

## Chapter 23 Do you agree

Colt's POV

"Yes," Kate said as anger and disappointment crossed her green eyes.  
"Let us get this rejection over and done with!"

"We are not here to reject you, Kate," Sam said, cutting her off.

"Then why are you here?" She asked, seemingly annoyed.

I cocked my head to the side, listening to her racing heartbeat while watching her face move from confused to sad.

Her eyes reflected sorrow, and her body language yelled agony.

Was she in pain while sitting in the wheelchair?

Was her body hurting?

"It's not that," Ray said, walking out of the depths of my mind.

I knew he would be listening in when we came to meet with Kate.

"Then what is wrong with her?" I asked as my gaze moved over her beautiful face.

"The pain she is living with is not so much physical as emotional," Ray said.

My thoughts raced, remembering what she said to me in the restaurant.

"Who would want a wolf like me? I am broken, and you need a strong and healthy Luna to rule by your side."

"Was she rejected because of her disability?" I asked.

Ray kept quiet and disappeared back into my mind, yet the same nagging feeling of him knowing something was still in the back of my mind



remained.

He must have connected with Kate's wolf; she must have said something to him, or else he wouldn't have warned me of her troubles.

Why has he decided not to push the bond subject now? Why was he looking depressed?

Was Ray giving me a free choice to accept or reject Kate?

Was he giving up on Kate's wolf, or was it just so difficult that it would be easier to walk away than stay?

Why was he so adamant to come here earlier and now acting so indifferently?

"We came to inform you that we give you free choice to choose who you would like to have as your mate," Grey said, keeping his composure calm but serious.

"You want me to choose?" She squeaked, surprised. "You want me to decide which one of you I would like to have as a mate?"

"Yes," Sam said, "we want you to decide for yourself."

Kate became quiet, then shook her head in disbelief.

"I don't want any of you," she said. Yet her eyes told me she was lying. "I will not put you or your pack at risk by having me. I am a liability."

"Stop it!" I growled, getting annoyed. "You are not such a thing. I have seen..."

Kate's gaze snapped toward me, and worry reflected in her emerald eyes.

"What did you see?" Sam asked.

"The same as what Kate and Grey saw," I answered.

"That's impossible; I am broken," Kate yelled. "Don't you understand? I will never be able to walk again."

"I am not so sure if what you are saying is true," Grey commented.

"So now you are a doctor?" Kate spit angrily. "I have gone to every doctor possible in the last year to find out if they could help me."

"What's your point?" I asked, keeping my face hard. Kate will not be able to change my mind so easily.

"All of them told me the same thing," She said, and suddenly she looked tired, and a breath escaped her lips. "It's all in my head. I am supposed to be able to walk. I don't have any nerves or brain damage." She lifted her gaze and found mine.

"I even have feelings in my legs and feet, but I have no control over moving them. I can't take a mate in this condition. It would be unfair to you."

"Okay," I said, and I took a few steps toward her, closing the gap between us and squatting down to her level. I searched her gaze and smiled.

Grey and Sam's gazes were pinned on me, and I could feel how they threw questions over our closed link. They felt nervous and unsure of what my next move would be.

"I tell you what..." I started, letting her rich caramel scent envelope me, before I found the courage to carefully take her hands in mine. My breath hitched as I felt the sparks erupt where our skin touched, and I had to control myself not to scare her off. I wanted her, and if she needs to learn to walk again before she decides to take a mate, so be it. I will wait.

"Let's negotiate and come to an agreement," I said, feeling intoxicated by her scent. "We want to be part of your life, so leaving and rejecting you will not be an option."

I turned my gaze toward my brothers, who were both standing frozen and waiting for the punchline.

"I suggested we start as friends, and let's see how it goes," I said, and Kate's eyes widened. "We are mates after all, and we need to respect one another's boundaries. Let's take this time to get to know one another. We will not push you to choose or push you to accept one of us; all we want is to be part of your life, and when things are in place, maybe you can then decide whether you would want to take a step further."



Kate blinked a few times, unable to utter a word. She really didn't expect me to come to such an agreement.

I turned my gaze to my brothers and opened our link.

"What are you doing, man?" Sam was the first to ask, and it sounded more like a whine than a question.

"Buy us some precious time," I told them. "We need to show her that we want and care for her, not just tell her."

I turned my gaze back to Kate, finding her gaze dropped and her eyes full of unshed tears.

"Are you okay?" I asked, lifting her chin to look at me.

She nodded, and crystal clear tears spilled over and rolled over her cheeks. I carefully wiped them away, and I cupped her face.

"Do you agree?" I asked as I held her beautiful face in the palms of my hands.

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