

Chapter 19

Chapter Nineteen DOMONIC An hour later I am still sitting on the couch .

Draven fast asleep and wrapped in a blanket next to me .

For some reason , I cant stop touching her , even as she sleeps .

I stroke her hip over the blanket as the rest of my pack crowds the room .

What did you find ? I ask quietly , not looking up from her face .

Nothing yet , Logan answers , taking a seat on the armchair across from me .

Shes beautiful .

My eyes shoot his way , and I swallow my initial anger by gracing him with a fake smile .

Rainier has got the entire department scouting for all black sedans with out of state plates in the vicinity .

He should have a list for us soon enough .

James states , entering from the kitchen to stand and gawk at Draven .

You can all stop staring at her now .

Its beginning to piss me off.

Right , Andrew says making his way toward the front door .

Well , Im going to get some things from my place so that I can stay at the condo for a few nights .

Youre what ? I snap .

She needs more protection than just you , Domonic .

And I think I speak for everyone when I say , what happened tonight cannot happen again .

I stand up .

What the fuck is that supposed to mean ? It means were all in this together , Paul hisses , standing between me and the insubordinate asshole at my front door .

It means , worth our protection .

shes I nod , Right .

Glancing down at Draven , I say , Quinn , you go and get some things too .

You can stay in the guest room for a few days , while we figure this all out .

Bartlett , go with him and fill him in on the extras while youre out .

What extras ? Quinn queries , but I dont answer him .

Im too ashamed .

How do I explain that I left me mate- who has been running from her abusive stepfather all alone so that we could discuss her from four miles away ? I cant .

So I dont .

Logan edges in from the kitchen , Id like to meet her , tomorrow .

If I may .

I mean , you are going to keep her , arent you ? All eyes fell on me and I turn toward Draven .

God , I want to .

But , if I were to keep her , Id have to tell her what I am , and if she doesnt want me after find out ? I dont know that I could live with myself .

You know I cant , I say , Thats bullshit , Logan hisses .

I stand glaring down at Logan and say , Whatever I decide to do , is what I decide to do .

We all promised years ago , we werent going to take any mates .

1/3 Chapter Nineteen But that was before and were not the same as we used to be .

We have better system than our dads did .

And if she really is your mate , then shes our queen , and you dont get to be the only one to decide how we protect her .

I chuckle , Who the fuck do you think youre talking to ? Think of it like this , Domonic .

What if she meets someone else out there after youve let her go ? Are you going to be able to stomach that ? Im three seconds from knocking this idiot through the wall .

You dont think Ive thought of that ? Fuck you , I snap , Get out .

Fine , but Im going to be staying in the condo too .

At least until we find out who tried to get in tonight .

Before I can argue , Paul steps between us .

Hes right Domonic .

Lets just focus on her protection for now .

We can talk about the other stuff later .

Im going to take her to bed .

You sort the rest of these assholes out .

Then I lift Draven into my arms and carry her upstairs to my room .

She doesnt so much as stir .

She must have been really scared for it to have drained her so badly .

Tucking her into my bed , I place a kiss on her forehead and head back down the stairs while dialing Rainier .

Whats up ? He answers.

Did you ever get that marriage certificate ? We need that name .

He groans .

But Ill check again once Im back in the office .

Maybe you should just ask her for it .

She doesnt like to talk about it .

Well maybe its time that she does .

Right , I sigh .

Anything on the sedans ? * Rental cars .

Im heading to the agency now to see if I can get some information on the few that weve found .

Call me when you know something .

I hang up the phone and look around at my living room .

Quinn , James , Logan , Bartlett , and Andrew have all gone .

Grant and Paul are whispering over a pot of coffee in the kitchen .

What are you two cooking up ? I ask with a sigh .

Logans right , Domonic , Paul states .

You can try and fool yourself into thinking youll be able to make her leave , but I know its bullshit .

You havent let her out of your sight since you found out she didnt get on the train .

I let out a frustrated groan .

What the fuck is your point ? My point , Paul taunts smugly .

Is that when we made that promise all those years ago , we were raw with pain from losing our moms .

None of us really knew what we were thinking .

Now , its been years , and maybe ... Maybe what ? You want to put Draven in the same position our moms were in five years ago ? I snap .

We still dont even know who lit that fire ! And what if Draven doesnt want me ? Have you thought of that ? He laughs .

Oh , she wants you .

We both know it .

Thats not the problem .

Youre afraid she wont accept what you are .

2/3 Chapter Nineteen Shut up Paul .

Im tired and I dont want to think about it right now .

Right , well , Im going to head back to the bar and close things up for Bartlett , Ill meet her tomorrow , Grant says .

Unless she isnt going to work there anymore .

Shes not working .

No , no , wait a minute ! Paul says , Maybe thats exactly what she needs to do .

Because if the person who was here tonight was someone her stepfather sent for her maybe we shouldnt be looking for them at all .

Maybe we should be waiting for them to come looking for her .

As much as it bothers me , he has a point .

Call Rainier .

Tell him not to go to the rental agencies .

In fact , let everyone know to stop looking so that we dont scare them away .

Because , if it is her stepfather , he doesnt have a clue who hes dealing with .

Thank you for reminding me why I chose you for my best friend .

Paul laughs , Asshole .

Grant nods .

This time when they come for her , well be ready .

Famous last words .