

Rejecting My Lycan Mate: The Throne

CHAPTER TWENTY-FOUR – A Minute Alone

Madeline's POV

I could feel how much Dimitri needed me.

He kept flinching, squeezing my hand, and his anger kept washing over him in intense waves.

"Can we please have a minute alone?" I asked, looking at Will.

He furrowed his brows a little and glanced toward the door.

"Mike will be here any moment now," he said.

"Please, Will," I said, giving him a pleading look.

He looked at Dimitri and sighed.

"We will wait outside," he mumbled as he stood up and looked at Ellie and Ali. "Come on."

I took a deep breath as I watched them all leave the room. Dimitri looked like he didn't even realize that the three of them had left.

I climbed onto his lap as soon as Will closed our office door.

"I am here, my love," I said softly and cupped his cheeks. "I am in your arms. I am right here."

I leaned in and placed a soft kiss on his cheeks. He grabbed my hips tightly and I could feel that his claws elongated.

"I am here, Skol," I said as I moved my lips to his jaw. "I love you."

He growled and his canines elongated as well. I left a trail of soft kisses all the way from his jaw to his lips. I kissed him as softly as I could. His canines were on the way, but I didn't mind. It was a part of him and Skol and I loved them as much as I loved every other part of him.

I caressed his cheeks with my thumbs as I placed a soft kiss on the tip of his nose.

"I am here," I repeated quietly. "I love you. I love you so much."

He growled again and I felt his hand run up my back. He tangled his fingers into my hair and held me in place. His claws weren't there anymore.

"I love you," I told him again. "I am yours. No one else can have me. No one else will have me. No one will take me away from you."

Even if someone did, I would never stop loving my mate. I belonged to him since the moment I came to this world and I would belong to him until the moment I took my last breath.

He took a deep, slow breath. I caressed his cheeks again and placed another soft kiss on his lips. His canines retracted.

"Fuck, Maddie," he mumbled as he buried his face into my neck.

He breathed in my scent slowly and deeply. I placed a kiss on the top of his head.

"I love you," I told him again. "I love you with my entire heart."

He wrapped his arms around me and hugged me tightly.

"I can't even explain how much I love you, Madeline," he said quietly. "You are my entire world. I would die if I lost you."

I placed another kiss on the top of his head.

"That will never happen, Dimitri," I said. "You will never lose me. I will fight to be by your side forever. This is the only place I want to be. This is my home. You are my home."

He lifted his head and captured my lips with his.

"Home," he mumbled. "My home."

I smiled a little and caressed his cheek again. I could feel that he was a little bit calmer and it was everything I wanted and needed. I hated it when he was angry and scared. I hated it when he was upset.

Our office door opened and Will peeked inside.

"Mike is here," he said. "We really need to talk to him. We don't have much time."

Dimitri nodded and motioned for him to come inside. He took a deep breath and placed a soft kiss on my forehead. I climbed out of his lap and sat on the chair next to him.

Thank you, princess. He mind-linked me. I needed this.

I gave him a small smile and took his hand in mine. I lifted it and kissed his knuckles.

I know. I said. I am always here for you. I will always be here to make it easier.

He smiled and tightened his hold on my hand.

“What happened?” Mike asked as soon as he walked inside the room. “What’s so urgent?”

Dimitri took a deep breath and looked at him.

“We need to talk about the security detail for Maddie,” he said, pointing at the armchair opposite his desk. “Alpha Alistair said something that worries me.”

I looked at Ali and took a deep breath. She looked confused and I knew that I would have to talk to her as soon as I got the chance.

What’s wrong, Mads? Ellie mind-linked me.

I looked at her and took a deep breath.

I will have to talk to Ali and tell her everything. I said. I can see that she is confused. I don’t want to keep her in the dark.

Ellie gave me a small nod.

Let me handle that, okay? She said. You have enough on your plate. You still hadn’t talked to Skye. You still hadn’t shifted. You have to talk to Oliver about your powers and figure out what to do. Not to mention this whole Alphas’ Meeting and the tournament that starts tonight.

I took a deep breath and closed my eyes.

She was right. I had so many things to do and I had no idea where to even start.

Let me help, Mads. She continued. I will explain everything to Ali.

I opened my eyes and gave her a small nod.

Thank you. I said, making her smile.

There is no need to thank me. She said. I am here to help.

I smiled at her and focused my attention back on Mike and Dimitri. Mike looked pissed so I could only assume that Dimitri had already told him everything.

“I want nine of our best men to keep an eye on each Alpha,” Dimitri said. “Discreetly, of course. I want to know everything about them and their movements while they are in my territory.”

“Even Alpha Alistair?” I asked, furrowing my brows a little.

“Just because he came to tell us that there is a traitor among the Alphas, doesn’t mean that I trust him, princess,” Dimitri said. “He could be trying to get close to us so he can do something. I won’t allow that.”

I nodded and Dimitri looked back at Mike.

“Have them followed,” Dimitri said sternly. “No one makes any move without me knowing about it.”

Mike nodded and tightened his jaw.

“We will start following them immediately,” Mike said angrily. “No one will hurt my daughter.”

CHAPTER TWENTY-FIVE – The Opening Ceremony

Dimitri’s POV

The opening ceremony of The Tournament of Three Kingdoms was being held at the battle arena.

The entrance to the tournament grounds was adorned with colorful banners and flags featuring the emblems and symbols of the Three Kingdoms. The torches illuminated the entire arena, making me forget that it was almost midnight. The stands were packed. It seemed like every member of my pack decided to come and watch the opening ceremony and the introductions of the competitors. It made me happy. It showed other Alphas how strong and united my pack was.

“Are you cold, princess?” I asked Maddie as we walked to our assigned seats.

She looked at me and shook her head. “I am fine, my love.”

I shivered and turned into a melted pile of human flesh each and every time she called me love. I smiled and pressed a soft kiss on her temple.

“Will I have to speak?” she asked.

“No, princess,” I said as I caressed her soft cheek. “I will speak. You will smile and stand by me the entire night.”

I was nervous because all the Alphas and the members of my council would be sitting close to us. I wished we could just sit somewhere else, but it wasn't possible.

"Don't let go of me," I continued. "I want you holding my hand the entire night."

Maddie leaned in and placed a kiss on my upper arm.

"Don't worry," she said softly. "I will be by your side the entire time. No one will hurt me."

I gulped and took a deep breath. They would have to be fucking crazy to try something while every single member of my pack was there, but I could never be too careful. Maddie was my entire life. I had to make sure she was safe.

I can't wait to go back home with you. Maddie mind-linked me. You have to take this dress off me and see what I have underneath.

My heart almost stopped. I looked at her and raised an eyebrow. She smiled a little.

I don't want to spoil it, but it isn't much. She added as her smile grew.

I tightened my jaw and forced myself to take a deep breath.

You will be so punished for this, Madeline. I said sternly. You made your king hard just as he is about to speak in front of hundreds of people.

Maddie smiled brightly and my heart skipped a beat.

"My King," one of the Alphas greeted me and bowed just as Maddie and I stepped to the area for the members of the court and our guests.

I didn't notice which Alpha greeted me. I was imagining what Maddie had or didn't have underneath that dress.

My entire body tensed up when my eyes landed on Kendrick. He was looking at Maddie and the anger almost exploded inside me. I wanted to claw his eyes out. I wanted to kill him. I wanted to let Skol rip him to unrecognizable pieces.

Maddie squeezed my hand tighter.

It's okay, my love. She mind-linked me. I am right here.

I pulled her even closer to me as we walked among our guests. All the Alphas, Betas, and Lunas bowed and smiled at us. Maddie kept smiling and greeting everyone. I kept my eyes on Kendrick, wishing I could end his pathetic life right then and there.

Relax, Dimitri. Will mind-linked me as we approached our seats. He can't hurt her. He can't even come close to her.

Will was already sitting in his assigned seat. Ali was next to him. She was looking around in awe, but I also noticed that she was a little bit nervous.

Maddie and I sat down and all the chatter in the arena suddenly stopped. Landon stood up and approached the railing in front of us. Everyone looked at him.

"Hello and welcome to The Tournament of Three Kingdoms!" he exclaimed, making everyone cheer and clap. "It is so nice to see so many of you here. Thank you all for coming."

The crowd cheered and clapped again.

"Our beloved King will say a few words and then we will meet the participants!" Landon added excitedly.

I stood up and pulled Maddie with me. We approached the railing, making the people cheer and clap even louder. I smiled and waved at them.

"Thank you all for coming!" I exclaimed and the cheering and the clapping stopped. "It is so nice to see you all here. My Queen and I are so happy and proud to be the leaders of such a wonderful pack."

Maddie smiled brightly and waved at them. The cheering and clapping started again, this time even louder.

"Luna!" I heard a few excited screams coming from the stands.

I smiled brightly. Our people loved her so much. I waited until the cheering quieted down a bit.

"The tournament will be exciting," I continued. "Our Ellie had to step down due to some personal reasons, but the remaining nine participants are ready and excited to begin."

The crowd clapped loudly.

"The first task, the Moonlight Duels will start in two days when there will be a full moon," I continued. "I am excited to see who the winner of the duels will be!"

The crowd cheered and clapped again. I smiled and waited for them to finish.

"I will let our Lord Chancellor, Landon, introduce our participants," I said. "I am looking forward to spending time with you all at the party after the opening ceremony ends."

The crowd cheered and clapped again. Maddie and I waved at them and we walked back to our seats.

I lifted Maddie's hand and kissed her knuckles.

"You are going to the party?" Will asked quietly as soon as we sat down.

I sighed and gave him a small nod.

"We have to," I mumbled. "I don't really want to, but we can't avoid it."

As much as I wanted to take Maddie back home where she was safe, we had to spend some time with our guests and the members of our pack.

"Mike and I have it covered," I added. "Maddie won't be alone for a second."

I would go fucking insane if something happened. Mike and I made sure that someone I trusted was always close to her. I wasn't planning on letting her go or leaving her at any moment, but I never knew what could happen. I had to make sure my princess was safe.

I took a deep breath, kissed Maddie's temple, and focused on Landon and his introduction of the participants.

CHAPTER TWENTY-SIX – We Should Have Lunch

Madeline's POV

I kept a smile on my face as Dimitri and I walked through the crowd. Everyone wanted to talk to us. Everyone wanted to see us up close. We saw the members of our pack every day, but I felt like something was special about tonight.

"Luna!" one of the workers at the pack house exclaimed. "You look wonderful!"

"Thank you, Katie," I said as I gave her a small smile. "You look amazing yourself."

She blushed and a small smile spread across her face.

"Thank you, Luna," she said shyly.

I smiled brightly and continued walking through the crowd, shaking hands and greeting everyone I could.

"You look stunning, my Queen," I heard Kendrick's voice and I tensed up immediately.

Dimitri's hold on me tightened and I felt the anger boiling inside him. I used every ounce of strength I had to help him remain calm.

"Thank you, Kendrick," I said, giving him a small smile. "It is nice to see you."

"It's been too long, my Queen," he said. "We only see each other in meetings. That is such a shame."

I kept a smile on my face even though I just wanted to run and hide. I was afraid that I would somehow hear his thoughts again. I didn't want to know what he was thinking. I could see it in his eyes and in the way he was looking at me.

"It's the nature of our relationship, Kendrick," Dimitri responded instead of me. "We are working together. You are a member of the council."

Kendrick looked at him and his jaw twitched.

"I know, my King," he said. "I just wish our relationship was not just professional."

Dimitri tightened his hold on me even more. I forced myself to keep smiling.

"Madeline," I heard Ellie's voice and I looked to my right.

She approached us, eyeing Kendrick up and down. She had a forced smile on her face.

"I came to take you away," she said, looking at Dimitri. "The Lunas wish to spend some time with their Queen."

Dimitri tensed up, but Ellie raised an eyebrow at him. I could tell they were mind-linking each other. Dimitri looked around and took a deep breath.

"Go, princess," he said as he leaned in and kissed my temple. "I will come to get you as soon as I can."

I nodded and Dimitri let me go. Ellie took my hand in hers and started leading me away. Kendrick bowed at me as I walked away.

"What was that?" I asked Ellie as soon as we walked away. "I never thought that Dimitri would agree to you taking me away."

"Well, the Lunas really want to talk to you," Ellie said. "And I saw both Landon and Alpha Lucius approaching. I knew that Dimitri would lose his shit if you were surrounded by so many people he despises."

I turned around and saw Alpha Lucius and Landon talking to Dimitri and Kendrick. Dimitri looked like he was going to burst any second. I focused on him and tried to take

as much anger as I could away from him. I saw him take a deep breath and his posture relaxed a little. I smiled and turned back toward Ellie.

We reached Ali and the Lunas. I smiled as I approached them.

“My Queen,” Luna Abigail said and bowed a little. “Thank you for joining us.”

“It’s my pleasure, Luna Abigail,” I said. “I am happy to be here with all of you.”

I came to stand next to Ali and she gave me a small smile. She looked around with a nervous expression on her face. Ellie told her everything about me and I could tell that Ali was afraid that something would happen.

I couldn’t wait until Dimitri made her a member of our pack so I could mind-link her. I needed to reassure her and tell her that everything would be okay. I could still see Dimitri from where I was standing. Mike was just a few feet away from us and I could feel his eyes on me. Will was also somewhere close. I couldn’t see him, but I knew that he wouldn’t go far. I was safe. We were safe.

I couldn’t mind-link her to reassure her so I just squeezed her hand tightly and gave her a small smile.

“We would love to spend more time with you while we are here, my Queen,” Luna Mary said, drawing my attention back to the Lunas.

“We just talked about how nice it would be if we had lunch together,” Luna Wendy said. “Just us ladies.”

I smiled and nodded.

“Of course,” I said. “I would love it. I am sorry I haven’t been around much. There is just so much to do.”

“Oh, don’t apologize, my Queen,” Luna Abigail said, smiling and shaking her head. “I get all worked up when I have one guest in my home. I can’t even imagine having nine Alphas and their entourage.”

I smiled and gave her a small nod.

“It’s challenging, but I love having you here,” I said politely. “It’s exciting to be a part of the tournament and the meetings.”

“I agree,” Luna Natasha said. “I wish we were meeting in different circumstances, though.”

I nodded and took a deep breath. “I am sure that our mates will find a solution.”

I looked to my left and saw Dimitri looking at me. I smiled at him.

Are you okay, princess?He mind-linked me.

I am fine, my love.I said, trying to sound calm and reassuring.I can't wait to feel your arms around me.

I could see Dimitri gulp.

Soon, princess.He said.I keep imagining what is under that dress, you know?

I raised an eyebrow and smirked a little.

Nothing, my King.I said quietly.Everything is bare and ready to be touched by you.

His eyes widened and I saw his muscles clench.

Fuck, Madeline.He growled through the mind-link.Do you have any idea how hard I will fuck you tonight?

I smiled and tilted my head a little. His words made my lower belly tingle.

I can't wait, Alpha.I said.I am already wet and ready for you.

His jaw tightened and he narrowed his eyes at me.

Look away or I am grabbing you and taking you away right the fuck now.He said sternly.

I winked at him and looked back at the Lunas. They were talking about the tournament and I forced myself to smile and focus on them.

I couldn't wait to go home with Dimitri. His need for me only grew with all the dangers around us. I couldn't wait to show him that I was here and that I belonged to him and him only.

CHAPTER TWENTY-SEVEN – Lock The Door

Dimitri's POV

I ran my hands up and down Maddie's body. Last night was fucking amazing. The way her body felt pressed against mine was amazing. The way she moaned and screamed my name as she clenched around my dick was amazing.

"You were perfect yesterday," I mumbled as I kissed her neck. "You were riding me so fucking good."

I remembered how her perfect little breasts bounced right in front of me and I couldn't help but grunt. I was so fucking hard just remembering it and it wasn't really convenient.

"We are doing that again tonight," I said as I sucked on my mark on her neck. "I need you to ride me like that again, am I clear?"

I finally looked at her and saw that she was blushing and panting a little.

"Am I clear?" I repeated as I gently bit her earlobe.

"Yes," she cried out, her voice laced with pleasure.

I cupped her breasts and squeezed them gently.

"I can't wait to suck on your nipples again tonight," I said as I kissed the side of her neck gently. "I can't wait to lick them and bite them."

I could smell her arousal. She started grinding against me, making my already hard and painful dick twitch in my pants.

"Are you a little bit impatient, my Queen?" I mumbled as I lifted my hips and pressed myself against her. "Do you want this dick inside you?"

"Yes," she cried out. "Please. I need it. I need you."

Fuck. I really wasn't planning on fucking her. Oliver was on his way here. Mike and Will were coming. It really wasn't convenient.

But hearing her beg me threw my rational thinking out the window.

I growled as I ran my hand down her body and cupped her pussy. She flinched and rubbed herself against my palm.

"You are not being a very good girl," I growled in her ear. "We don't have time for this."

We didn't have time for this, but I was still going to fuck her. I just wanted to hear her beg.

Will? I mind-linked him.

Yes? He responded immediately.

Nobody comes inside until I tell you to. I ordered. Wait in front of my office.

Yes, Alpha. He said and I cut our mind-link.

I rubbed Maddie's pussy over her jeans and she cried out.

"What, princess?" I said as I reached under her shirt and lifted my hand until I found a very hard nipple waiting to be touched and sucked on. "Do you want me to stop?"

"No, please, no," she cried out, moving her hips and trying to rub herself against me.

I flicked her nipple and she flinched.

"You will be a very good girl and you are going to go lock the door," I said, lowering my voice until it was as deep as I knew she liked. "You will take your clothes off on your way back."

I squeezed her breast and grunted. She was fucking perfect.

"After you do that, you will straddle your King and you will fuck him just like you did last night," I added, making her shiver and moan.

"Do you understand?" I asked as I put my hand inside her pants and rubbed her clit over her underwear.

She was soaking wet and I had to stop myself from moaning loudly.

"Yes, Alpha," she cried out.

I moved my hands so she could stand up. She whined in protest. I made her stand up and I slapped her butt.

"Faster," I ordered.

She rushed toward the door, taking her shirt off as she ran. I couldn't help but chuckle. I stood up and lowered my pants, making sure that she could just sit on my aching dick as soon as she came back. I was as impatient as she was.

I sat back down and started touching myself as I watched her lock the door. She turned around and looked at me. I saw her eyes widen when she saw me waiting for her.

"Pants, Madeline," I said sternly.

She almost ripped them off her body and I had to bite the inside of my cheek to stop myself from smiling.

I grabbed her arm as soon as she was close enough.

"Let me see if you are wet enough," I said before she could straddle me.

I already knew that she was, but I couldn't miss the opportunity to lick that perfect little pussy of hers.

I made her sit on the desk and I spread her legs wide open. I gulped when I saw her glistening pussy waiting for me.

"Fuck," I grunted as I lowered my head and started sucking her clit gently.

"Dimitri," she cried out, tangling her fingers into my hair.

"We need to get you a little bit wetter, my Queen," I mumbled against her pussy. "I want my dick to drown in your juices."

I started sucking her again, making her cry out and moan loudly. I was so fucking happy that our office was soundproof because my Queen wasn't quiet.

I placed my finger at her entrance, teasing her a little. She tried to move her hips to get my finger inside, but I stopped her.

"Only my dick will go in there today," I said as I licked her from her entrance to her clit. "We won't be wasting all that wetness on anything else."

"Please," she cried out. "Please. I want it inside me."

Her begging was music to my ears.

I sucked her clit again and she flinched. I could tell that she was close, but I wasn't going to let her cum. She was going to do that on my dick.

I lifted my head and sat back in my chair.

"On my lap," I ordered. "Now."

My dick was throbbing painfully and I already knew I wasn't going to last long.

She jumped off the desk and straddled me. I placed the tip of my dick at her entrance and she lowered herself down slowly.

Both of us grunted and moaned. She was wet, tight, and warm. My eyes rolled to the back of my head when she finally managed to take all of me in.

"Finally," she cried out, resting her forehead on my shoulder.

She started fucking me slowly and I couldn't help but groan. It was perfect. She was perfect.

“Yes, my Queen,” I muttered. “Fuck me. Make me cum inside that perfect pussy.”

She dug her nails into my arms. I tangled my fingers in her hair and held her close to me. I couldn't stop my hips from moving. I started slamming myself inside her and I could feel her pussy starting to clench around me.

“Cum on me, my love,” I said, panting hard. “Cum on my dick.”

She cried out loudly and I felt her pussy tightening around me. I closed my eyes and growled as I felt my seed explode out of me. It was one of the most intense orgasms I ever had and I wasn't sure if it would ever stop. I just kept cumming and cumming. I kept pushing in and out of her, making sure that her orgasm lasted as long as mine did.

By the end of it, we were both shivering, panting, and moaning quietly.

“I love you, Madeline,” I told her after I finally managed to get some air into my lungs.

“I love you too,” she mumbled, relaxing into my arms completely.

I smiled and kissed the top of her head.

“My love,” I mumbled. “My entire world.”

CHAPTER TWENTY-EIGHT – My Powers

Madeline's POV

“I can't answer that,” Oliver sighed, shaking his head at Dimitri.

I could feel anger rising inside my mate and I did my best to stop it.

“What can you answer, Oliver?” Dimitri asked angrily. “We don't know anything about her powers!”

Oliver looked at me and nodded.

“We know what's written in the books,” Oliver said. “I wasn't able to find anything about our issue, my King. I can't tell you why she could hear Kendrick's thoughts.”

I shivered when I remembered it. I really didn't want to hear something like that again.

“How is that possible, Oliver?” Dimitri asked, narrowing his eyes. “You are a healer, aren't you? You need to find a solution.”

Oliver opened his mouth to speak, but I interrupted him.

"It's okay, Oliver," I said, giving him a small smile. "You did your best. Thank you for trying."

"Madeline...", Dimitri said but stopped talking when I gave him a stern look.

"There aren't many books left from the Kingdoms, Dimitri," I said. "You know that. Oliver did his best."

Dimitri raised an eyebrow at me. I could see that he wasn't happy with me. I didn't care. Oliver did his best. The powers I had were unusual. We couldn't expect Oliver to have all the answers.

"So what are we supposed to do?" Mike asked and I could hear worry in his voice.

"We are supposed to take care of her and make sure that she is safe," Oliver said, drawing my attention back to him.

He looked from Mike to me.

"You need to let us know about any changes you notice," he said. "You need to let us know if you can hear Kendrick's thoughts while you are with Dimitri."

"You need to let us know what he thinks," Will added. "There has to be a reason why you could hear his and Janet's thoughts. It wasn't a coincidence."

I nodded and looked back at Dimitri. He was glaring at everyone and he looked like he was going to explode. It was getting harder and harder for me to control his anger.

"I know you want answers immediately, but it just can't be done," I said as I reached out and took his hand in mine. "The powers I have are complicated. We need time to figure them out."

Dimitri tightened his jaw and took a deep breath.

"I want you safe," he said. "I want to know exactly what you can do and I want to know exactly what it all means so I can protect you."

I smiled and caressed his cheek.

"You already did," I said softly. "I have more security than any other person alive. I would be surprised if someone managed to hurt me."

I chuckled and Dimitri growled.

"Try not to worry so much, my love," I said softly. "I am safe. Nothing is going to happen to me."

Dimitri pulled me closer and kissed my temple.

"If you would be willing to leave her...", Oliver spoke, but Dimitri's loud growl interrupted him.

"No!" Dimitri yelled and I felt anger boiling inside him. "I am not leaving her!"

He wrapped his arms around me and I felt him shaking.

"You didn't let me finish, Alpha," Oliver said calmly. "Your Beta and Mike would be with her. If you are not there, maybe she could figure out who is trying to take your throne."

Dimitri took a deep breath and released it slowly.

"I am not risking anything," he said. "I will find out who the bastard is, but I won't put my mate in danger to do it."

"She wouldn't be in danger, Alpha," Oliver said. "Your Beta and her father..."

"Would be there, yes," Dimitri interrupted him. "I trust them both, but it's not just about that. It's not easy for Maddie to read minds. It's exhausting and her head starts hurting. I don't want her in pain. I will find another way."

I smiled and caressed his cheek. I loved him with my entire heart. Dimitri looked at me and leaned in to place a soft kiss on my cheek.

"I am not using her for this," he said, stroking my hair gently. "I will find another way."

I cupped his cheek and placed a soft kiss on his lips.

"I am willing to help, Dimitri," I said. "If I can find something and it can help avoid..."

"No," he said sternly. "What if they figure out what you can do? What if they somehow find out who you are? I don't want you exposed. I don't want them to know. They can't fucking know."

I glanced at Will.

Can you help me? I mind-linked him.

He sighed and furrowed his brows.

I agree with him, Maddie. He said. But...

He stopped talking and took a deep breath.

“Lunch with the Lunas,” Will said, making Dimitri look at him. “Ali and Ellie will be there with her. Maybe one of the Lunas knows something.”

Of course! Why didn't I think of that?

“I didn't say she could go to that,” Dimitri said, growling quietly.

I sighed and made him look back at me.

“We are in the middle of a very important event,” I said. “You can't keep me away from everything, Dimitri. It's going to look suspicious.”

Dimitri tightened his jaw.

“She is right, Dimitri,” Will said. “I understand that you want to keep her safe, but you can't lock her up and keep her away from everything and everyone. She is a Queen. She has duties. It will look suspicious if she doesn't fulfill them.”

I could feel fear rising in Dimitri. I placed my hand on his back and rubbed it gently.

Nothing will happen to me. I mind-linked him. I am safe, my love. You are keeping me safe.

He looked at me and wrapped his arm around my waist.

“Fine,” he mumbled. “She can go to lunch with the Lunas.”

I gave him a small smile and he leaned his forehead against mine.

“Will you be okay with so many people around you, Mads?” Mike asked, making me look at him. “Will you be able to handle it?”

Dimitri's head fell on my shoulder and I placed a hand on his head, holding him close. I gave a small smile to Mike.

“I will be okay,” I said. “I found a way to keep their thoughts away. At least for a little while.”

Mike's eyes widened a little. “How?”

“It's hard for me to explain,” I said. “I'm trying to imagine a wall around my mind. It helps.”

Mike smiled at me.

“That’s great, Maddie,” Oliver said. “You need to make sure that you are okay. You can’t let it overwhelm you.”

I gave him a small nod.

“Ali and Ellie will make sure that everything is okay,” Will said. “I will tell them what to do if...”

‘Maddie?’ Skye called me and I stopped listening to Will. ‘I want to shift tonight.’

My heart skipped a beat. I wasn’t sure if I was...

‘You are ready,’ Skye said sternly. ‘You have to stop denying who you are, Madeline. You have to stop pushing me away.’

I gulped and tried to take a deep breath.

I wasn’t ready. I wasn’t sure if I would ever be ready.

CHAPTER TWENTY-NINE - Skye

Dimitri’s POV

“Why can’t we go to the forest to do this?” Maddie asked as I closed our bedroom door.

“And risk someone seeing you?” I said, shaking my head at her. “I am not letting that happen, Madeline. You will shift here.”

The room was big enough for her to do it here. Skye would have to wait to go on a run. It wasn’t safe.

Maddie approached the fireplace and looked at the flames. I saw worry in her eyes and it made my heart hurt.

“Maddie, princess, what’s wrong?” I asked her.

‘She is still angry at Skye,’ Skol sighed. ‘She doesn’t want to shift.’

I sighed and walked closer to Maddie. I wrapped my arms around her from behind and kissed her temple. She took a deep breath and leaned into me.

“Skye did it all to protect you, princess,” I said softly. “She loves you so much.”

Maddie remained silent. It was driving me crazy. I needed to know what she was thinking.

“Princess,” I called her again.

She sighed and looked up at me. I caressed her cheek and leaned in to kiss her softly.

“Talk to me, princess,” I mumbled against her lips.

She took a deep breath and rested her head on my chest. I was melting inside. Knowing that I was her comfort made me the happiest man on this planet. I ran my hands up and down her body and pressed her even closer to me.

“I am not ready,” she mumbled. “I am not ready for it to become real.”

I sighed and placed a kiss on her forehead.

“It is already real, princess,” I said. “Letting Skye out won’t change anything. She is a Lycan. You are a descendant of the Goldfangs Kingdom. It is your reality, Maddie.”

I felt her tense up.

“Please, love, talk to me,” I said quietly. “Tell me what you are thinking. I need to know.”

Maddie looked up at me and gulped.

“A part of me still thinks that I am not...,” she stopped talking and I saw tears form in her eyes.

I was pretty sure that I knew the end of that sentence. I cupped her cheeks and sighed.

“You are my mate,” I said softly. “You are my Queen. You are the love of my life. You deserve it, Maddie. You were meant to be mine. There is no one else who is meant to be standing here with me.”

I leaned in and kissed her.

“There is no one else I am meant to kiss,” I added quietly. “There is no one else I am meant to love.”

She wrapped her arms around me tightly and kissed me hard. I tangled my fingers into her hair and kept her close to me.

“I love you, Dimitri,” she said after she stopped kissing me. “I love you with everything that I have.”

I smiled and rested my forehead against hers.

“I know, princess,” I said. “I can feel it.”

I caressed my cheeks and ran my hands down her body. I unbuttoned her jeans and she took a deep breath. I gently started taking her shirt off. She lifted her hands so I could pull it over her head. I threw the shirt to the side and leaned in to place a kiss on her collarbone. The taste of her skin made my heart skip a beat.

“Will it hurt?” she asked, her voice trembling a little.

I got down on my knees and placed a soft kiss on her lower belly.

“A little bit,” I said as I started taking her jeans and her underwear off. “I will be here every step of the way. Don’t worry, princess.”

She stepped out of her jeans and I threw them to the side as well. I looked up at her and smiled.

“I love you,” I told her.

She ran her fingers through my hair and I sighed contently.

“Is Skye ready?” I asked and she gave me a small nod.

I kissed her thigh and stood back up. I placed another kiss on her lips and gave her a small smile.

“Skye will know what to do,” I said. “Just give her control, okay?”

Maddie nodded. I saw nervousness on her face and it made me sad. I wished I could do it for her. I caressed her cheek and took a few steps back. She clenched her fists and took a deep breath.

“Close your eyes, princess,” I said softly. “Let Skye take over.”

Maddie listened to me and closed her eyes. I saw her tense up and furrow her brows. I wanted to take her into my arms, but I knew I couldn’t. Not until she shifted.

Maddie fell to her knees and a scream escaped her lips. My entire body tensed up and I had to fight against every instinct I had. I wanted to grab her and make the pain go away, but I knew I couldn’t.

“It’s okay, princess,” I said, my voice trembling. “It will only hurt for a moment, I promise.”

Maddie groaned and fell to her side. She opened her eyes and tried to take a deep breath.

My muscles were completely clenched. I was like a coiled spring, just wanting to throw myself at her and stop the pain.

"It's okay, princess, it's okay," I mumbled. "Just a few more moments."

Another scream escaped her lips and I saw fur appearing on her arms. My entire body started trembling with the need to go to her.

"Just a little bit longer, princess," I muttered, gritting my teeth. "Just a little bit longer."

Maddie started thrashing a little. She was panting hard and quiet whimpers kept escaping her lips. I was on the verge of losing my shit. I hated seeing her in pain. I fucking hated it.

"Dimitri," she cried out for me and I almost fucking lost it.

'No, Dimitri,' Skol said sternly. 'It's almost over.'

I gulped and used every bit of strength I had to stay where I was.

"It's almost over, princess," I said, my voice trembling. "It's almost over."

Maddie screamed loudly and I saw her claws extend. Skol tensed up. I felt his need for Skye wash over me.

Maddie thrashed again and I saw her body transform into the most beautiful Lycan I ever laid my eyes on.

Skol and I gasped at the same time.

She was beautiful. Her fur was black and shiny. Her claws and canines were white and the flames from the fireplace made them look like they were sparkling. She was small, but I could tell that she was going to be a powerful wolf. She was just so beautiful and I couldn't take my eyes off her.

She whined quietly and opened her eyes.

"Skye," I mumbled, making her look at me.

She whined and I was next to her in a second.

'Let me out!' Skol exclaimed, pushing to be free.

'Give me a second, okay?' I mumbled as I buried my nose into her fur. 'Just one second.'

"You are beautiful, princess," I mumbled as I picked her up. "You are so beautiful."

She nuzzled her snout into my chest and I smiled.

“It is so wonderful to finally meet you, Skye,” I mumbled. “I love you so much.”

She licked my neck and I laughed.

‘Dimitri,’ Skol cried out and I could feel him trembling with need for her.

“Do you want to meet Skol?” I asked her and she whined loudly.

I chuckled and ran my fingers through her soft fur.

“I will take that as a yes,” I said as I smiled at her.

I placed a kiss on her snout and I let her go. I stood up so I could shift. Skol took over faster than ever. He grabbed Skye and whined loudly. He was finally holding his mate in his arms.

CHAPTER THIRTY – Learn How To Fight

Madeline’s POV

I woke up with a terrible headache.

“Hey, princess,” Dimitri said quietly and I felt his lips on my temple.

The headache lessened instantly. I smiled a little and turned my head toward him. I opened my eyes slowly and his handsome face made my heart skip a beat.

“How are you, my love?” he asked softly.

I sighed and furrowed my brows.

“I am still a bit tired,” I said. “And my head hurts.”

Dimitri pulled me closer and placed another kiss on my temple. I smiled and ran my hands up and down his body.

“What time is it?” I asked, closing my eyes and leaning my head on his chest.

“8 a.m.,” he said. “You fell asleep right after you shifted back. I got a bit worried, to be honest. You kind of passed out. But it’s normal. Shifting for the first time can be exhausting.”

Shifted back?

And then I remembered.

I shifted! I couldn't believe I forgot about that!

I opened my eyes and looked up at him. He smiled and caressed my cheek.

"Skye is beautiful," he said with so much love in his voice that I couldn't stop a shiver going down my spine. "Skol is head over heels in love with her."

I gulped and took a deep breath.

"Is she really...," I mumbled, but I couldn't finish my question.

Dimitri nodded and gave me a small smile.

"We already knew that, princess," he said. "Did you really think that she would turn out to be a regular wolf?"

I looked at his chest and tightened my jaw.

I hoped that she would. I hoped that they were wrong about me. I hoped I wasn't a Lycan. I hoped that everything was just a big mistake.

"Oh, princess," Dimitri mumbled as he placed a kiss on my forehead. "She is amazing and I love her with all my heart. She is a part of you and I don't want her to be anything or anyone else."

I felt tears burning the corners of my eyes. I loved her too, but I was still so angry. Why did she keep it from me? Why didn't she want to shift when I turned 18? She left me alone. I was so scared back then and she left me alone. I desperately needed someone and she chose to leave me. What if Dimitri didn't turn out to be my mate? What if I left the pack and got killed because she refused to shift? She left me alone when I needed her the most.

'Maddie, I...,' she spoke, but I pushed her back.

I didn't want to talk to her.

"Skol is completely in love with her," Dimitri continued, chuckling a little. "He refused to shift back for hours. He only shifted back when Skye did and when you fell asleep in his arms."

I looked up at Dimitri and forced a small smile on my face.

"I am so happy for Skol," I said quietly.

Dimitri leaned in and placed a soft kiss on my lips.

“He loves you just as much,” he mumbled. “You two are his greatest treasure.”

I smiled and ran my fingers through Dimitri’s beard. He groaned quietly and caressed my back. I didn’t even realize I was naked.

Dimitri reached the back of my thigh and pulled my leg over his waist. I could feel his hard dick rubbing against me and I gasped in pleasure.

“Can I fuck you, princess?” he asked, his voice deep and raspy. “Please.”

I was about to tell him yes when we were interrupted by a knock on the door.

Dimitri growled and stopped what he was doing. I wanted to whine.

“Are you fucking kidding me,” he muttered and got out of bed.

I looked at his naked butt and I wanted to drool. I couldn’t understand how it was possible for him to be as perfect as he was. His butt and his legs were made of muscles. Hell, his entire body was made of muscles. His butt clenched as he walked and I just wanted him back in this bed so I could ride him. I wanted his hands on my body. I wanted those strong, muscular hands to wrap around me and press me against his broad chest. I wanted him inside me. I wanted him on me. I wanted him everywhere.

“Madeline,” he growled as he put his sweatpants on. “Stop it.”

I bit the inside of my cheek to stop myself from smiling.

He growled at me again and approached the bedroom door.

“What?” he asked angrily as he opened the door.

“Is Maddie ready?” I heard Ellie’s voice.

I furrowed my brows. Ready for what?

Dimitri looked at me with a confused expression on his face.

“Don’t tell me she forgot,” Ellie sighed. “Mike is waiting for us.”

“Forgot about what?” Dimitri asked, looking back at Ellie.

I groaned when I remembered. Shit.

“Our first training session is today,” Ellie said. “Mike is waiting for us at the center.”

“Shit,” I mumbled as I threw the blanket off and stood up. “I will be ready in a second, Ellie.”

“No,” Dimitri said sternly, closing the door a little so Ellie couldn’t see me. “She just shifted for the first time yesterday and I can’t go with you to the center today.”

Ellie sighed again and I could practically hear her rolling her eyes.

“She will be fine, Dimitri,” Ellie said. “I will be there. Her dad is there. She needs to learn how to fight.”

I opened the bathroom door and rushed to get ready.

“She is right, Dimitri,” I shouted. “I will be okay. I need to start practicing.”

Dimitri closed the bedroom door and walked toward the bathroom.

I will be right there, Ellie. I mind-linked her.

I’m waiting. She responded. Hurry up. We are already late.

“I don’t agree with this, Maddie,” Dimitri said as he walked inside the bathroom. “I can’t go with you and I don’t want you to go alone.”

I spit out the toothpaste and looked at him.

“I won’t be alone,” I mumbled as I continued to brush my teeth. “Ellie and Mike will be there.”

Dimitri rolled his eyes at me.

“They can’t protect you like I can,” he said angrily. “No one can protect you like I can.”

I sighed and turned around to rinse my mouth. Dimitri was right behind me when I turned back around. I wrapped my arms around his waist and rested my chin on his chest. I smiled at him.

“I know that,” I said. “But I need to learn how to protect myself.”

He cupped my cheeks and frowned.

“I can protect you,” he mumbled and I resisted the urge to roll my eyes.

He could sometimes be so stubborn.

"I know you can," I said as I caressed his muscular back. "And you are doing it so well. But you know I need to learn, Dimitri. I am safe with them."

He tightened his jaw and gulped.

"And we can shower together after," I said, smirking a little. "I will need some help taking my clothes off."

Dimitri groaned and bent down to kiss me softly.

"Fine," he mumbled against my lips. "But we are definitely showering together after."

I smiled and nodded.

"And you will mind-link me immediately if something happens," he said sternly. "Do you understand me? Immediately."

I gave him another nod and he placed another kiss on my lips.