

Chapter 25

Alexanders pov

But I knew better than to disobey Fay's wishes. There was a reason she kept her face hidden, and I needed to respect that I couldn't let my wolf take over here even if I did want to see her face and had come so close to seeing it already today. So, instead, I shielded her from the view of the others while she fixed her mask.

"Are you okay?" I asked softly as she stood back up, readjusting her mask.

She nodded, a hint of gratitude in her eyes as she glanced at me. "Thank you."

Before I could reply, my attention was drawn to the guard getting up off the ground. Anger boiled within me as I marched towards him, grabbing him by the throat and pinning him against a tree.

"How dare you lay a hand on the princess and accuse her of such things!" I growled menacingly, my voice filled with fury.

The guard sputtered and struggled against my grip, fear in his eyes. But I held firm, unwilling to let him go. Every inch of me wanted to rip his head clean from his shoulder for what he had done to my mate.

As the tension hung thick in the air, Fay stepped forward, her voice cutting through the silence like a knife. "Enough," she said firmly, causing both me and the guard to turn our attention towards her, but I didn't loosen my grip from around the man's throat.

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Her gaze was steady as she addressed the guard. "I did not harm your mate."

The guard went to say something, but Fay raised her hand to stop him. "I only wanted to talk to her about what happened last night. I was worried for her safety."

Beta Allen suddenly burst into the garden, his eyes wide with panic as he rushed towards us. "Fay! Are you okay? What happened?" He grabbed her in a fit of worry, looking her over for any signs of injury.

Fay's eyes softened as she looked at Beta Allen, causing jealousy to bubble within me. "I'm fine, thanks to Alpha Alexander here," she reassured him. Then, she glanced back at me with gratitude in her eyes.

Alpha Victor stepped forward. "Thank you, Alpha Alexander, for protecting Fay. My guards will take care of this man now."

I let the man go as the guards came over, grabbing him and leading him away from the garden. Fay walked over to Victor, placing a hand on his arm.

"Victor, please go easy on him," she said softly. "He was heartbroken over the loss of his mate and wasn't thinking straight."

Victor nodded, understanding in his eyes as he watched the guard being taken away. Fay then glanced at me for a brief moment before looking away, her mask firmly back in place. It was a small gesture, but it sent a jolt of warmth through me. For a second, as I stood there looking at her, I felt the same feeling that I had felt once before with

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another, and my wolf whispered to me, "She is familiar."

Without another word, Fay followed Beta Allen out of the garden, leaving Victor and I standing there in silence. The tension from earlier was still thick in the air. I could see that Victor wanted to say something to me but was holding it in.

So I turned to Victor, meeting his gaze. "I'm sorry for what happened," I said sincerely. "I just couldn't stand by and let someone attack Fay."

Victor placed a hand on my shoulder, giving it a reassuring squeeze. "I understand, Alpha Alexander. Thank you for protecting her. But this changes nothing about what I said to you before."

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