

The Alpha Triplets And The Rogue

Chapter 161

Leo's POV

I watch Raven storm from the dining room with her father following close behind her. The Omegas snuck out during the commotion, leaving just Brent and me behind.

Brent has a horrified look on his face, but that does not stop him from shoving a piece of cake down his gullet. I take a moment to glare at him while he stuffs his face. Does the i***t know what he has just done?

Finally, I break the stifling silence that has taken over the room. "What in the f**k were you thinking?" I growl at him.

Brent pauses with the fork halfway toward his mouth and looks at me with a confused look on his face. He drops his fork and points to his chest. "Me?" He gasps like he is surprised. "What about you? I was just trying to smooth things over after your terrible actions when she arrived."

"You tried to smooth things over by throwing her a party that I told you she didn't want," I say as I rub my eyes in frustration.

"How was I supposed to know that she was serious about not wanting a party?" Brent says stupidly. "You know how women are. They say they want one thing but they want another."

"It is no wonder you are single," I groan. "Your mate probably won't even want you."

"Hey," Brent says with a mouth full of cake. "A party was a nicer idea than laughing at her when she tripped up the stairs earlier this morning. She was pretty cute when she fell though."

"Oh my Goddess," I laugh. "You have a thing for the Queen."

"I don't have a thing for the Queen," Brent tries to hide the smile on his face behind another bite of cake. "But you would have to be blind to not notice her beauty."

As much as I hate to admit it, Brent is right. The Luna Queen is definitely a rare beauty. Her jet-black hair shimmers like fine silk as it hangs neatly down her back and her blue eyes are captivating. Her petite frame matches her shy personality. She looks like the kind of she-wolf that needs protecting and that is exactly the kind of woman I am into. If she

weren't the Queen I would have tried to get into her pants by now. But all that being said, I can't let Brent know that I think she is beautiful. He will never let me live it down.

"I prefer blondes," I say shortly and suddenly a curly-haired blonde comes bursting into the dining room.

"Sorry I am late," she says as she sits down at the table. "Traffic was terrible on the way in."

I c**k my head to the side and study the cute older blonde. I have no idea who she is and it appears that Brent doesn't either. The look on his face is just as confused.

"Um," Brent clears his throat awkwardly. "Who are you?"

The blonde raises her head and finally takes a look around the table. "f**k," she mumbles under her breath. "This is the Blue Moon Pack, right?"

"Yes?" Brent raises an eyebrow.

"Oh good," she says as she begins to pile food on her plate. "I thought I had shown up to the wrong pack again. When will my cousin and the Queen be down for dinner?"

Brent and I look at each other, too dumbfounded to even mind-link. "Excuse me," I say as politely as I can. "But who are you?"

"Oh," the blonde draws her mouth in a perfect 'O.' "I am the Queen's aunt Ashley. Well, technically I am the triplets' cousin, which I guess makes me Raven's first cousin once removed, or maybe that makes me her second cousin. I am not really sure so we just tell everyone that I am her aunt because Erica and I are super close. Just like sisters. I am sure that you two know how that feels. You know, to be so close to someone that they feel like they are family even when they aren't. Just look at the two of you. You could be brothers..."

My eyes widen as Ashley continues to talk. I didn't realize that so many words could come out of a person's mouth all at once. I don't even think she has taken a breath since she began talking. Once she finally stopped talking I realized that she is waiting on a response from me and I didn't hear a word she said there toward the end.

"What was that?" I ask.

"I asked when Ace and Raven would be down for dinner," Ashley says with a smirk on her face.

"They were already down here," Brent says as he piles a second piece of cake on his plate.

“There was a bit of an argument,” I begin to try to explain delicately but Ashley holds up her hand and silences me.

“Which room is Raven’s?” Ashley demands to know and I immediately get up from my seat to show her the way to the Queen’s guest room.

Ashley pushes her way away from the table and follows me out of the dining room. I don’t have to show Ashley to the Queen’s room because her father, Alpha Ace is banging on her door demanding that she come out and apologize.

“Oh, hell no,” Ashley says as she marches her way up the stairs.

Standing in the center of the hallway outside of the Luna Queen’s door Ashley taps Alpha Ace on the shoulder. When he spins around to see who tapped him, she smacks him across the face.

“What the f**k, Ashley,” Alpha Ace growls as he holds the side of his face.

“What did we talk about before we left the North Pack,” Ashley says quietly through gritted teeth.

Alpha Ace looks around sheepishly. He clearly doesn’t seem standing at the bottom of the stairs. But I am not leaving. I wouldn’t miss this family drama for anything.

“We agreed that we would stop treating Raven like a child and lead the other packs by example; by treating her like the Queen she is,” Alpha Ace says quietly.

“Then what the f**k is all this,” Ashley gestures to the Queen’s door.

“You weren’t here,” Alpha Ace hisses back at Ashley. “She was rude a disrespectful over a cake.”

“If I had to guess,” Ashley says with her hands on her hip. “She got emotional over the cake and you blew it out of proportion.”

“She isn’t acting like a Queen,” Alpha Ace grunts.

“You aren’t giving her a chance to act like a Queen,” Ashley says and Alpha Ace falls quiet.

Without another word, Alpha Ace begins to storm back down the stairs and I slink back into the dining room before he can see me. The last thing I want is for him to know that I was eavesdropping on their argument. But a sense of guilt washes over me as well. Perhaps I haven’t given Raven the chance to act like a Queen either.

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Raven's POV

As midnight approaches, guilt washes over me. I should have just eaten the damn cake. Beta Brent was just trying to do something nice for me and I ruined the moment with my emotions. At the very least, I owe Beta Brent and the Omega staff an apology.

Digging through my suitcases, I pull out the white dress that my mother sent for this occasion. Remembering her instructions. I don't wear anything under the dress. Looking in a large mirror I realize that this dress isn't leaving much to the imagination. This gown is basically translucent. Mother promised that it would rip easily against my new wolf form and I can see why. It is paper thin.

Grabbing a robe from the bathroom I cover myself and quickly look at the clock hanging on the wall. It is twenty minutes until midnight. If I rush I will have time to make my apologies before my first shift.

Peeking my head out of the bedroom, I make sure that the coast is clear. Tip-toeing my way down the stairs, I make my way into the kitchens. The Omegas are sitting around a small table, laughing and conversing while eating my birthday cake. A smile tugs at the corners of my lips. Perhaps I didn't ruin everyone's night like my father suggested that I did.

Wrapping the robe around me tightly, I clear my throat trying to get their attention. One of the Omegas looks up from his plate and quickly hops to his feet, bearing his next to me in submission. Soon all of the other Omegas follow suit. None of them look me in the eyes. They keep their eyes glued to the ground.

"Please," I say sweetly. "Don't submit to me."

The Omegas look around the table at one another, clearly having a conversation with each other through the mind link. I clear my throat again and they all freeze.

"I came down here because I wanted to apologize for how I treated you earlier," I say as I shuffle from foot to foot.

"Excuse me," one of the Omegas steps forward. "But what are you apologizing for."

My face heats with embarrassment. "For having an emotional outburst and ruining the presentation of the cake that you made for me."

“Oh that,” the Omega giggles slightly. “We get the leftovers so you haven’t ruined anything.”

“Well,” I say awkwardly. “The cake was beautiful.”

Another of the Omegas steps forward, “Would you like to join us?”

The other Omegas gasp loudly and I chuckle at their reaction. “I would love to join you. Please, sit down.”

The Omegas bump into one another trying to make room for me to sit down at the table. Squeezing in between two Omegas I take the slice of cake that I am offered.

At first, we all eat our cake in silence. The Omegas’ eyes keep glazing over while they speak to one another through the mind link. I try to ignore the fact that they are smiling and giggling amongst each other. Finally one of the Omegas speaks aloud.

“We are being rude to our guest,” she says with a sympathetic look on her face. “So, Luna Queen, what birthday are you celebrating?”

“My eighteenth,” I cover my mouth to hide the fact that I am chewing.

All of the Omegas gasp and everyone turns to look at the clock. Spinning around in my chair, I glance at the clock. It is two minutes to midnight.

“Oh s**t,” I mumble as I try to get up from the table. “I am going to be late for my own shift. Does anyone know how to get to the arboretum?” All of the Omegas quickly raise their hands. “Well what are we waiting on,” I laugh. “Let’s go.”

The Omegas get up from the table and take off running for the backdoor of the pack house. I chase after them while I giggle. My father is going to be so pissed if I am late but this was the nicest time I have had since I left the North Pack.

As we run out of the pack house the moon is high in the sky. My skin begins to itch like it is too tight. Rose is growing restless in my mind begging for me to let her out.

“How much farther?” I yell loudly to the Omegas that I am following.

“Not much,” one of them yells back.

“I don’t think I am going to make it,” I try to say but it comes out more like a growl. I fall on all fours and it feels like my skin is on fire.

“She isn’t going to make it,” one of the Omegas screams. “One of us needs to run ahead and tell the Alpha.”

One of the she-wolves comes to my side and carefully tries to remove the robe from my body, but I growl at her. Pushing my hair out of my face the she-wolf shushes me gently. "You need to be less restricted," she whispers.

I look into the Omega's brown eyes and I know that she can be trusted. Unable to find my voice, I nod up and down. I sit back on my legs and let the Omega help me out of the robe. A sharp pain radiates through my spine and I scream out in pain.

I collapse under my weight and my head falls on the Omega's lap. She strokes my head gently as I writhe in pain. "Just let your wolf take over," she whispers. "Don't fight the pain."

I listen to the Omega's words and let Rose take over. I don't notice that all of the Omegas have created a human shield around me.

Bright golden fur begins to sprout all over my skin. My bones snap and reshape as I shake in pain. My fingernails elongate from my nailbeds creating sharp claws. I try not to cry out as the pain consumes my body.

"It is okay to cry," the Omega whispers next to my ear.

Her words give me the confidence I need and I scream out as my white gown pulls against my newly formed body and the seams rip. The pain begins to subside and I lay with my head on the Omega's lap panting loudly. My eyes flutter open and it is like a whole new world.

All of my senses are heightened. My eyesight is sharper and I feel stronger. Rose and I have officially become one.

Wobbly, Rose gets to her feet, and the Omega that helped us shift stands beside us with a proud look on her face. Rose rubs her body up against the legs of the Omega, showing her our gratitude for helping us shift. The Omega runs her fingers through Rose's fur and murmurs about how beautiful we are.

Suddenly the smell of fresh grass invades my senses and Rose is on the move. Lifting her nose to the air she lets out an excited yelp. Rose takes off running through the backyard of the Blue Moon Packhouse. She comes to a halt when she sees a group of people running toward us.

Lifting her nose into the air again, she lets out another howl.

'What are you doing?' I ask her as she sits on the ground and patiently waits for the group to come closer.

'Mate,' she responds with her tail beating happily against the ground.

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Leo's POV

Four of us are patiently waiting in the arboretum for the Queen to show up for her first shift. Alpha Ace is pacing around us in a circle constantly checking the time on his watch. While Ashley is glaring at every move he makes. Brent is standing beside me with a stupid grin on his face. I know that he is probably looking forward to this more than anyone. Probably more than the Queen herself.

"It is midnight," Alpha Ace says in an annoyed voice. "Where the f**k is she?"

"Perhaps she decided to shift on her own because you are an utter a*****e," Ashley says with a smirk on her face.

"I am still your Alpha," Ace says in a commanding voice. "You should watch how you speak to me."

Shrugging her shoulders, Ashley turns the tables on him. "Then perhaps you should watch how you speak to our Queen."

Alpha Ace stops pacing and he turns his head toward the pack house. I look in the same direction and see one of my Omegas running toward us as fast as he can.

"State your business," I growl as he approaches us. No one else was to know about me being at this location tonight.

"The Luna Queen," he says trying to catch his breath. "She is shifting."

Ashley steps forward and pushes me out of the way. "Where is she?" She demands to know of my Omega.

"Just outside of the pack house," he breathes heavily. "There is no time to waste."

The Omega turns to lead the way back to the Queen but I don't need him to. The smell of fresh-cut roses fills the air and my wolf, Luca is on a mission to find the source.

Following the scent, I veer off to the right and everyone follows my lead. Just as I am about to climb the hill leading to the pack house's backyard, a gorgeous golden wolf is sitting at the top of the hill. Her tail wags uncontrollably and her tongue hangs out of the side of her mouth in a goofy smile.

Luca is doing flips in my mind begging me to let him shift. 'Mate,' he chants over and over.

I pause in my footsteps while the rest of the group runs forward. There is no way that I am mated to the Luna Queen. The Moon Goddess would not be so cruel to mate me with someone that outranks me. But there is no doubt in Luca's mind that she is our mate.

Slowly I walk up the hill and take in her glorious wolf form. Her fur shimmers like gold under the full moon. Blue eyes bore into my own as she continues to wag her tail happily. But as I get closer she stops wagging her tail.

Soon, I am standing before her and I reach out to run my fingers through her golden fur when she lets out a fearsome growl. Without hesitation, I bare my neck to her in submission. This is something that I have never done for any wolf, let alone a she-wolf, but it does not seem to placate her anger.

'I thought you said that she is our mate,' I ask Luca.

'She is our mate,' Luca says with a nod of his head. 'Let me try to speak to her wolf.'

I watch in silence as Raven's wolf c***s her head to the side. Her eyes glaze over and I know she is conversing with someone. I can only hope that she is speaking with Luca.

'We f****d up,' Luca says as he breaks the silence in my mind.

'Is this about her falling and me laughing,' I inwardly roll my eyes.

'Nope,' Luca says as he pops the 'p.' 'This is about the fact that the Luna Queen has visions of the past, present, and future.'

'Okay?' I say cluelessly.

'She has seen how many she-wolves have been in your bed. You are not the type of wolf she wants to be associated with, much less mated to.'

His words are like a dagger through my heart and I don't understand why. I just met the Luna Queen, why should I be so upset about her not wanting me to be her mate? Yet I am. My heart feels like it is shattered.

I swallow the lump that is forming in the back of my throat. 'Is she going to reject us?' I ask Luca.

Luca pitifully curls up in the back of my mind and refuses to answer me. That is the only answer that I need.

While I was silently conversing with Luca, Raven's wolf left my side and is now prancing proudly in front of her father, Ashley, and Brent. Jealousy rises in my chest as I watch as each one of them runs their fingers through her soft fur.

"Do you wish to go on a run with us?" Alpha Ace asks as he begins to strip down to his underwear. "Raven has requested that your Omegas be allowed to take her first run with her because they stayed with her while she shifted."

"Whatever," I say with a wave of my hand. "They are free to go."

"What about you?" Alpha Ace asks me with great curiosity. "Will you be joining us?"

"No," I say shortly as I make my way back to the pack house.

Brent runs to catch up with me, "Do you mind if I run with her?" He asks me hopefully.

"I don't give a f**k what you do," I growl at him. "Just leave me out of it."

Brent looks longingly back at the group of wolves that has begun to shift and is now getting ready for their run, but instead of joining them, he continues to walk with me.

"What happened?" Brent asks me as I push the backdoor open to the pack house.

I ignore him as I walk through the pack house and barge into my office. Grabbing the bottle of bourbon off the shelf I drink directly from the bottle. Sitting down at my desk, I run my fingers through my hair in frustration. I take another swig of the bourbon and slam it down on my desk.

"Dude, what is going on with you?" Brent asks as he tugs the bottle away from me.

"She is my mate," I admit out loud.

Brent starts laughing loudly. "You can't be serious. You? Mister Ladies Man has a mate?"

"Yes me," I snarl at him.

"I don't get it," Brent says with a confused look on his face. "Is this because she isn't blonde?"

"She doesn't want me," I say as I take another long drink.

"How do you know?" Brent asks.

"Her wolf told my wolf," I sigh. "Did you know that the Luna Queen has visions? She can see the past, present, and future."

“Oh no,” Brent moans. “What did she see?”

“Every single woman I have ever had in my bed,” I respond. “Every f*****g one.”

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Raven’s POV

My legs and arms feel like they are made of rubber. I am dead on my feet but I have to do this. I have to reject Alpha Leo. After what I saw in my visions and what I have seen since being here, he is not the type of person that I want to be associated with. Not even as a close friend and most certainly not as a mate.

As soon as I got home from my first run, I covered myself with the robe and ran back into the pack house, on a mission to find Leo. With my nose lifted into the air I followed the scent of fresh grass to Alpha Leo’s office. I raise my hand to knock on the door but I hesitate.

‘Rose,’ I call for my wolf. ‘Are we doing the right thing?’

‘He is a scoundrel,’ she replies. She is as just disgusted as I am at the thought of Alpha Leo being our mate.

‘We don’t know that from just a few visions... Do we?’ I ask her but she has retreated to the back of my mind pouting.

Taking a deep breath, I pace back and forth in front of his office and rehearse what I am going to say when I finally get the courage to knock on the door.

“Little Bird?” My father’s voice comes from behind me. “What are you doing?”

Avoiding my father’s eyes, I look at his forehead instead. “There are just some loose ends that I need to tie up before we leave tomorrow.”

“He is your mate, isn’t he?” My father groans.

“How...” I begin but my father holds his hand up and stops me from talking.

“Look,” my father growls as he looks back toward Alpha Leo’s office. “He is not who I would have chosen to be your mate. He is arrogant, cocky, and appears to be a bit of a ladies’ man.”

“He is nothing more than a tramp,” I confirm my father’s intuition. “I have seen it.”

My father sighs. "What have we told you about digging around in other people's minds?"

"I can't always help it," I protest. "Sometimes it just happens."

"Anyway," my father continues. "I would ask that you not make a hasty decision. I know you have heard the stories over and over again, but your mother wasn't always our biggest fan. She made us work for it. She set a number of ground rules and we all followed them."

I raise my hands in the air. "Please stop," I beg. "I worry about the direction that this story going."

My father smirks and I can tell that he is thinking about the past with my mother. "I am just saying, maybe give him a chance."

"Are you suggesting that I accept this bond?" I scoff.

"I am definitely not suggesting that you let him mark and mate you tonight, tomorrow, or any time soon," my father shutters. "I am just asking you not to act on impulse."

"Name one nice thing that he has done for me since I arrived in this pack and I will change my mind." I cross my arms over my chest and tap my foot impatiently.

Suddenly, Leo's office door opens up and the smell of fresh grass and alcohol comes wafting out. "I can hear you," he slurs his words as he speaks.

"Are you drunk?" I ask him.

"Working on it," Leo says as he gives me a little wink.

My father chuckles loudly and slaps me on the shoulder. "You can't reject a drunk guy."

Alpha Leo steps to the side and gestures for me to come into his office. "Would you like to join me?" He asks.

I step inside his office and the door slams shut behind me causing me to jump. "I would prefer it if you would leave the door open, please," I say trying to sound confident in my words but I know that I am failing.

"I won't touch you Luna Queen," Alpha Leo laughs. "You aren't my type."

"Oh," I whisper. For some reason, his words feel like a punch to the gut.

"Go on then," he says drunkenly. "Reject me."

“You aren’t of sound mind right now,” I tell him. “We should talk about whatever this is when you are sober.”

“I am sober enough for this conversation,” Alpha Leo says as he plops himself down behind his desk. He throws his feet up on his desk and holds a bottle of alcohol in his hands. He waves it around widely as he talks.

“Alpha Leo,” I begin. “I don’t know what you heard out there but I didn’t mean any disrespect.”

I raise my hands in the air. “Please stop,” I beg. “I worry about the direction that this story going.”

“f**k the pleasantries,” he bellows. “At least have the decency to call me just Leo if you are going to reject me.”

I swallow hard as I look at the man in front of me. If he hadn’t been so garish and off-putting I might have been attracted to him. He is devilishly good-looking, with his dirty blonde hair and piercing green eyes. His normal uptight attire had been put aside for the evening and he is sitting in front of me in nothing more than a black t-shirt and a pair of gray sweatpants. The muscles on his arms strain the fabric of the t-shirt and he looks delicious.

‘I think you are drooling,’ Rose laughs as she pushes forward to look at our mate with me.

Subconsciously, I wipe my chin. ‘Shut up,’ I hiss at her.

“It is impolite to talk to your wolf when in someone’s company,” Leo laughs as he gets back to his feet.

He saunters over to me and stops when he is just a few inches from me. I do not dare look up into his eyes for fear that my knees may go weak.

Rose is howling with laughter in my head. ‘What happened to him being a tramp?’

‘Would you shut up,’ I scream in my mind.

Leo places two fingers under my chin and lifts my head. Sparks spread throughout my body and seem to settle between my legs. His green eyes are studying me curiously.

“What is so important that you speak to your wolf right now?” He demands to know but I shake my head, refusing to answer. “Tell me,” he leans down and whispers next to my ear. “Have you ever been kissed?”

“I don’t think that is any of your business,” I snap back at him.

“I am making it my business, Luna Queen,” he says as he runs his thumb over my bottom lip.

“Please don’t call me that,” I beg.

“What would you prefer I call you?” Leo continues to whisper next to my ear. “Little Bird? Like the rest of your family.”

“Anything but that,” I whisper in return. My nickname sounds so dirty on his lips.

“Whatever you say, Little Bird,” Leo chuckles as he pulls his hand away from my chin.

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Raven’s POV

Leo tears his eyes away from mine and rakes them over my body. Reaching forward he fiddles with the tie of my robe. I am both shocked and excited at the same time. I have to admit that my body is calling out for him to touch me, but I know that I cannot give in that easily. If I do, I will just be another notch in his bedpost.

I take a step back from Leo, but he doesn’t let go of my robe tie. With a simple tug on the tie, my robe falls open and I am partially exposed in front of him. Leo steps toward me once again and slides a hand in the opened robe and snakes it around my back, pulling me flush against him. A flurry of sparks erupts all over my skin and a moan escapes my lips.

“Leo,” I whisper as a warning but he doesn’t stop.

Leaning down he nuzzles his nose into my hair taking in my scent. A small rumble leaves his lips, it almost sounds like a purr. I feel like I am turning to putty in his hands.

‘Pull yourself together,’ Rose chimes in breaking the spell that Leo has over me.

Pushing Leo away from me, I quickly shut my robe. “Awe baby,” he moans. “Don’t be like that.”

And there it is the line that he has probably used on hundreds of girls to sneak his way into their pants. I feel like a fool and I am humiliated. Leo takes another step toward me and I slap him across the face. Leo looks at me stunned.

“You slapped me,” he whispers as he holds his cheek.

“And you were about to treat me like a common w***e,” I snap back at him. “Don’t forget your place, Alpha Leo. I am your Queen.”

“Wow,” Leo says with a smug look on his face. “It looks like I misread the situation.”

“I would say that you did,” I hold my head high and try not to look at him.

“Please accept my apology, Luna Queen,” Leo says but I don’t miss the sarcasm in his voice. He is not a bit sorry.

“I will be departing early tomorrow morning,” I inform him. “Perhaps our paths will cross again someday.”

“You can’t seriously be thinking about leaving her tomorrow,” Leo suddenly seems sober. “We just met one another. You are my mate.”

“I have a schedule that I must adhere to,” I say formally. “I cannot stay any longer than necessary.”

“Surely the other packs would understand that you wanted to spend some more time with your mate.” Leo’s green eyes are pleading with me.

“You are not to tell anyone that I am your mate,” I command him. “I will figure out what to do with you once this pack tour is over.”

Leo steps back and shakes his head. “What to do with me?” He repeats my words. “What to do with me? I am not some trinket that is going to sit around on a shelf and wait to be played with. I am a person.”

“I understand that,” I say keeping my tone even. “But I was not expecting to find my mate on the first night that I shifted and I am sorry that it had to be you. But you have to understand my predicament. I am the first Luna Queen. I have to behave as such.”

“A true Luna Queen would not reject her mate. The one person that was set upon this earth just for her,” Leo counters. “A true Queen of the werewolves would respect the mate bond.”

“I am not rejecting you and I will respect the mate bond,” I tell him honestly. “But I am not sure that I can say the same for you.”

I look him up and down and the visions of girls leaving his bed almost every morning flash through my mind. Many of them he didn’t even remember their names.

Leo is, once again, too stunned to speak. Tightening the robe around my body I turn to leave his office. I expect him to call out after me, but he doesn’t and disappointment rises in my chest.

Closing his office door behind me I begin to make my way up to my bedroom. There are only a few hours left before I have to wake up to continue my trip.

“Luna Queen,” a meek voice comes from behind me.

I turn to see the Omega she-wolf that stayed by my side while I shifted. I offer her a warm smile and retreat down the stairs to greet her.

“You can’t seriously be thinking about leaving her tomorrow,” Leo suddenly seems sober. “We just met one another. You are my mate.”

“I apologize,” I begin. “I didn’t get your name before.”

The Omega bares her neck to me as I approach her and hands me a tattered piece of cloth. “This is what I could salvage of the dress you shifted in,” the Omega explains. “I thought you may want to have it.”

I hold the tattered pieces of my white gown to my chest and a single tear rolls down my cheek. “What is your name?” I ask her again.

“My name is Elise,” she says not meeting my gaze.

“Elise,” I repeat thoughtfully. “What is your job here at the Blue Moon Pack?”

Swallowing hard, Elise looks scared to answer me. Placing a hand gently on her shoulder I try to reassure her that it is okay to speak with me.

“I do the cleaning,” she says quietly.

“Is this a job you do all on your own?” I ask her.

She shakes her head no and I smile from ear to ear. “How would you like to come with me as my assistant?”

Elise’s eyes shine with tears as she finally looks into mine. “Alpha would never allow it,” she says quietly.

“You leave your Alpha up to me,” I tell her. “Now go pack, we leave in a couple of hours.”

Elise runs off in the direction of the Omega quarters and I watch her with a smile on my face. Holding my head high, I make my way back to Leo’s office. Not bothering to knock, I fling the door open and find Leo, clutching his bottle of bourbon and swaying back and forth behind his desk.

He looks up at me and smiles but he quickly wipes the smile from his face when he sees how serious the look on my face is.

“I am taking one of your Omegas with me. A she-wolf by the name of Elise,” I tell Alpha Leo and he looks at me stunned.

“You can’t just take one of my servants,” he hisses at me.

“This wasn’t a request,” I laugh in his face. “It was more of an FYI.”

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Leo’s POV

The sun is barely shining through my office window when my eyes fly open from my restless sleep. My cheek is laying on my desk and there is a puddle of drool all over the papers that are scattered over my desk. As I sit up in my office chair, my back cracks in several places. Twisting from side to side, I try to relieve some of the pain. My head is throbbing like it has its own heartbeat. It has been a long time since I was drunk enough to pass out.

Looking at the clock on my desk I realize that the Luna Queen will be leaving in just a few short minutes and I know that I have to stop her from leaving. She is my mate and I need her by my side.

As I open the door to my office, I see Brent standing on the other side with his hand ready to knock. He lets out a relieved breath when he sees me.

“There you are,” he says with urgency in his voice. “The Queen is getting ready to leave. They are loading up the cars now.”

“f**k,” I moan and Brent waves his hand in front of his nose as if he has smelled something terrible.

Brent leans in and sniffs my breath before pulling a pack of gum out of his pocket. “I think you could light a flame with the amount of alcohol on your breath. Take these.”

Grabbing the gum from Brent, I shove several pieces in my mouth until I am sure that the smell of alcohol is covered.

“You look like s**t,” Brent laughs and I punch him in the shoulder.

“Wait until you find your mate,” I grumble under my breath. “They are more work than you would think.”

Brent rubs his shoulder and gives me a wicked grin. “I packed a bag for you.”

“You did what?” I exclaim loudly.

“I packed a bag for you,” Brent repeats himself. “You are going with her on her pack tour. I have already cleared it with Alpha Ace. He and I both think that it would be good for you two to spend some time together.”

I shake my head in confusion. “You did what?” I yell out louder this time.

“Come on,” Brent says as he playfully tugs at my arm. “You don’t want to be late.”

“You cleared this with her father but not with her,” I say as I push my way past Brent. “This is going to over well.”

“It will be fine,” Brent says with a smug look on his face. “I packed your laptop. You can manage most of the pack paperwork remotely and I will handle things from here. It will be fine. We are well organized.”

“She is never going to go for this,” I tell Brent as I sling the bag over my shoulder. “She doesn’t want anyone to know that I am her mate. I... I think she is embarrassed by me.”

“You do have a reputation,” Brent says factually. “But it is nothing that can’t be solved with a little bit of TLC.”

“What the f**k is TLC?” I groan.

“Tender loving care,” Brent says with a smile on his face. “That is something that my momma always used to say.”

“Great,” I mutter. “Now I am taking advice from your mother.”

Brent pushes me sideways and glowers at me. “And you should feel lucky to have it,” he growls.

“Alright, Momma’s Boy,” I laugh as I finally step out on the front porch of the pack house.

Raven is standing in a light blue sundress with her hair in a tight ponytail. Her makeup is smudged like she has been crying and my wolf, Luca whines in my head. He doesn’t like seeing her in distress. Standing with her arms crossed over her chest she is tapping her foot impatiently on the ground.

As soon as I step onto the porch her eyes dart up to meet my own and I feel like a love-sick puppy. Luca’s tail is wagging painfully in my mind. I offer a slight smile before handing my bag to one of my Omegas to be put in the trunk with the rest.

Raven looks from me to the bag and back to me and her eyes flash with anger. “Just what is going on here?” She demands to know.

“I am coming along,” I say trying to sound confident.

“Oh, no, no, no,” she says as walks over to the trunk of one of the cars and pulls my bag out, and tosses it on the ground. “You most certainly are not.”

“It has already been arranged,” I tell her as I storm back over to the trunk and place my bag back in.

Raven reaches into the car and pulls my bag back out and drops it onto the ground again. “I said no.”

“And I told you that it has already been arranged,” I say picking up my bag back up and placing it inside of the trunk again.

“It will be fine,” Brent says with a smug look on his face. “I packed your laptop. You can manage most of the pack paperwork remotely and I will handle things from here. It will be fine. We are well organized.”

“Who arranged it?” Raven asks as she glares in her father’s direction.

“Little... Raven,” her father begins carefully. “I think it would be best for him to come along considering that he is your mate.”

All of the Omegas that are helping to load the cars are now whispering loudly among themselves. So much for it being a secret.

Raven’s tiny fists ball up at her sides as she tries to compose herself. “Why wasn’t this approved through me?” She asks through gritted teeth.

“Because you would have said no,” her father responds with a smirk on his face. “I am just looking out for your best interest.”

“My best interest,” Raven whispers under her breath. She pauses for a moment and I wonder if she is going to throw another one of her tantrums, but she doesn’t. “Fine,” she finally answers. “Alpha Leo can ride with you and Aunt Ashley. Elise and I will ride with Warren.”

A small growl rumbles in my chest as I think about her riding in a car with anyone that isn’t me. Already Luca is extremely protective over her and he wants me to argue. I open my mouth to protest when a large hand on my shoulder stops me.

“Take the win,” Alpha Ace whispers next to me. “She is letting you come along.”

I bite my tongue to keep myself from furthering the fight and follow Alpha Ace to the car that he and Ashley will be riding in. I watch in silence as Raven gets into the car with

Elise and her bodyguard, Warren. Reluctantly I get in the back seat of the car, while Alpha Ace takes the wheel.

Alpha Ace puts the car in drive and pulls out of the driveway of my pack house. “If you don’t mind, I would like to make a phone call while we are on the road.”

Ashley chuckles in the front seat and I cannot help but wonder what Alpha Ace is up to. The sound of ringing plays through the speakers of the car and two male voices answer excitedly.

“Hello, brothers,” Alpha Ace says louder than necessary and I see him grinning at me through the rearview mirror. “I have some news. Our Little Bird found her mate.”

The Alpha Triplets And The Rogue Chapter 167

Leo’s POV

“Hello, brothers,” Alpha Ace says louder than necessary and I see him grinning at me through the rearview mirror. “I have some news. Our Little Bird found her mate.”

I can’t help but groan loudly at Alpha Ace’s words. So, this was his plan all along. He wanted to get me alone so he and his brothers could interrogate me.

“Was that him?” One of the brothers asks over the speaker in the car.

Alpha Ace chuckles loudly. “It was. I don’t think he appreciates me ambushing him with a phone call home.”

I straighten up in the back seat and inhale deeply. “It will be a pleasure to meet you all in person,” I say formally.

“He sounds uptight,” the other brother says. “Is he uptight?”

“On the contrary,” Alpha Ace laughs. “He is a bit like you were Bryce.”

There is a rumbling of growls that come from the other end of the line. “Exactly, how is he like me?” Alpha Bryce says loudly.

“Oh, you know,” Alpha Ace begins to laugh harder. “A bit of a jokester and a ladies’ man.”

“Son of a b***h,” Alpha Bryce growls loudly. “I knew my past would come to bite me in the a*s one day.”

Blush spreads across my cheeks and I hide my head behind my hands. I have never been so embarrassed in my whole life.

“I am Raven’s Papa, Alpha Chris,” Alpha Chris’s voice booms in the car. “What are your intentions with my daughter?”

“Intentions?” I say stupidly and all three of the Alph as begin to growl.

“You do plan on settling down now that you have met your mate, don’t you?” Alpha Chris asks.

I am suddenly grateful that his conversation is happening over the phone. Alpha Ace is intimidating enough. I cannot imagine having to stare down three of them.

Clearing my throat awkwardly, I try to find my voice. “I do plan on settling down if that is what your daughter wishes.”

“Why wouldn’t she wish to be with her mate?” Alpha Bryce chimes in.

“We didn’t get off on the best foot,” I tell them the truth. “She isn’t sure she wants to be associated with someone like me.”

I hear Alpha Bryce and Alpha Chris suck in a sharp breath and see Alpha Ace shaking his head in disappointment. Ashley on the other hand is smiling from ear to ear in the front seat. Clearly, she is enjoying the drama.

“What did you do?” Alpha Bryce laughs but I don’t have a chance to respond before Alpha Ace does.

“He laughed at her when she fell up the stairs and then he allowed his Beta to throw her a birthday party,” Alpha Ace fills them in.

“Oof,” Alpha Chris says with a hint of amusement in his voice. “You really dug yourself in a hole. Raven isn’t very trusting, to begin with.”

“How was I supposed to know that she was my mate,” I grumble, crossing my arms over my chest.

“What do you plan to do to win her back?” Alpha Ace asks as he looks at me through the rearview mirror.

“How am I supposed to win back something that I never had,” I snap at them. “And for the record, I didn’t know my Beta had planned a party for her.”

“None of that is helping your cause,” Alpha Chris says in a frustrated tone.

Running my hands through my hair, I try not to scream at the veteran Alphas that seem to want to help me out.

“Now,” Alpha Chris says sternly. “What are your intentions with my daughter?”

“I don’t have any,” I admit. “Right now I just want to get to know her. She had a vision and basically refused to talk things out with me.”

“A vision,” two of the brothers say at once. “What kind of vision?”

“That doesn’t really matter, does it?” I say as another wave of embarrassment washes over me.

“Oh, it matters,” Ashley says as she turns around and gives me an accusing look.

“Why wouldn’t she wish to be with her mate?” Alpha Bryce chimes in.

“It does matter,” Alpha Bryce says quietly. “Raven is... what is the word I am looking for... traditional.”

Leaning my head up against the car window, I sigh a little. “She is never going to accept me after what she saw.”

“What did she see?” Ashley demands to know.

“I think you should probably tell us,” Alpha Chris butts in. “Maybe we can help you out of this situation that you have created for yourself.”

“I know what she saw,” Alpha Ace chimes in with a smirk spread across his face.

“You knew this whole time and you kept your mouth shut,” I can hear the pout in Alpha Bryce’s voice. “I knew I should have been the dad to come along on the trip.”

“Yep,” Alpha Ace laughs. “She described him as a tramp.”

All three of the Alphas begin to laugh uncontrollably. “You are f****d,” Alpha Bryce begins to laugh. “She is never going to forgive you.”

“Nope,” Alpha Ace reiterates.

“If she is never going to forgive me then why did you insist on me coming along,” I shout at Alpha Ace.

“To make sure that you don’t step out on the mate bond while she is making up her mind on whether to accept you or not,” Alpha Ace tells me with a smile.

“I wasn’t planning on stepping out on the mate bond,” I tell them honestly. “I just want to get a chance to know her before she rejects me.”

“Awe,” Alpha Chris says sarcastically. “If you want our daughter you are going to have to prove that you are worthy of her and so far you are proving to be nothing but a p***y.”

“Whoa,” I shout. “I am not a p***y.”

“Then f*****g prove it,” Alpha Chris says and the other end of the phone goes silent.

“Did they just hang up on us?” I ask curiously.

“Yep,” Alpha Ace says. “If I had to guess I would say that you didn’t make a great first impression.”

The Alpha Triplets And The Rogue Chapter 168

Raven’s POV

Night has fallen by the time we reach the West Pack. As we approach the pack house, my stomach is in a bundle of nerves. The West Pack is one of the original four packs and the most outspoken about not needing a Queen to preside over them. My grandfather was the Beta of this pack for many years. Then after my mother challenged the Alpha and beat him, my grandfather helped to set up new leadership among the West Pack.

One would think that he would be supportive of his granddaughter’s position but he is not. He is one of the many that are outspoken against my claim to the throne; claiming that an election needs to be held. That the position of King or Queen of the werewolf world should not rely on a simple birthmark but should be determined by a vote.

Honestly, I cannot say that I blame those that stand against me. What was purposed eighteen years ago when I was born was something that had never been tried before. To put all of the packs under a single rule. The elders of the four original packs came together to begin the process of tying the packs together.

This is when fractures began to happen among the packs. Once there were not enough Alpha males born to lead the packs and now there are too many. Each one believes that it is their birthright to lead a pack. The four packs fractured into several. Many of the newer packs failed to be sustainable and didn’t last longer than a year or two. But those like the Blue Moon Pack have proved themselves worthy to be a pack. So each year the council meets and picks three new packs to enter our kingdom.

Warren brings the car to a stop in front of the West Pack house and I can see his fingers tighten against the steering wheel. Smoothing the wrinkles from my dress I prepare to step out of the vehicle but Warren locks the doors so I cannot exit.

“What is going on?” I ask in confusion.

“The house is being checked for threats,” Warren says quietly I can tell that he doesn’t want to alarm Elise.

“Don’t be silly,” I try to laugh. “This is my grandfather’s pack. He wouldn’t harm me.”

Turning in his seat, Warren looks at me with concern written on his face. “Your grandfather has been causing drama where it isn’t needed.”

“So searching his house and making him feel like a criminal is the right course of action?” I scold Warren even though I know that he has nothing to do with this.

“We are just trying to keep you safe, Luna Queen,” Warren says with a sad look in his eyes.

Warren has been my bodyguard and my closest friend since I turned sixteen. Over the past two years, I have developed somewhat of a crush on him, hoping that he would be my fated mate. But I should have known that would be too good to be true.

Warren turns back in his seat and waits for my father’s signal that it is safe for me to leave the car. The silence in the car is deafening. Elise is staring out the window, wide-eyed. She is probably wondering what she has gotten herself into. Warren is staring straight ahead into the darkness like he is waiting for a threat to come for us at any moment.

Finally, Warren lets out a ridiculously loud sigh and turns back around in the car. “Is he actually your mate?”

It is my turn to sigh. “He is.”

Warren looks over at the car beside us and I follow his line of sight. He is glaring in Alpha Leo’s direction. “I just thought the Moon Goddess would pair you with someone more like you. Someone that could take care of you.”

I can hear the longing in Warren’s voice and I know that he feels the same way for me as I do for him. Guilt rises in my throat like bile and I feel like I am going to be sick. I should have never let Warren and me get so close. I should have demanded that it stay a professional relationship. Now here we both sit with broken hearts.

A knock on my window pulls me away from my thoughts and I see my grandfather smiling brightly through the darkness. Warren rolls his window down just an inch.

“Can I help you, Aaron?” Warren says gruffly.

“I just came to see my granddaughter while your thugs turn my pack house inside out,” my grandfather says as he smiles at me.

“Warren,” I say pushing my bottom lip out into a pout. “Please open the door.”

“I have my orders,” Warren says as he rolls the window back up, ignoring my grandfather.

“I am your Queen,” I cringe a little when I say the words. “Your orders come from me. Now open the damn door.”

Warren’s eyebrows raise and he looks at me with a shocked expression before he hits the unlock button on his car door. Straightening my dress, I mumble a thank you and get out of the car.

I throw myself into my grandfather’s arms and he spins me around in the air. “There is my Little Bird,” my grandfather says as he squeezes me tightly. “How have you been?”

“I would be doing a lot better if you would call off this witch hunt of yours,” I say as I place my hands on my hips playfully. “Now I have to go from pack to pack to prove myself worthy to be your Queen.”

Setting me back on the ground, my grandfather grumbles under his breath. “You aren’t ready for this kind of responsibility, Little Bird. Plus, this kind of position will put you in danger. I am only looking out for you.”

“I have enough people looking out for me,” I mumble. “It would be nice to have you on my side.”

“We will see whose side I am on after this trip is over,” my grandfather says as he leads me into the pack house. As we walk up the stairs he looks back at the cars. “I see you picked up some strays along the way.”

I can’t help but chuckle. I know that he probably already knows about Alpha Leo. News spreads quickly among the packs. “The pretty brunette is Elise,” I tell him purposefully leaving Leo out of the conversation. “She stayed with me during my first shift.”

“And the young Alpha?” My grandfather turns and raises an eyebrow at me.

“He’s my mate,” I mumble under my breath.

“What was that, Little Bird,” my grandfather chuckles. “He is your what?”

“My mate,” I yell a little louder than I mean to.

“That’s what I thought you said,” Grandfather laughs loudly this time. “Why don’t you come inside and tell me all about it?”

The Alpha Triplets And The Rogue Chapter 169

Raven’s POV

Linking arms with my grandfather I walk up the stairs to the pack house. I know that my father was the one that had the pack house searched before my arrival, but I know that Grandpa Aaron would never harm me. As I step into the West Pack’s pack house memories flood my mind.

Kieran and I would jump out of the car before it had even come to a complete stop and race each other up the pack house stairs. Kieran would always win. He has always been bigger and faster than me. A pout would form on my lips and tears would well up in my eyes while Kieran did a happy dance at the top of the stairs. Grandpa Aaron would run out of the pack house at the sound of my crying and come to my rescue. Gently he would pick me up and carry me the rest of the way into the pack house leaving Kieran scowling behind us.

Grandpa Aaron has always been kind. Even more so after Grandma Evelynnn passed away. We would come to the West Pack for family vacations and he would shower Kieran and me with candy and soda despite how badly our parents hated it. There is no way that my grandfather is a threat.

Just when Grandpa Aaron is about to shut the door my father yells loudly from the bottom of the stairs.

“Just where do you think you are taking the Queen?” Father yells loudly.

I groan loudly when my father calls me the Queen. Seeing the embarrassment on my face, my grandfather turns around and smiles as he shuts the door in my father’s face.

“That was a bad idea,” I giggle as I watch Grandpa Aaron flip the lock on the door.

“Have I ever told you that Ace isn’t my favorite of the triplets?” My grandfather says with an amused look on his face. “He has always been too serious. Why didn’t you travel with Bryce?”

Father looks in the window and gestures for me to open the door, but I pretend like I cannot see him. “I wasn’t given a choice,” I tell my grandfather. “Per usual.”

“What do you mean, you weren’t given a choice?” Grandpa Aaron looks at me with concern written all over his face.

“Just like I said,” I push my bottom lip out in a pout. I know that my grandfather won’t be able to resist my pout. “No one considers me when they are making plans.”

“Like what, Little Bird,” my grandfather demands to know and I know that I have him exactly where I want him.

“Like the decision to bring my mate along,” I yell loud enough so my father hears me. “I don’t want him here. I don’t even like him.”

Crossing my arms over my chest I let out a little humph, as my father continues to bang on the front door of the pack house. “This isn’t funny, Raven,” he yells through the door. “It may not be safe for you in there.”

I hold my arms out at my sides and spin around in a circle. “Hello,” I yell out. “I am the Luna Queen and I am all alone except for my Grandpa! Come get me.”

My father hits the door with his shoulder as he tries to get inside. “Raven, open this door,” he yells as he hits the door again.

“You see that Father! No one is coming to get me,” I sass. I turn back toward my grandfather and cringe as the wood splinters. “He is going to break your door.”

“I think you are right,” Grandpa Aaron says as he flips the lock on the door and opens it.

The door flings open and my father comes barreling inside hitting the wall on the opposite side. He crashes to the floor and the large painting hanging on the wall falls and hits him on the head. Groaning loudly, my father gets to his feet and glares at my grandfather.

“You know the protocol, Aaron,” my father spits at him. “Where is Alpha Harry?”

“Sleeping,” my grandfather says with a smirk on his face. “We were expecting you several hours ago.”

“And he couldn’t be bothered to stay up and greet his Queen,” my father says grumpily.

My face heats with embarrassment every time someone refers to me as the Queen and my father has a habit of doing it constantly.

“Father,” I whisper as I look around. People are waking up and coming to see what all of the commotion is about. “Can we discuss this in the morning?” I try to deflect the attention away from myself.

“What the hell is going on down there?” A voice calls from the top of the stairs.

I look up and see Alpha Harry looking over the banister of the top floor. “My apologies, Alpha,” I say cordially. “My Grandpa and Father were just having a disagreement.”

“At midnight?” Alpha Harry yells down.

“Apparently it could not wait.” I give him a nervous chuckle.

Alpha Harry mumbles angrily while he walks himself back to his bedroom and slams the door. I spin around to see that everyone is putting themselves back to sleep and I let out a grateful sigh. But my father does not seem to be as content with the situation as I am.

“This is no way for you to be greeted,” he huffs as he places his arms over his chest.

“Father,” I hiss at him again. “Stop. This is perfectly fine. It is midnight.” I turn in my grandfather’s direction. “I know that we brought more people than expected. I am willing to share a room with Elise.”

“Not with your mate?” My grandfather says with a smirk on his face.

“No!” Both my father and I yell at the same time causing a fit of laughter to bubble from my grandfather’s chest.

As soon as the word leaves my mouth the scent of fresh grass fills the air and I turn to see Leo standing in the door. Disappointment is written across his face and I am filled with regret. But Goddess knows I am not ready for anything that Leo has to offer.

Without saying anything Leo walks past me and holds his hand out to my grandfather. “It is nice to finally meet you, Sir,” Leo says sincerely. “My parents were banished from their packs when I was just a child because I was an Alpha. You have always been an inspiration.”

My grandfather eagerly takes Leo’s hand and shakes it so hard that Leo’s arm flops up and down. “I like him,” Grandpa Aaron whispers to me and I roll my eyes.

Leo looks at me and winks as my grandfather claps him on the back and begins to lead him up the stairs to show him to his room. Perhaps getting rid of Alpha Leo won’t be as easy as I thought. Well played, Alpha Leo. Well played.

The Alpha Triplets And The Rogue Chapter 170

Raven’s POV

Running a brush through my hair, I try to stall going downstairs for as long as possible. After what happened between my father and grandfather last night I don't want to face what is waiting for me downstairs.

A knock on the door makes me groan loudly. They are done waiting for me. "Come in," I yell out and Elise peeks her head inside my door and offers me a shy smile.

"Luna Queen," she says as she bares her neck to me in submission. "They are waiting for you downstairs."

"I figured," I sigh. "I will be ready in just a moment."

Running the brush through my hair one last time, I flick my dark locks behind my shoulders and head to the closet. Dropping the robe from around my shoulders, I step into a black dress that I had picked out for today's trip. Reaching behind me I try to zip myself up but I cannot. Before I can call out for help Elise is behind me zipping me up.

"Thank you," I say sweetly. "How do I look?"

"Like a Queen," Elise says with a smile on her face.

"Ugh," I groan as I place a silver locket around my neck. "Please don't call me that," I beg of her. "Call me Raven."

"I couldn't possibly," Elise stutters the words. "I am just an Omega."

"Don't look down on yourself," I say tilting Elise's head up to look into my eyes. "You cannot help what you were born into. I would like for us to be friends."

Elise clears her throat awkwardly. "If we are going to be friends, I think there is something that you should know."

I eye Elise suspiciously. "What is that?"

"Before you came along I used to sleep with Alpha Leo," Elise spits out and she takes several steps away from me so she is out of my reach.

"Did he force you to sleep with him because he is the Alpha?" I ask.

Elise blushes bright red and I know the truth. She slept with Leo because she wanted to. "He didn't force me into anything," Elise says shyly.

Rose is growling in the back of my mind at the thought of someone else sleeping with my mate.

‘Settle down,’ I roll my eyes at my wolf. ‘We already knew that he was sleeping with other women.’

‘But it was different when we didn’t know the woman,’ Rose growls.

‘I thought that we were going to reject him anyway?’ I ask Rose.

‘I thought that we were going to give him a chance?’ Rose counters and I groan out loud.

Pushing Rose to the side, I focus my attention back on Elise. She is looking at the ground with tears falling from her eyes.

“Elise,” I sigh. “It is okay. This changes nothing between us.”

“Really?” Elise says with a hesitant smile on her lips. “I swear if I would have known that you were his mate...”

Holding my hand up, I stop Elise from talking. “I don’t want to know the details...” I begin but then I stop myself, maybe I do want to know the details.

Chewing on my bottom lip I think about how much information I want to know. My mother and fathers had always avoided ‘the talk.’ I don’t know much about s*x besides what I had heard from Kieran’s girlfriend Gabbie, which wasn’t much. Kieran insisted on keeping me in the dark about the opposite s*x as well.

“Luna Queen,” Elise says quietly. “I don’t love him or anything. It was just a way to fill the time.”

Glancing toward the door to my room, I quickly walk over and flip the lock. Elise begins to shake uncontrollably. Ignoring the scent of her fear in the air, I grab her by the hand and drag her to my bed. “What is it like?” I ask her.

Elise scoots away from me on the bed and looks at me with a shocked look on her face. “What is what like?” She asks innocently.

Looking around the room, I lean in close to Elise and whisper, “s*x. What is it like?”

Elise yelps out in surprise and scrambles off the bed. “I don’t think I am the one to have this conversation with,” she says in a hurried voice. “They are waiting for us downstairs.”

“Please,” I grab hold of Elise’s hands and pull her back on the bed. “No one will have this conversation with me. Not even my parents.”

Elise’s eyes soften and she willingly sits down beside me. “You’ve never?”

I shake my head no. “I have never even kissed a boy.”

“What!?” Elise squeals. “You are eighteen. Surely you have had a boyfriend.”

Once again, I shake my head no. “I was never allowed. The closest I have had to a boyfriend is Warren,” I whisper. “But we never so much as held hands. No one has been allowed to touch me. So, please,” I beg. “What is it like?”

Adjusting herself on the bed, Elise refuses to meet my gaze. “It is difficult to explain,” she begins. “The first time isn’t much fun. It can actually be quite painful.”

I swallow the lump that is forming in the back of my throat. “Painful?” My voice squeaks.

“But only the first couple of times,” Elise says urgently. “After that, it becomes more fun. Especially if you are with someone like Alpha Leo. He isn’t a selfish lover if you know what I mean.”

I c**k my head in confusion. “I don’t know what you mean,” I admit with embarrassment flooding my body.

Crossing her legs underneath her, Elise lets out a sigh. “There is more than just s*x.”

Flopping myself back onto the bed, I cover my eyes with my hands. “What do you mean there is more than just s*x?”

“There is foreplay,” Elise laughs. “It normally happens before s*x. It normally involves... other body parts.”

Uncovering one of my eyes I look at Elise and I know that the look of shock is written all over my face. “Other body parts? Like which ones?”

Elise stifles a laugh with her hand before she continues. “Like fingers and tongues.”

“Tongues like for kissing?” I ask innocently.

Letting out a long sigh, Elise gives me a pitiful look. “You are too innocent for Leo.”

I sit straight up in the bed and glare at Elise. “What is that supposed to mean?”

“Forgive me,” Elise quickly recovers. “I didn’t mean it in a bad way. Back to tongues.” She says deflecting from her previous statement. “Tongues aren’t just for kissing. They can be used on more private areas for pleasure.”

I scrunch up my nose in disgust. “I am not putting my mouth anywhere near his... his... his thingy.”

“I think you may change your mind but that is okay. You can always stroke him with your hand,” Elise giggles.

“How would I do that?” I ask cluelessly.

Elise holds out her hand and I lay my hand in hers. Grabbing my wrist Elise begins to stroke up and down my arm, giving it a little squeeze here and there. My eyes widen with realization as she demonstrates what I am supposed to be doing to his thing.

“Now you try?” Elise says as she holds her hand out for me. Clumsily I try to recreate the motions that she showed me. “You can squeeze harder,” Elise instructs me. “You won’t break it.”

“I can break it!” I screech and Elise cannot stop the laughter that is bubbling in her chest.

“I said ‘You won’t break it’,” she laughs and I cannot help but giggle along with her.

Suddenly a knock on the door stops our fun as my father’s voice booms from the other side. “What are you two doing in there?”

“Nothing,” Elise and I both yell out at the same time.

I can hear my father sigh angrily through the door. “Well, whatever it is you need to stop and come downstairs. Alpha Harry is waiting for you.”