## The Pack: Rule Number 1 - No Mates Novel

## **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.

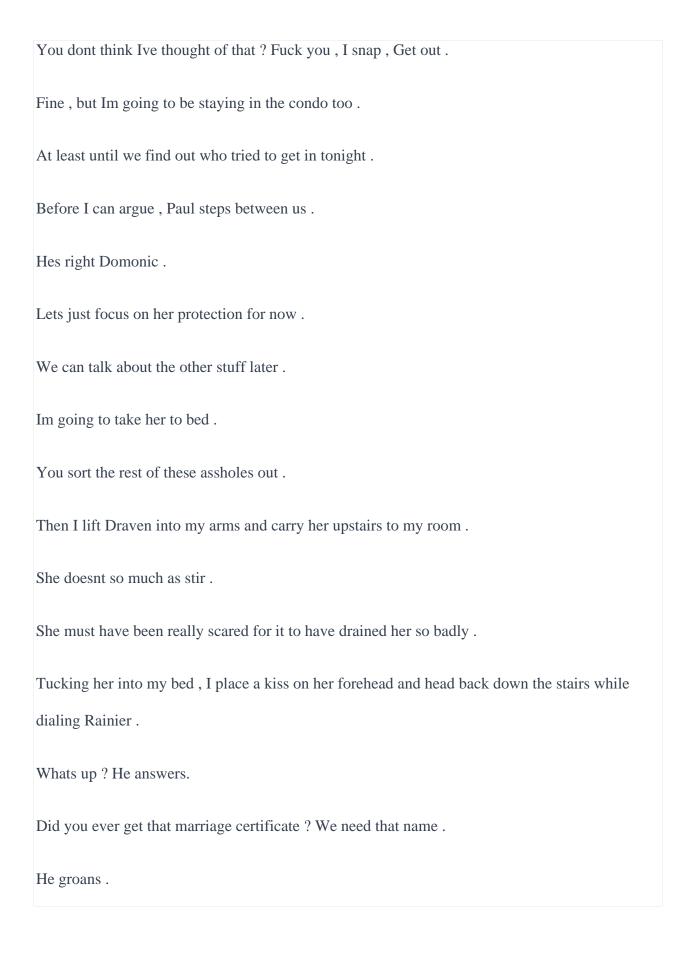
1/3 Chapter Nineteen But that was before and were not the same as we used to be .

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.





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.