as his Luna, once he no longer needs the help of Rebecca's home pack" I say as I voice my thoughts aloud.

"It does not excuse his treatment of Mila in their time together" Jax growls as his anger surges at the memories. "He f****d Rebecca in front of her, he openly flaunted her and insisted he would be making Rebecca his Luna which broke both Mila and Alia. Then he continued to cause her pain by sleeping with Rebecca once I took Mila from his pack."

"Sometimes you cant explain someone's behaviour or thinking when its that twisted" I sigh. "My thinking is he wanted the best of both worlds,he thought he could play everyone to get what he wanted. It's hard to read him from everything I've heard and know myself. It concerns me because even as Alpha King, at this point he is confusing the f**k out of me."

“Well it wont work” Jax snarls. “My sister cannot stand him, she wont forgive or forget what’s happened and she certainly wont be giving up on Axton.”

“That I don’t doubt, she will be stronger this time” I chuckle as I think of the attitude I have seen from Mila over the last few days.

“When we return to your pack tomorrow, we will speak to the witches. I have Ophelia speaking to some of our sources down south to see if there are any whispers of Mila or Bruno. Just..keep a level head yes?” I say to him.

“That’s what I’m good at” he replies with a confident smirk.

“I know, drives me mad” I chuckle as he laughs quietly. “We will talk more when we are back tomorrow, right now I need to sleep.”

“Yes, I need to get back to Nova” Jax says as his eyes burn brightly at her name. “To get some rest” he adds on with a smirk.

“Riiiiight” I laugh as he punches my shoulder lightly.

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Jax POV:

Walking to the room Luca had readied for Nova and I, I feel slightly lighter after talking to Alex and hearing what is quietly taking place in the background. Knowing Ophelia she will be working efficiently to try and get even a sliver of information to help us find Mila. “I’m almost back in love” I link Nova as I begin walking up the pack house stairs.

Not getting a reply, I try not to frown at the thought she may have fallen asleep.

“The woman is allowed to rest Jax” Zeus grunts to me as I brush the thoughts away.

“I know, I felt guilty as soon as I felt annoyed” I snap back.

“I know you’re on edge Jax, as am I” he snaps back at me.

“I know, I’m sorry” I say to him quietly as I take a few calming breaths. Staying calm and collected around everyone is at times challenging, it means when I’m alone my moods seem to be intensified as I allow myself to wallow in my feelings for a few private moments. Pushing the door of the suite open, I step inside the dimly lit room and glance around. Not seeing Nova, I pause until I hear the door close behind me.

Spinning round, I gasp as my eyes fall on my mate. She’s standing there, freshly washed with not one bit of clothing on to cover herself.

“I’ve been waiting for you” she murmurs with a small smile as my eyes rake over her

toned body. “I thought you might need to..de-stress.”

“I do” I moan as I feel my hardened length pressing into my jean front. Coming to a stop in front of me she grasps my top and pulls me down as one hand moves up and wraps round my neck.

“I want to help you relax” she purrs in my ear as she pushes against me, urging me back towards the bed. Feeling the back of my legs hit the bed, she pushes me down firmly so I’m sat there gazing up at her. Standing between my legs, i admire her full breaths, her n****s hard as the scent of her arousal floats though the air. Reaching a hand up I gently squeeze a n****e before tracing my fingers lightly down her stomach then sliding them through her wet folds.

“f**k Nova, you’re so wet for me” I moan as I watch her lids flutter when I apply a slight pressure to her swollen nub. Suddenly she meets my eyes and gives me a cheeky smirk,

stepping back she leans forward and efficiently undoes my trousers, pulling them down hard and releasing my shaft.

Dropping to her knees, I watch her every movement as I leak precum at the thought of what's to come. "This is about you" she tells me, before pumping my shaft slowly, her tongue flicking out to lick at my precum. Moving her head forward, she takes my entire length in her mouth slowly as her other hand goes to massage my balls. Hollowing her cheeks, she begins to move up and down my shaft quicker and quicker, humming against my length as she swallows me whole.

"What a sight" I groan as I watch her movements. "So f*****g good."

"Stand up" she links me suddenly, as I feel her hands move to my ass urging me up. Doing as she says, I feel my heart rate quicken as I anticipate what she's going to demand.

Looking up at me through her long lashes as she continues sucking me in, she links me saying, “I know you’re stressed. So take some of that and f**k me in the mouth, I want to feel you pounding into me, your shaft moving down my throat as you take what you need.”

“f**k yes” I moan as I reach my hand to her hair and wrap it tight. Feeling her hands grasp my arse I begin to slowly f**k her mouth, increasing my speed as I feel her throat relax.

“Play with yourself” I tell her as I watch her hand move down to rub through her wet folds. “Quicker” I growl at her, watching as her movements become more frantic as she chases her release.

Feeling her moan against my shaft as she draws nearer, has me grunting at each thrust of my hips. “f**k, that’s it love” I moan as I feel my balls begin to tighten. “I want you to c*m with me.”

“Jaxxx” she links me as her eyes begin to flutter closed, my breath hitches as her cheeks hollow out, sucking me in so I hold my place down her throat. Pulling off of me she groans out loud as she finds her release, her body shaking as I pump my shaft a couple of times before exploding all over her heaving chest with a loud moan.

Panting as we both come down from our high, I bend down to lift her from the floor. “Thanks babe” I murmur as I take in her flushed cheeks, “you sure know how to treat your Alpha well.”

“I know you’re worried, as we all are. I’d do anything to help you relax so you can continue thinking clearly’ she tells me as she cups my cheek softly.

Kissing her forehead, I sit her on the bathroom side as I get a wash cloth and run it under some warm water. Walking back, I clean her up as she watches me with eyes filled with love.

“Alex said Ophelia is talking to some of her sources down south, trying to see if there is anything being said about Mila or Bruno” I tell her quietly. “I think he just wanted to see where I was at.”

“Of course he did, he’s worried about you” she says softly. “You will soon have a lot of responsibility on your shoulders and the next few months will be extremely different to what you had planned I imagine. He’s just looking out for you as his friend.”

“Oh I know” I say with a small smile. “And I will be fine, its what I’m trained for, plus it was nice to be reassured by him. How do you think the other Alphas will react when he tells them his news?”

“I think many will be happy with him putting you forward as his candidate” Nova replies without hesitation. “There will be surprise at Alex stepping down, but with us knowing his reasoning its more than understandable.”

“You do realise he will be saying one of the reasons is our bond and what you are” I tell her as I carry her to the bed.

“I do” she replies slowly, “but I cant hide from it can I. I am what I am, and we just have to embrace it and see what good we can do. ”

“I love your attitude towards it all you know” I smile, proud of her positivity and determination, as we pull the duvet over us and I bring her close to my chest. “i know I can do this because I have you by my side.”

“And I have you” she whispers as her voice wobbles and I hear a small snuffle.

“Oh don’t cry love” I whisper as I kiss her head, breathing in her delicious scent. “You know its times like this that your scent alone brings me peace, i think its even grown stronger since our bond fully developed.”

“Really?” She laughs.

“Really” I reply with a yawn. Hearing her yawn soon after, I close my eyes and enjoy some time with my mate. “Sleep my love.”

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Nova POV:

“Love its time to wake up” I hear Jaxs husky morning voice say as he gently brushes the hair from my face. “We have twenty minutes to get ready.”

“Ahhh” I groan, my body feeling heavy with sleep.

“I’ve got you coffee” he says with a dep chuckle as the delicious aroma reaches my nose. With a sleepy smile, I rub my eyes and force myself to sit up, shooting Jax a grateful smile. “You were out like a light, you need to make sure you’re getting enough rest.”

“I know” I yawn. “It’s just been hectic hasn’t it. And today...” I trail off as my worry for Mila hits my like a train. Grimacing as the

memory of what happened makes me feel nauseous, I put the coffee down and make myself get up out of bed. Walking to the bathroom quickly, I ignore the confused look Jax is giving me and take some deep breaths before splashing some cold water on my face. Brushing my teeth and hair, I glance in the mirror and frown as I see the dark circles under my eyes.

“I look awful” I moan to Jax as I walk back through, picking me coffee up and taking a sip. “I really do look done in at the moment.”

“You’ve had a lot on your plate Nova, and things aren’t getting easier are they. But you look gorgeous, as always” he says quietly giving me a comforting hug.

“Ki? You ok this morning?” I ask her as she stretches slowly in my head.

“Hmm” she grunts. “Tired” is all she tells me before retreating back in my mind.

Frowning once more as I feel a bit taken aback by her bluntness, I see some clothes laid out and quickly pull them on. “These are Alice’s” I state as I look at them on me, apart from being a little tight they fit me well.

“Luca brought them” Jax shrugs.

“I didn’t even hear him” I chuckle as I see Jax is also sporting one of Lucas tops.

“Like I said, you were out of it” he smirks as he heads into the bathroom. Sitting down on the bed, I busy myself by pulling my trainers on and doing the laces up quickly.

Sitting there, I realise Ki has been suspiciously quiet on me the last few days. Since meeting Jax she has been content to sit and listen to our conversations, happy to say her piece when she wants but also busying herself with talking to Zeus. But the last few days she has felt more withdrawn.

“Ki are you alright? You’ve gone quiet on me” I frown as I put my hair in a loose braid.

“I’m fine Nova, don’t worry. You just have a lot to think about with Mila. But don’t worry, I’m always here” she replies, her voice soothing me as I relax slightly at her words.

“You can have a run with Zeus later, hows that?” I ask her with a smile.

“You know I’ll never say no to that wolf” she purrs back at me making me giggle aloud.

“Ready?” Jax asks as he appears from the bathroom. With a small nod, I take his out stretched hand and we begin our walk down to the waiting car.

“What is the Deep Forest Pack like?” I ask him as we wait for the others to join us.

“About as different from our pack as it can be” he frowns. “They are surrounded by the deep forest hence the name of the pack. Only men train, I know women are expected to keep the house running etc, something Mila didn’t agree with and voiced it very early on. Bruno said it was just the way the pack has

always been and it was effective. I also know that in that pack, your position or rank matters, if you're an omega then you're looked down on and so on. As for the actual pack grounds, its very impressive but also quite intimidating. Everything is guarded, you literally cant go anywhere without having eyes on you. You'll see what I mean when we get there."

"Mila wouldn't fit in there" I comment quietly.

"Not one bit" he agrees immediately. "She had a few days with Bruno before they went to his pack, as soon as they arrived she said that's when he began to change. He didn't like it when she mentioned making changes, no matter how big or small. Then of course, Rebecca was introduced to her and things changed dramatically."

Feeling tears form in my eyes, I bite my lip and look to the sky hoping they don't fall.

“Sorry” I whisper as I catch Jax’s concerned gaze. “Its hard to think of what Mila went through, I’m sorry to say when she told me I felt bad but I didn’t ask further as I was unsure if she would be happy discussing it. Then I thought she would tell me when she was ready and when she had no ties to him.”

“She would have told you, but it’s like you said. She didn’t like to focus too much on what took place, my sister is all for thinking of the future” he says with a small smile.

Nodding I shake my head to rid myself of these tears. “So emotional” I chuckle. “Lack of sleep for you.’

Hearing my phone ring, I jump in surprise before fishing it out of my leggings pocket. “Laurence?” I ask anxiously as I answer.

“Good morning Luna” his cheery voice rings in my ear making me groan. “I thought you were a morning person..or was that just a

ruse to meet our Alpha in the gym?” He teases as Jax throws me a wide smirk.

“I’m blaming my lack of sleep” I grumble to our Beta as I narrow my eyes at Jax. “Why are you calling so early?”

“Sorry, Alpha said you would be up at this time. I wanted to run an idea past you, I’ve been to see Lizzie multiple times since you’ve been gone, but I’ve so far gone alone. She’s been perfectly fine with me, but I think she might benefit from someone else coming along, it might make her feel a little more relaxed despite her circumstances. I was wondering if I could take Naomi with me this morning? Perhaps seeing my pregnant mate may bring her some joy, natural instincts kind of thing.”

Smiling at his thoughtfulness I quickly agree, “I love that idea Laurence. Perhaps also take Flo with you. She has some stories of me from when I was younger.”

“I’ll take Naomi with me, and run the idea past your mum about Florence joining us. I wouldn’t want to overwhelm her. But I think she will be open to the idea, she expressed an interest in knowing more about you, she definitely wasn’t told what Charles knew about you over the years” he says quietly at the end.

Blowing out a long breath, I sit down on the edge of a nearby wall. “What has she said to you?” I ask him nervously.

“Not too much, I haven’t wanted to push her in your absence and I got the feeling once she knew you had to leave that her nerves increased somewhat. I’ve just been checking in and keeping her company, trying to make her feel like she is welcome here. I can tell she thinks she’s partially to blame” he trails off.

“She stills puts herself at fault despite not being in control of her own mind. Do you think she expects there to be consequences?”

I ask him as Jax sits next to ne listening quietly.

“I think so yes” Laurence admits.

“Then we need to change that way of thinking” Jax says firmly as he takes the phone and puts it on speaker. “Hey Laurence.”

“Alpha” Laurence replies politely.

“I’m going to speak to Elder Martin when we get back later. “But I’m quite certain Lizzie hasn’t caused any harm when in her own mind. I have an idea of what we can do, but I’m not going to speak to Lizzie about it until we have discussed it thoroughly. Just keep her relaxed and be there for her, Naomi will be great with her. Flo will also if Lizzie is comfortable. What has the doctor said?”

“The broken mate bond has hurt her, she’s feeling the loss of her mate hard. But I know she is strong enough to get through it despite being human. As horrible as it is, the

fact she was apart from Kingsley for so long is to thank for that. She will be ok, I have managed to get her to eat more, I've found small bites more frequently is better than large meals. All of yesterday I made sure to sit and eat with her" Laurence tells him proudly.

"You're a good man Laurence" I tell him softly.

"Thank you Luna" he replies happily. "I'll be in touch throughout the day, I'll be ready with the morning report from 12pm Alpha."

"Cheers mate" Jax says in relief, "speak soon."

Hanging up the phone he passes it wordlessly back to me as I look at him curiously.

"Your idea..?" I prompt him.

"There are a few methods to make her remember, its to decide which is most

suitable for her mind right now” he explains as we see the others arrive.

“What do you think is best?” I ask him as we stand.

“I think you already know” he says giving me a look.

“Repressed memory therapy” I murmur softly.

“Or as I like to say” he says with a chuckle, “hypnosis.”

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Axton POV:

“Morning” I say to Jax and Nova who are already waiting for us outside. “Everybody ready?”

“Ready” they chorus as we begin getting into the two cars parked up for us. “Luca, I want you to start speaking to Alejandro and Mason, I need to ready a Beta and Gamma

replacement. I trust your opinion and it matters that you agree in my replacement of you, just don't go into details, perhaps only mention the gamma position for now due to obvious reasons. But they are the two I have my eye on, any other names spring to mind for you?"

"There is Melissa, but she is not yet 18 which is a shame" he mutters, mentioning my previous Gammas younger sister. Fierce, intelligent and dedicated are words I strongly associate with her, she excelled in training especially when Nova worked her hard. I know she saw potential in her.

"I did think that, perhaps we keep an eye on her and I have a think whilst I'm out. If memory serves me correctly she is 18 in two months" I tell him.

"7 weeks" Luca mutters as he nods in agreement.

“I definitely think we should then. Have a word with those two men anyway and then once I’m back we can discuss it further” I instruct him as he steps back allowing me to climb in.

“Good luck Alpha” he says quietly.

With a nod, I press the accelerator hard and we speed off down the drive once more. The drive to the Deep Forest Pack is a quiet one, Jax holds Nova close to his side where she promptly falls asleep, while Alex and Elder Martin drive in the other vehicle.

“Are you ready for this?” I ask Jax once we are twenty minutes away.

“Yes” he replies calmly which I’m thankful for. “We may not be able to get Mila back but at least it feels like we are doing something about it. I’m not great at waiting” he admits which surprises me.

“Really?” I chuckle. ” You always seem so patient when I’ve been around you.”

“A front” he shrugs. “I’m good at controlling it, but doesn’t mean I like waiting.”

“I get that” I say after a moment. “I hope Mila is alright, I could barely sleep.”

“Why?” He asks, his eyes shifting nervously to meet mine as he leans forward. “Please tell me you haven’t felt..”

“No!” I shout making Nova startle slightly in her sleep. “No” I repeat with a whisper.

“Thank the goddess” he breaths as he sits back in his seat. “So we’re going to be family huh..” he smirks trying to lift the mood.

“Weird how life works isn’t it” I chuckle. “It makes sense though. I mean, of course I was upset with what transpired between Nova and myself at the end, its something I will always regret even knowing it wasnt my fault. But actually losing her to her fated mate wasn’t as hard as I thought it may be, I think I always knew deep down we werent meant to be. Plus with you being her mate, I

was instantly relieved and happy for you both..perhaps that's because of you being Milas sister even though I didn't know at the time.”

“I think you could be right” he says with a smile. “I'm happy you're with Mila, I may be the over protective big brother occasionally but from what I've known of you in the past and even from what Nova has said since being with her, I know you and Mila will be good together.”

“Which makes me wonder what the hell the Moon Goddess was thinking when she fated her to Bruno” I grimace.

“To make changes” Nova yawns as she blearily opens her eyes. “Thats what I think anyway.”

“When did you wake up?” I ask surprised as Jax simply chuckles.

“When someone decided it would be a good time to shout” she shrugs throwing me a

pointed glare in the mirror making me smile sheepishly.

“Sorry” I chuckle.

“Do you feel better?” Jax asks quietly as I see her smile sweetly up at him and nod in response.

Seeing the large black gates of the Deep Forest Pack appear through the darkness of the looming trees, I hear Rex snarling loudly in my head. Suddenly a thought comes to mind. “Nova?” I ask quietly, getting her attention. “Would you be able to help Rex and I while we are here?”

“Stayig calm?” She asks, seemingly not surprised by my request.

“Err....yes” I reply as I see Jax nod in approval. “I know its important we don’t go in all guns blazing and I have to admit I’m a bit edge.”

“Of course I’ll help” she says with a small smile. “I was actually going to offer but didn’t want to overstep, it still is taking some getting used to knowing I can actually influence peoples emotions.”

Seeing her frown, Jax is quick to comfort her. “It must be, but you know you will only change them or take advantage in times of need. If for example, someone asks for help such as Axton, I think its perfectly fine love. Don’t let it get to you.”

“You’re right” she chuckles shaking her worries off.

“Plus it really kicked ass when you used your empath abilities on Charles” Jax smirks.

“I wish I’d seen that” I say with a cold smile.

“It was something” Jax growls lowly, looking in the mirror I see his eyes darken as he looks at Nova heatedly so I quickly look to the pack house looming in front of us.

“Lets get this over with” I snarl as I see Alex and Elder Martin exit the vehicle ahead of us.

“I’m right behind you Axton, I’m here to help. We all are” Nova says soothingly as I feel her and Jax following me.

“Good morning Beta Wilson” I hear Martin say as we join them. Looking the man over, I take in his multiple scars loitering the skin that is showing, his eyes dark and set back under some thick eyebrows. His stance is strong, like he’s ready to react whatever the situation, but he stays calm as we approach.

“Good morning” he replies blunty, his voice deep yet strong. “Why do we have the pleasure of this visit?” He sneers as the few warriors either side of him snigger loudly.

“It’s regarding your Alpha, is he here?” Martin asks, keeping his tone level and not giving anything away.

“He’s away on business at the moment as I have already had to inform the council elders that visited previously” Wilson says in a bored tone.

“Ah...I see” Martin says as he looks to Alex for him to speak

“As you know, Alpha Bruno was asked to attend the council regarding the matter of breaking the bond with his fated mate Mila” Alex says, his eyes piercing into the men stood in front of him. “He didn’t show, now..what I’m here to ask is, where your Alpha has taken Mila?”

“You just said he didn’t show” Wilson says with a frown.

“He didn’t” Alex snaps. “He rang and accepted the rejection over the phone. He then proceeded to infiltrate The White Mountain Pack and take over in the absence of its Alpha, Beta and many warriors. He also killed their Gamma. But before we got

to him, he made a deal with Mila to leave the pack unharmed if she went with him.”

“Why would she care about that pack?” Wilson asks with a sneer.

“Because she is their true Luna, but you already know that Wilson don’t you” Nova says c****g her head as she looks him clearly in the eyes, obviously sensing the lie emitting from him.

Seeing a flicker of recognition cross his features before he quickly makes his face unreadable, he shrugs before replying. “Just testing you. Yes we were aware of Mila finding her second chance mate, however it sounds like she made the decision to leave with our Alpha. I can assure you they are not here.”

“We didn’t think they were” Martin tells him. “Unfortunately for you, we have seen the messages and if you believe Bruno telling Mila that he would kill all members of the

pack, children included, if she did not go with him isn't a threat...then I have some concerns."

With that Wilson, shifts uncomfortably where he is stood, for the first time his confidence falters.

"Your pack seems quiet Beta" Alex comments as he looks around.

"Too quiet" I murmur as I look at the eyes of the men shifting between themselves nervously.

"It's early" is all Wilson says.

"I call bullshit" I snap as his eyes move to meet mine for the first time.

"Ah...the great Alpha Axton" he says mockingly. "I've heard all about you."

"I'm sure" I chuckle darkly. "Bruno isn't my biggest fan after all."

“Family rivalry ey” the Beta chuckles, his eyes dark with mischief as he stares me down, while everyone turns to look at me. Frozen in shock I simply open and close my mouth as I stare at the Beta in confusion.

“I’m sorry, did you say family?” Jax asks with a frown.

“He’s not my family” I growl as I feel my anger rise. Feeling Nova squeeze my shoulder, I relax immediately as she does as I had asked of her.

Wilson grins at me wildly before saying clearly, “I did say that, as he is in fact, family.”

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Nova POV:

Seeing everyone still around me, I delve into the Beta’s emotions once more.

“Is he lying?” Elder Martin links me without looking away from where he’s studying

Wilson. Looking deep, my confusion grows as I sense no deception coming from him, but I do sense inner turmoil. A mixture of anger and jealousy is burning deep within him.

“He’s not lying” I reply to Martin slowly, “but it doesn’t mean Bruno isn’t..”

Hearing a snarl escape Axton, I realise I had been so focused on Wilson I hadn’t managed to keep Axton calm.

“You’re lying” Axton growls loudly as he steps forward making Wilson smirk. “If that asshole was my family, I would know about it. I’ve had the displeasure of spending a lot of time with him in the past, we went through Alpha training together where we spent 2 years living nearby, we trained together and learnt together. Don’t you think I would know if he was related to me?”

“Clearly not” Wilson says calmly as he watches Axton grow more angry.

“What do you know?” Jax asks stepping forward alongside Axton, while holding his hand out to stop Axton moving any closer to the Deep Forest Pack’s Beta.

“I just know they’re related, our Alpha made us all aware of it when he told us how Mila must have a thing for their family, I don’t know their exact relation” he shrugs.

“I’m sorry, a thing?” Jax asks incredulously. “I don’t believe you can say my sister having two fated mates from the supposed same family is simply her having a thing!”

“Fated?” Wilson repeats after a moment. “You’re fated to Mila?” he asks Axton who snarls in response.

“She is MY mate, MY fated mate” he growls loudly as fur begins to sprout on his arms. “Your Alpha was so jealous, he forced her to leave me to save our pack.”

“You didn’t know she was Axtons fated mate did you” I realise as I see him ponder over how he should answer.

“But we mentioned Axton being her second chance mate and he didn’t query it” Alex points out quietly.

Clearing his throat, Wilson shifts uncomfortably as he goes to speak. “I can confirm we didn’t know they were fated mates, we were told Mila had found her second mate but from the way we were told we believed it to be a chosen mate.”

“So Bruno spoke to you about them?” Alex asks intrigued.

“Yes” Wilson answers with a slow nod.

“What were you told?” Alex orders in his alpha tone.

“That she went running to his enemy, that she did it anger him and to cause tension between packs to show her upset at not

being accepted as his only mate. He said he needed Rebecca and Mila for the good of the pack, but she refused and began bad mouthing him then began spreading lies, he made it known to us that she was using Axton to get back her rightful position as the Luna of our pack” Wilson answers despite his reluctance.

“You have got to be f*****g joking me?” Axton erupts as he stalks forward, pushing Jax’s still outstretched arm out of the way. He makes a beeline for the Beta who is now looking unsure of himself as he watches Axton approach. “Mila is my fated mate, given to me by the goddess herself. She has been taken by that scum you call Alpha.”

“Alpha Axton, stop” Alex snaps as his eyes also stare in anger at the Beta. “He was answering my alpha command, stand down and lets handle what we came for.”

“Yes Alpha King” Axton says as he steps back slowly, welcoming the sense of calmness I push through him.

“Clearly you have not been told the truth by Alpha Bruno, and that is something we will address in due course. Back to the matter at hand Beta Wilson, were you aware of your Alphas plans regarding the White Mountain Pack and Mila?” Elder Martin asks, his voice deceptively calm.

“No” Beta Wilson snaps at him as he bristles with anger.

“Where is Alpha Bruno’s soon to be Luna, Rebecca?” Martin asks next.

“Asleep” Wilson states as I immediately sense hes telling the trth.

“Lies” I chuckle as I see his eyes narrow in anger.

Seeing Wilson’s eyes flash as his wolf comes to the surface, I can sense the battle he is

having when addressing me. “You may not want to admit it Wilson, but I know for a fact your wolf is demanding you respect me. We aren’t asking for much, only the truth.”

“I can’t tell you about Luna Rebecca, I believed she was helping our Alpha. I’d like you all to leave now..please” he growls quietly as his eyes shift between us.

“Are you in danger?” Alex asks suddenly causing Wilson’s eyes to widen in shock.

When he stays silent, Alex looks around with furrowed brows as he appears deep in thought. “Has Alpha Bruno been away from this pack much in recent months?”

“He has had matters to deal with off of pack grounds yes, however I cannot tell you more” Wilson replies moodily. “I will be happy to inform Alpha Bruno when he returns that you are wishing to speak to him.”

With a cold laugh, Alex steps forward as his aura is fully released, making the men of the Deep Forest Pack submit immediately.

“Your Alpha is very much aware that I wish to speak to him, he is aware that taking Mila in these circumstances will result in my anger, he has chosen to defy not only me but the council. Tell me Beta, are you aware that he will be facing consequences for his actions?”

“I am, especially after hearing what you have told me” Wilson replies through a clenched jaw, reluctant to speak but being forced to with the power of Alex’s Alpha command. “But he doesn’t care.”

“He doesn’t care” Alex replies with a sneer. “Well that doesn’t matter to me, Alpha Bruno will soon regret his actions believe me. I wish to see some pack members while we are here, check in and see how they are doing with the seemingly common occurrence of your Alpha disappearing.”

Seeing the hint of panic in the Betas eyes, I raise my brow at his reaction. “I don’t think that’s necessary” Wilson says quietly, his voice not as strong as it was earlier.

“I think its very necessary” Elder Martin interjects firmly. “I have many reasons to be concerned right now, as does your Alpha King, you dont want to refuse us do you?”

With a slight gesture of his head, Wilson has two of the warriors behind him move quickly inside.

“Nova, go with them” Alex orders me as Jax growls in reluctance. “She will be fine Jaxon, its not her you need to worry about right now.”

Seeing the men hurrying off without waiting for me, I raise my voice and order “WAIT!” With that the two warriors immediately freeze in their movements as I leisurely walk over to them with a smug smile on my face.

“H...how?” They splutter as I reach them.

“As our Alpha King said gentlemen, its not me that he needs to worry about” I whisper menacingly before pushing them forwards indicating they can move.

“Scout the place, if you need assistance then mind link us, we will be there immediately” Alex links me. “I asked you because people will underestimate you, but also because people may feel more comfortable speaking to you rather than these angry men out here.”

“I understand, keep an eye on Jax and Axton for me though” I reply as I step into the quiet pack house.

Seeing the men shift uncomfortably, their postures stiff while they watch me look around the entrance hall of the pack house, I c**k my head listening carefully for any sign of movement around me. “It certainly is awfully quiet around here gentlemen, our earlier observations were correct” I murmur as their eyes widen at my comment.

“Perhaps you could give me a tour of your pack house and I’ll have a chat with people along the way.”

“Are you allowed to do that? It’s not an official visit is it?” One of the men asks nervously.

“Elder Martin and your Alpha King requested an audience with your Alpha, yet he’s not here, I suggest doing as I’ve asked as I’m only following orders myself” I tell them sharply, my tone not giving them room for argument. “Now..shall we start?”