

Chapter 89

Avalynn POV

A lot has happened over the last few days. Melissa and all of the witches were coming back to our Kingdom to rest and to figure out exactly what was going on with the council. I mean, they had a pretty good idea and I did too when I slipped into Melissa's mind and saw exactly what she and the others had been through. It was absolutely horrible the way they were treated by one of their own. Brent was having a hard time with the fact someone so close to his family, other than his brother, managed to completely destroy it. I sighed and looked out the small window of the plane.

We were so high up in the air, above the clouds even. It was pretty neat. When we finally reached clear airspace, I looked down at the land below. I felt the warmth of his body next to mine. His hand moved to rest on my thigh, giving it a light squeeze.

"Are you okay?" Everest asked me softly.

I turned my head in his direction, my hand moving to rest on his, as I nodded my head before speaking, "I am, are you?"

He smiled and moved his hand to hold mine, bringing it to his lips. His lips grazed the back of my hand softly as he kissed it. "I am just fine."

I laid my head against his shoulder and closed my eyes. I didn't mean to, but I fell asleep. I must have been in a deep sleep because when I woke up, we were in an SUV now. I sat up, moving my arms above my head, stretching the best I could, leaning back against the seat.

"Good evening, my love." His voice was deep, soft, and seductive sounding. I nearly swooned.

"Hi. Where are we?" I looked out the window but it was dark already.

"Close to the border of the Kingdom. The witches are behind us on a bus." He pulled me towards him.

"Oh?" I turned to look behind us and, sure enough, there was a large bus behind us followed by a line of SUVs. I settled back into my seat as Everest was going through the emails he had missed.

I couldn't wait to be home. I missed the boys something terribly. I wondered what they had been up to last week, or were we gone for almost two? Everything has been so hectic since I met Everest. I glanced over him and smiled as he looked like he was serious and in deep thought. I was ready for our life to calm down. For us to have our happily ever after. Would that ever come though?

The thought of it not happening saddened me. I heard the clicking sound of Everest closing his laptop and felt his eyes on me. I looked up at him as tears began to pool and threatened to spill over.

"What is it?" He was confused and why wouldn't he be? I knew he felt my mood shift through the mate bond. I said I was just fine earlier. I was fine. My emotions were now all over the place. The unknown about not only our future together but the boys' future too, scared the hell out of me.

"I am just worried. I hate not knowing what tomorrow holds. I am so scared that we are going to be out here fighting for everyone and you, myself, or, hell, both of us, will not make it home. Then what happens? What about the boys? What are they going to do if we are not there for them?" I let out a small sob as Everest gathered me up in his arms, bringing me closer to him.

"Look at me Avalynn." It took me a minute, but I did. "I will do everything in my power to make sure those boys have the best possible future. You know my mother adores them. She would never leave their side and she would protect them just as she has protected me." He kissed me softly. "Please do not worry."

I returned the kiss and nodded my head. "I trust you."

He smiled at me and held onto me. I gave him a small smile and laid my head against him. I listened to the beating sounds of his heart. The thumping sound it made in his chest was oddly relaxing. I felt his hand as it traveled up and down my back. I took a moment, closed my eyes, thanked the Moon Goddess for such a blessing to have a wonderful man and my life. My life, even with all the many struggles and obstacles I have faced, was something I was grateful for. I wouldn't change my fate.

I felt the vehicle slow as we approached the gate. I don't know why, but something felt off. "Stop." Not realizing I had said it outloud, I frowned when the vehicle stopped abruptly. Everyone inside turned to look at me, with a knowing look on their faces.

"What is it?" Everest looked at me.

"I am not sure, something feels, I don't know, off?" I looked back at him and he got on his phone.

"Hey, are you guys okay? Are the boys okay? Is my mother okay? Where are the outer perimeter patrols now? Okay, tell them to meet us at the North Gate, we are going around." I listened to Everest on the phone.

I could feel the uneasy feeling I got back in the beginning. Someone is watching us, currently. I just knew it. I closed my eyes and centered myself, reaching out, searching for the unknown mind. When I found it, I saw that it was from a dark and twisted mind. I slipped into it and was immediately shoved out of their thoughts.

An irritated, harsh, and raspy voice floated through my mind, "Not a chance, bitch."

It was like the air was sucked out of me as I sat there. "They're here." I breathed heavily.

"Who?" Everest looked at me.

"I don't know, the voice sounded like a man. An extremely angry man." I looked at Everest.

"We need to shift, now. We can't protect ourselves in our human form." Everest commanded.

I nodded my head and we all exited the vehicles as Everest's voice drifted through our open link to the pack traveling with me, "Everyone shift, now. Leave the vehicles behind. Help our friends get into the Kingdom."

I watched everyone exit and move back to the bus that was traveling behind us. We were all fully shifted as they began to exit. When Melissa hopped off the bottom step, she locked eyes with me, "Is it her? Is she and the others here?"

I shook my head no and she frowned and looked around. "I will stick by both of your sides to ensure we are not blindsided. I don't feel a lot of negative or nervous energy but someone is watching our movements. I don't think we are in any imminent danger, yet." Melissa's eyes were darting through the dark forest around our Kingdom walls.

When everyone was set and ready to go, we moved as one powerful unit with Everest and myself leading the way. We pushed through the last few miles of thick forest. We helped the witches get through, creating a path just big enough for them, as we moved through first. Being a Lycan, our blood ran hot, we were rarely cold, especially when we were shifted. For some reason though, a chill ran down my spine. I noticed it did for others, including Everest. When I let out a breath, I could see my very own breath.

"Something is wrong, push harder, move faster." Everest's voice commanded in our link.

We moved faster as a thick fog came out of no where. The thick mist clung to our fur and made it difficult for the witches to see, forcing us to slow down. Several of the witches, including Melissa, were trying to counter act the fog but to no avail, it worsened. A deep wicked laugh from a man and a cackle from a woman hung over us as we entered the gates of the kingdom. When we crossed over the threshold of our Kingdom, the fog and cold disappeared. The gates closed immediately behind us and we all stood there looking back at them.

"What was that?" I heard a young witch ask the others.

Melissa responded to her, "That, my young friend, was Sebastian and Sophia."

"Who is Sebastian?" Everest asked and I was wondering too.

Melissa let out a sigh, "Sophia's powerful crazy brother. He murdered a bunch of humans about twenty years ago to get what he wanted. We all thought it was just empty threats, until he took out an entire small town. It made national news. We made it look like a wildfire, but it was him. He was stripped of his magic by the council, but now that she is in charge, I guess she gave it back to him."

"He is a psycho." I said to Melissa and she nodded her head.

"Yes, and a very powerful one," Melissa added.

