

TLOA Lycan 471

Chapter 471 - STOP SEEING HIM

Serefina stared at Hope with dull eyes while Kace tilted his head, didn't quite understand what Hope was trying to say.

"Are you... together?" Hope stuttered to finish her words.

"WHAT?!" Serefina barked in disbelief as disgusted expression crossed her face and she stood up.

Hope jerked away when she heard her angry tone. Ups! Misspoke... "No, no... I am just... what I meant, you good together. It is rare to see you are getting along well..."

Hope raised her hands when a pillow, magically, was thrown toward her direction. However, before the pillow could hit her, Kace had sped up and swatted it away.

"Hei! Don't get physical with my mate!" Kace bellowed and hid Hope behind his back.

"Get out! Before I throw you out from this house!" Serefina flared up. She disliked the thing that Hope tried to imply. Get along with Kace?! Huh! He just brought trouble for her!

"Go, go, go...!" Kace pushed Hope out of the room before the door slammed shut right behind his back.

Both of them were startled and covered their ears as the sound of it reverberated through the house.

"Lana said she is going now because she has to stop in another place!" Hope shouted to the close door and received a bumping sound as a reply, it seemed Serefina threw the pillow against the door again.

"Why she is so upset?" Hope muttered sullenly. "I am just saying..."

However, Kace knocked her head softly. "You silly girl. What is inside your dirty little head."

"Hei! I don't try to imply anything, I was just saying what I saw." Hope protested and both of them walked along the corridor toward the living room.

Apparently, Hope didn't see the wounds on Kace's back when she entered the room.

"Never in million lives your silly thought would happen." Kace chuckled, he had never imagined to be together with Serefina, the idea alone was absurd.

Hope pouted her lips sullenly as she sat down beside Kace and turned on the television, searching for interesting program to watch.

Meanwhile, Kace had found the most interesting thing to see. The girl beside him, who was oblivious with the way he looked at her.

"Why are you dating that boy?" Kace played with the tip of Hope's black hair. It has gotten longer since the last time he met her.

Not only that, everything about her was change, in good way. The live in her black eyes, her fierce personality... she has also become taller and her body shaped beautifully.

Hope was no longer the child who would call him 'wolf' or ran around with her diapers. Kace loved those memories of her when she was only a little girl, though he wasn't around very often.

However, he loved her more now.

"Why? I don't have a boyfriend, why I can't get one?" Hope crossed her arms defensively. Kace could see that she was nervous, her thumping heart told him everything.

"How about me?" Kace leaned his back against armrest and stared at her lazily. "Didn't I tell you that you are mine?"

Hope gritted her teeth, praying that her face didn't turn red because of Kace's bold statement. She was still mad because he didn't call her for three years!

"I am not your possession!" Hope snapped, managed to sound angry. "What do you expect? You don't even call me."

"Are you upset because I didn't give you any news?" Kace tilted her head, observing her reaction.

"No, whatever. You can do everything that you want. I don't care." Hope huffed and focused her attention on the television. Well, she was trying... it was hard to concentrate at something when a hot guy beside you was staring intently, as if he wanted to eat you whole.

"If I say sorry, will you forgive me?" Kace asked again after a long silence.

"No." Hope said curtly, but she liked it when Kace coaxed her.

"What should I do to make it up to you?" Kace tucked stray of her hair behind her ear and he could see her hard expression softened. "I came when you were sick. You know that right? So, you can't count it as three years straight."

"You came?" Hope whipped her head and looked at Kace with wide eyes.

"Do you forget about that?" Kace feigned sad expression, but Hope slapped his shoulder and glared at him, already knew his fate. "Of course I came. You were sick after all." He chuckled and tousled her hair.

"I thought it was a dream." Hope mumbled as she fixed her hair.

"A dream? Did you think you were dreaming about prince charming?" Kace beamed with happiness. He had been waiting for the moment when he could tease her without being awkward.

"No. I thought I dream of meeting an evil wolf. It's literally a nightmare." Hope sneered and this made the certain Lycan threw his head back, laughing hard. "But, Lana said she didn't know if you come back."

"No, Lana didn't know, but Serefina did." Kace stopped laughing and grimaced. "She burned my fur with fireball." action

This time it was Hope, who was laughing hard, she could imagine the two of them were fighting. Of course, she knew no one of them would really hurt each other, but imagining Kace's white beast was being chased by the witch and her fireball, was very interesting.

"What are you laughing for?" Kace frowned. "She almost burned me."

"Oh, please. She will not kill you." Hope rolled her eyes, still laughing and Kace loved to hear the sound of her voice.

"Back to the topic." Kace suddenly turned serious and Hope stopped laughing, peering at him warily.

"From now on, stop seeing him."

Kace leaned over, so he was so close to her. Hope could see his irises, the beautiful shades of blue and silver.

"Of course I can't do that..." Hope felt muddleheaded as her voice turned hoarser. "He is very good to me."

"Do you like him?"

"Huh?"

"Did he kiss you?"

Chapter 472 - PLAYING WITH FIRE

"What?" Hope's eyes widened in surprised.

"Did he kiss you?" Kace leaned closer, his eyes narrowed dangerously at her.

"No." Hope blurted out without having a chance to think straight, she shook her head as her heart beating very fast. "I mean..."

"Good." Kace pulled away and grinned, his easy-going nature returned. "It wouldn't be good for him." he smirked devilishly.

"You can't hurt him." Hope glared at her, but her blushing face couldn't hide what she felt about this.

"I will not." Kace shook his head. "I will win you over. I have told you before, once I returned, I will never leave you again."

Sometime, it was very good to hear when a man showed his feeling without restriction. A little bit possessiveness along with Kace's gentle voice was enough to make Hope bit down her lips to prevent herself from smiling.

"I will see what you will do." Hope threw sofa cushion toward him, stood up and ran toward her room.

Once Hope was inside the protection of her bedroom, she closed the door and locked it. The moment no one could see her, a huge grin appeared on her face.

Hope threw her body on the bed and squalled on her pillow, she raised her head, grabbed the white wolf doll and hugged it tightly against her chest. Hope felt very happy.

Without her knowing, in the living room, Kace shook his head as he heard what was going on inside Hope's bedroom.

"If you want to play hard- to- get, at least don't be so blunt, girl." He chuckled to himself, but then the pain on his back made him frown.

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"Where is Kace?" Hope was about to make breakfast, but she only met the sleepy witch at the kitchen bar stool while Lana was still on her mission. Hope could only roll her eyes upon hearing the word 'mission'.

"He lives somewhere else." Serefina yawned.

"Why?" Hope slightly felt disappointed.

"Because I don't want him to live here after he came out of the blue with his lovely plan." Serefina stretched out her body and Hope grimaced when she heard the sarcasm in her voice.

Hope couldn't believe it, both of them had known each other for centuries, knowing their personalities like night and day.

"Where does he live?" Hope put a simple sandwich in front of Serefina and a glass of warm water. The witch didn't like to drink milk.

"What do you want? Live with him since you have come to age?" Serefina bit her sandwich.

Hope almost choked on her milk when she heard that. "Of course not." she managed to say after coughing a couple of time.

"Good. Because he is your teacher now, it will be nice if both of you restraint yourself in the public." Serefina said nonchalantly as she drank her water and yawned again.

"No, we don't have that kind of relationship." Hope blushed. What is Serefina trying to say? It doesn't look like they will hold hands in public right?

"Nice. Because I start to like your human boyfriend." Serefina yawned again.

It was very rare occasion when Serefina would agree with Hope's decision, though Serefina, surprisingly, didn't scold her when Hope dated Oliver, but the witch also showed her disgust toward her relationship.

"You just said it because you want to annoy Kace." Hope mumbled and Serefina just shrugged.

"It feels good to annoy him."

Hope chuckled when she heard that. She agreed with that.

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P.E class was only once a week, thus even when they were in the same building there was no many occasion Hope could see Kace.

"Hei, are you looking for him?" Ian was eating his lunch unceremoniously while Ethan just came, bringing a tray full of food for Hope and Rossie.

"No." Hope lied bluntly as she took the food and thanked Ethan.

Ian was observing her since five minutes ago and she kept turning her head every time someone walked through the canteen door.

"You are a bad liar." Ian scoffed and stuffed his face with food.

"Don't disturb her." Rossie scolded her brother.

It was lunch time and like usual, the four of them would take a seat near the window at the corner of the canteen, so they could see the whole room from there.

"Are you planning to break up with Oliver now?" Rossie asked Hope with concern in her voice. "I don't think Kace will be fine."

"No, he is fine." Hope smiled at Rossie as she ate her food. "He said, he will win me over."

Ethan and Ian looked at each other, confused.

"I don't understand a girl." Ethan murmured.

"I don't understand her." Ian chimed in.

But, right at that time, Hope spotted Kace walked through the door and she immediately stood up. Hope brought her food over to Oliver and his friend's table.

"What is Hope doing?" Rossie widened her eyes in disbelief.

"Kace will kill that guy." Ethan commented when he watched what was going to happen. action

"No, it is Hope who kills the guy." Ian corrected his twin.

Since they started dating, Hope had said that she didn't want to eat together with his friend, because most of them were very noisy and annoying while Oliver couldn't stand be in the same table with Ian for more than five minutes.

That was why they had never been together when lunch time.

"Wow! What's bring you here." Oliver gave Hope huge smiled as he watched his girl sat down beside him.

"I want to eat with you." Hope shrugged, yet from the corner of her eyes, she could see Kace was looking toward her direction.

Somehow, this made Hope excited to see what would be Kace's reaction.

"I am happy to hear that, babe." Oliver grinned and Hope grimaced when she heard the endearment. It didn't feel the same when Kace said it.

Yet, Hope turned speechless when she watched Kace walked straight toward their table with devilish smirk on his suave face.

What will he do?

Chapter 473 - NO!

"Hope, right?" Kace stopped in front of Oliver's table.

With his presence, all the conversation in that long table, immediately died down as their head turned to look at the new P.E teacher.

Hope didn't know if Kace would directly confront her like this, she thought it would only annoy him and he would scold her later.

"Yes." Hope's lips were slightly ajar as she could feel all the attention was directed toward her.

"Good, I need your help. Can you come with me for a while?" Kace asked with warm smile.

"This is lunch time," Oliver protested. He was still upset because of the incident a few days ago. It was simply embarrassing. "She needs to take a break too."

"Hope, come with me." Kace completely ignored Oliver's words as his eyes fixed on Hope's.

"Sir..." Oliver wanted to complain again, but Hope had put his hand on his shoulder to stop him.

This small gesture made Kace narrowed his eyes slightly, didn't like the fact that his mate was touching another male right before his eyes.

"It's okay, I will go." Hope stood up and looked at Kace. "Sir?"

Kace smiled softly and walked away from the canteen, he never gave a single glance toward Oliver or his friend as his eyes focused on her.

"What do you want? This is school." Hope followed behind Kace with light steps, trying to not look obvious that she was close to this new teacher.

"Saved you from the situation." Kace said lightly.

"What do you mean?" Hope didn't understand. "I was sitting with my boyfriend and his friend."

All of sudden, Kace stopped walking and turned his back, fortunately Hope has a good reflex, so she didn't need to bump her face straight to his solid chest.

"You can't lie to me, sweetie." Kace nudged her nose softly with his forefinger and laughed when Hope's expression turned unsightly. "You don't like it when you have to sit with people that you don't familiar with."

He knew that? No one ever notice that.

Hope wanted to refuse his theory, but it would sound pathetic and she didn't want to give Kace another reason to laugh in front of her face.

"Thank you for saving me." Hope said it sarcastically.

"Anytime beautiful." Kace didn't mind it with Hope's attitude. "Where are you going?"

After saying that, Hope turned around to leave him. "Go back to my class."

However, Kace grabbed the hoodie on her jacket and dragged her. "I said I need you right? So, you have to help me."

"What?" Hope thought it was only an excuse. "No, let go." She hissed, looking around with worry, she didn't want to be the object of gossip of those female students.

However, Kace seemed oblivious with Hope's concern. action

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"Don't apply as a teacher if you are this lazy!" Hope was grumbling, staring dagger at the lycan beside her.

They were inside the indoor basketball court of the school building with Hope was checking the inventories there.

It happened that, every three months Mr. Wentworth would do the inventories checking, but since Kace was his substitute, thus it became his task.

Yet, this lycan was too lazy to do that.

"I am not lazy, I am just tired." Kace laid back in the middle of the court and used his arms as pillow.

This school building only has one indoor place for P.E, hence all the stuff for P.E was put there. No need to say that there were many things there.

"There are many things here." Hope complained. "I don't think I can finish it before the bell rings."

"It's alright, just do what can be done." Kace replied with soft voice with his eyes closed.

"You only used me." Hope grumbled and Kace chuckled.

"Feel free to get back at me."

And then there was a silence as Hope was roaming around that place and wrote on the paper on the clipboard.

"Kace?"

"Hm?"

"I thought you are sleeping."

"Almost."

"How do you apply as a teacher behind Serefina's back?" knowing Serefina, she would know it before Kace could step inside the village.

"She was busy and I have a great link."

"Oh."

And then silence again.

Just like what Hope had thought, the bell rang and she couldn't even finish half of it. With a sigh, Hope dragged her feet to come closer to the sleeping Lycan.

It had been a long time since the last time Hope watched Kace was sleeping peacefully like this.

She crouched down and stared at him, got lost in thought as she forgot that the bell had stopped ringing five minutes ago.

It was very strange when a man could appear very fierce, but also gentle at the same time. Possessive, but considerate, reckless but also knew his responsibility...

Hope stretched her arms to touch Kace's eyebrows and traced the bridge of his nose, his lips, his chin...

At that time, she saw something on his neck.

What is that?

A scar?

Hope leaned over to see clearly what the dark line on the back of his neck. Because Kace's hair was a little bit long, thus his nape was covered with it.

However, the moment Hope's fingertips brushed his neck, Kace opened his eyes and they were as black as the night sky.

Hope didn't have time to think when all of sudden her back hit the concrete floor and Kace had pinned her under his body with his canines elongated.

Hope gasped, it was terrifying to say the least.

However, before something bad happened, Kace regained his composure as his eyes slowly returned into his blue one.

"Hope...?" His voice came out very hoarse.

When Kace had snapped from his defensive state and realized what he was doing, horror filled his eyes.

"No! Hope... I am sorry, did I hurt you?" Kace moved fast from above Hope and helped her to sit down, his eyes scanned his mate body worriedly and felt terrible when he watched Hope rubbed her head.

Chapter 474 - THIS GIRL!

Neck was the sensitive spot for werewolf and Lycan. Their enemy could kill them the moment they got a hold of their neck, they could snap or slit their neck and there was no chance to heal.

Therefore, after so many years Kace lived in pursuit by Jedrek's people and many creatures that wanted him to be dead, he used to not lower his guard even when he was sleeping.

Hope's touch on his face was something that his subconscious didn't read as a threat, but when she touched Kace's neck, it was another thing entirely.

"Did you hurt?" Kace's brows furrowed as he rubbed the place where Hope touched before. "Is it hurt?"

"A little bit." Hope murmured and let Kace eased the pain by rubbing her head gently. They were so close.

While Kace's focus was on Hope's head, Hope's focus was on how fragrant he smelled.

"I am sorry Hope." Kace's brows creased in concern.

"It's alright." It was hurt, after all her head hit the concrete floor all of sudden, but it was still bearable.

"Do we need to go to the hospital?" Kace stared at the girl in front of him, but Hope's grimace expression broke into a small laugh.

"There is nothing serious, why we need to go to the hospital? They will laugh at me." Hope beamed with a big smile while staring at Kace as if saying that his idea was ridiculous.

However, Kace didn't laugh with her. He couldn't find anything about that ridiculous. One wrong move and he was not in his right mind in time, Hope could be death.

Kace shuddered by that thought.

"I am sorry Hope." He apologized very sincere and this made Hope a little bit puzzled.

She had never seen Kace like this before, "What happened to you? I am okay." Hope grinned to lighten Kace's mood. "Rather than my head, I am more concern with my class. I think I am late. If I get yelled at then it's your fault." Hope pouted.

"Whose class?" Kace sighed in relief when he saw Hope was fine.

"Ms. Jessica."

"Don't worry." Kace smiled and rubbed her head as he stood up and extended his hand to help Hope. "I will walk you to your class."

"What will you do?" Hope received his helping hand and stood up.

"I will use my charm." Kace gave the girl his devilish smirk that made Hope rolled her eyes and laughed.

"What happened with your neck?" Hope spotted a small on his neck that she was about to touch before. "Is that a wound? Where did you get that?"

"This?" Kace touched his neck and rubbed it. "From fighting."

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"Hope!"

Hope was waiting Ethan and Rossie at the entrance gate when Oliver called her and this automatically made Ian, beside her, threw a disgusting look to the boy.

"Why don't you break up with him? You date him just because you were upset with Kace, right?" Ian hissed at Hope while staring dagger at Oliver, who was coming closer toward them.

"I can't break up with him out of the blue." Hope grimaced. This time, this was her fault.

"Just say it. Simple." Ian rolled his eyes.

"I will." Hope replied before Oliver stopped in front of her. "Hai."

"Hope, are you alright? What Mr. Wolfe did to you?" Oliver looked at her with concern.

The corner of Hope's lips twitched slightly when she heard that name. Kace was really tacky by choosing that name as his last name.

When Hope asked about that, he said it was cute. Really, a grown up man like Kace, who was able to turn into a beast was talking about something cute, that was hilarious.

"I am alright, he did nothing. He just asked me to help him to count the inventories in the indoor basketball court." Hope replied truthfully, took a glance at Ian, who seemed boring.

"I am glad." Oliver sighed in relief and this made Ian opened his mouth to throw one or two of his opinion like usual, but he swallowed it after he caught Hope's angry stare.

"Are you going home?" Hope asked him. Usually, Ian practiced soccer after school.

"Yes, there is no practice for today." Oliver then stared at her expectantly. "Walking home with me?"

Hope contemplated for a while before she nodded. "Sure."

"Hope, your mother will be very angry at you if she sees you with him." Ian immediately rejected the idea.

"Excuse me? Who are you to forbid her from going home with me?" Oliver narrowed his eyes at Ian. This guy was being noisy on his relationship with Hope since the beginning.

"She is my twin sister." Ian blurted out nonsense.

"Alright, enough." Hope waved her hand to both of them. "I will walk home with him, bye Ian."

With that, before there was more argument occurred, Hope pulled Oliver's arm and waved Ian goodbye.

On the other hand, Ian could only watch both of them disappeared among the crowd of students. But, that was the last thing that he had to worry about.

Because at this time, he caught 'his' scent, coming closer toward him along with his other two siblings. As if on cue, kace's figure appeared before his eyes when Ian turned his body.

Ethan and Rossie were walking slightly ahead of Kace while he set his eyes on Ian.

"Where is Hope, the two of them said she is waiting here with you." Kace's eyes scanned his surrounding, he caught her scent, but it was faint, meaning she had gone before he came.

"She is... going home." Ian gulped, exchanging look with Ethan, who asked him silently about Hope too.

Kace was squinted his eyes. "She is going home alone?" He knew Hope would go home with the siblings, yet the three of them were still here.

"No, she is going home with... Oliver." Ian grimaced when he watched Kace's expression turned unsightly.

"This girl..." Kace let out a low growl.

Chapter 475 - BREAK UP!

"It's our first time walking home together." Oliver said as he walked leisurely beside Hope and glanced at the girl.

It had been three months since they started dating and a month since they went out together. Hope would always give an excuse every time Oliver asked her to go out with him.

Ever since from the beginning, Hope always distanced herself from him.

"Yeah, right." Hope nodded and whipped her head when Oliver held her hand.

"I just want to hold your hand." Oliver blinked his eyes upon Hope's reaction. "You acted as if I am going to kill you." He laughed humorlessly.

"Sorry, you surprised me." Hope gave her a small smile and let him to hold her hand.

There was a silence before Oliver spoke when they were crossing the road. "I don't like that new teacher."

"Mr. Wolfe? Why?" there was a glint of amusement in Hope's eyes when she mentioned Kace's name. "He is nice."

Oliver frowned as his expression turned unsightly. "You have to avoid someone like him, you know."

"What do you mean 'someone like him'?" Even Hope could feel the irritation in her voice when Oliver badmouthing Kace.

"I don't like the way he looked at you. Don't you realize that?" Oliver frowned when he watched Hope's strong reaction.

"Realize what?" Hope wondered if the way Kace was staring at her was that obvious until people could tell.

"I think that new teacher likes you." Oliver frowned with his own statement.

However, he was a man too, thus he knew what kind of look that Kace gave to her every time they met in the canteen during lunch break.

"He only worked for two weeks, impossible if he already likes me." Hope tried to act ignorance, but she was happy to know that. action

"I don't like it. You have to avoid him." Oliver demanded.

"How can I avoid him? He is a teacher." Hope pulled her hand from Oliver's grip and hugged herself.

Seeing Hope's reaction, Oliver couldn't help, but blurted out. "Do you like him?"

"Huh? No, of course not." Hope replied too fast and this only ignited Oliver's suspicion toward her answer.

"You like him." that was a statement, not a question. "Did you cheat on me?"

Hope stopped walking and turned to face him. They were only one block away from Hope's house and not many people passed this street, thus literally it was only the two of them in that street now.

"Listen." Hope's expression turned serious. "I know him earlier than I know you."

"Is he your family?"

"No."

"Then he is dangerous. A man with eyes like him is dangerous. Stay away from him!" Oliver was very agitated to know this.

Kace had deliberately shown this to Oliver over the past two weeks, so he could jump into this conclusion. But, of course, either Hope or he knew about this.

"I have told you since the first time that I don't like anyone controlling me." Hope said coldly.

For a moment, both of them glared at each other and no one seemed willing to back down until Hope broke their staring contest and sighed.

"I already said that we are not good to each other. This relationship will not work." This time Hope looked at Oliver resolutely. "Let's end this."

"What? No!" Oliver's face turned dark when he heard that. "You want to end this because you like another guy, right?" he accused her.

In some way, it was true, but the fact was; Hope had liked this 'another guy' since before she met Oliver.

"Oh, don't act so innocent." Hope's expression turned dark as well. "You don't really like me, it is only your curiosity, right?"

"What nonsense you are talking about?" Oliver grabbed Hope's shoulder tightly until it hurt, but Hope didn't show it on her face.

"I know you only want to know me because I live in the biggest house in this village and I am not associated with other people except from the siblings. You think it is cool for you to be with me, am I right?" Hope smirked to mask the pain on her shoulder.

Hope knew all of this from Ian.

The peak of being werewolf was; they have incredible hearing ability and Ian always told Hope about what Oliver was talking with his friends about her, from across the room.

Oliver and his friends thought Hope couldn't hear it, which was true, but Ian, Ethan and Rossie were different case.

Maybe Ian would lie, but Rossie would not.

This was one of the reasons why Ian always acted very hostile toward Oliver, because this guy didn't have a good intention toward Hope.

Actually, Hope didn't mind it, for the fact she didn't have feeling for him, thus it didn't hurt when she knew what Oliver was talking to his friends.

"So, you want to break up with me?" Oliver narrowed his eyes dangerously.

"Yes." and Hope replied resolutely.

However, the moment that answer left her lips, Oliver forced her toward an empty alley and pushed her against the wall.

"Do you think it's easy to break up with me?!" Oliver barked right in front of Hope's face.

Hope felt the grip on her shoulder moved to her face as Oliver held her jaw with his thumb and forefinger.

"I don't take a break up nicely." He spoke icily and glared at Hope. "I have been nice to you all this time and let you play with your pathetic friends and this what you give me?! Don't think you can do whatever you wish!"

Hope saw that coming, she knew what Oliver would do next. Hence, before his disgusting lips could touch hers, Hope lifted her leg and kicked him right on the spot where he wouldn't be able to bear the pain.

In an instant, Oliver howled in pain when the breath was gone from his body as he stumbled backward.

"Do you think it's easy to threaten me?" Hope tidied up her crumpled clothes and slightly messy hair. "I don't take a coercion nicely too."

Chapter 476 - TROUBLE

"Hey, calm down okay." Ian clutched his seatbelt tightly, beside him, Kace was driving the car like a madman while on the backseat, Rossie was being hugged by Ethan. "I know we have remarkable healing ability, but it doesn't mean we are immune to pain."

Kace ignored his rumble.

He was upset because Hope was going home with that brat. Kace knew, for days, Hope had been trying to make him jealous. Well, that girl tried to give him a hard time because she was still angry for the three years Kace didn't call her, which he could understand.

But, going home with him alone? Kace really wanted to pinch her rosy cheeks.

However, before Kace could reach their home, he saw Hope was being pushed toward an empty alley by Oliver.

It was all Kace needed to slam the break and got out of the car. His veins were bulging and his beast clawed his conscience when he watched his mate was being cornered.

"Kace, calm down!" Ian went after Kace hurriedly. Panic on his face. This was one of the reasons that no creatures should mess with a Lycan's mate. They would turn into a battle mode. "Let me go to them, I will punch that guy, okay!?"

Ian tried to drag Kace back to the car, but he was way too strong for a young werewolf like him and one glare from Kace was all it needed to make the pup whimpered and released his hand from him.

But, before they could walk closer and Kace wrecked some havoc there, they heard a shrill scream from the alley where Oliver had dragged Hope.

Kace and Ian were standing not too far, but close enough to see what was happening there without Hope or Oliver noticed their presence.

On the ground they could see Oliver was groaning in pain and then Hope's voice travelled from the alley before her slender figure appeared in Kace's line of sight, towering above the poor boy.

"Do you think it's easy to threaten me?" Hope brushed the invisible dirt from her clothes and caressed her long black hair. "I don't take a coercion nicely too."

The girl didn't talk loudly, but it was enough for the four supernatural creatures near her to hear what she was saying.

There was a soft giggle from Rossie while Ian's jaw dropped. "What did she just do?"

"I have told you that she could take care of herself." Ethan didn't seem surprised to see this.

Hope sneered when she watched Oliver was groaning in pain on the ground, then she bent her body to take her backpack and headed home, grumbling something incoherently with annoyed expression.

The girl didn't seem notice about the four people who were watching her. Too upset to even care about her surroundings.

When Hope had walked a few meters away from the empty alley, the siblings turned his attention toward Kace, who didn't move an inch from his spot.

And what they saw was surprised them. Kace's face beamed with satisfaction while his lips curled into a smug smile.

"That's my girl!" he exclaimed proudly.

The lycan, who was two minutes ago, ready to tear the boy's body into pieces, now was crossing his arms and lifting his chin arrogantly.

"You shouldn't mess with my girl, human!" Kace sneered when he watched Oliver was trying to stand with a suffering expression.

Ian didn't know, whether he had to feel relief because the bloody event did not happen, or he wanted to face palmed himself because of Kace's self- contented expression was annoying.

"Can you drive?" Kace's eyes zeroed in Hope's back when he asked.

Ian frowned upon hearing the question. "Yes, I can."

"Take it." Kace threw the car key toward Ian and walked away after he added. "I will get the car from your house latter."

Fortunately, Ian has a good reflex, thus before the car key hit his face, he already grabbed it. It was unsure, whether Kace do it on purpose or not.

"Wait! I don't have a license!" Ian shouted at Kace, but the latter ignored him completely as he jogged toward the center of his gravity. "You are a teacher, at least be responsible to your students!"

"He will not hear you." Rossie tapped his brother's shoulder, smile on her face as she looked at Kace.

"Why are you smiling like a fool?" Ian was very moody now. The problem was, his mother would scold him nonstop for driving. Not to mention he took his siblings with him.

Their parents just didn't believe him enough with the safety of Ethan and Rossie, even though he was the older son of the family.

"Don't raise your voice on her." Ethan knocked Ian's head, but his brother dodged it in time. "Let's go home."

"Kace is very cute." Rossie squealed and this earned a glare from Ian and Ethan. "I want a mate like him." action

"No. Not someone annoying like him." Ian grumbled as he walked toward the car. "If our mother know about this, she will scold to no end."

"Stop complaining." Ethan opened the back seat for Rossie before he jumped to the front seat beside Ian.

"This lycan is a trouble." Ian still grumbled when he turn on the engine.

Meanwhile, the trouble lycan was walking behind Hope with a huge grin on his face as he put his arm around Hope's shoulder.

Hope gasped loudly as she thought it was Oliver, thus without even looking at the guy beside her, Hope elbowed him.

"Very feisty aren't you?" Kace didn't even flinch when he received that sudden attack.

"Kace! Don't do that! You surprised me!" Hope exclaimed when she watched Kace was laughing heartily. "What are you doing here?"

"Walk you home." Kace shrugged nonchalantly.

"Did you..." see what I was doing to Oliver? That was what Hope wanted to ask, but Kace had cut her sentences.

"Do you want to go on a date with me?" Kace asked.

Chapter 477 - I HAVE A DATE

"What?" Hope widened her eyes, surprised with Kace's request, but then she narrowed her eyes. "You saw it, right?" her voice laced with accusation. action

"Saw what?" Kace feigned an innocent face, but Hope elbowed him again and he laughed out loud. "You look very captivating when you are angry."

"Oh, in that case I will get angry every day." Hope rolled her eyes and pouted her lips.

"But, I loved your smile better." Kace leaned over and kissed her temple right in front of the house. "Don't kick me, okay."

After that, Kace moved away from Hope as if the girl would throw a punch because of what he did. Well, it was nearly impossible, as he had kissed her for over seventeen years.

"Come here, I will give you a good slap across your silly face." Hope gritted her teeth, she was unsure, whether she was shy because of the kiss or she wanted to stop herself from smiling.

"Uuu... my little girl is very fierce, she has grown up!" his laugh was getting louder upon seeing Hope was annoyed by his teasing.

"Come here, you bad wolf!" Hope didn't know since when Kace was being such a tease like this. She remembered Kace like an older brother to her.

At least until she reached thirteen years old, because after Hope knew about all the mate things, she could feel it that she saw him differently.

However, Kace now, was expressing his affection freely. As if he had been waiting for this moment for long time, which was true.

Hope was seventeen years old now, it wouldn't be awkward if Kace wooed her.

"Date me." Kace said in his deep voice, the moment he caught Hope and pulled her into a tight hug until she couldn't move to kick or hit him again.

"Why should I?" though she questioned him, but she already hugged the lycan back. Relishing the moment when the spark dancing on her skin. This feeling was magical.

"Because I am handsome, rich, affectionate, funny, reliable, you named it." Kace listed and it got a giggle from Hope.

"It has been a long time since I saw you shifted into your white wolf, I kind of miss him." Hope placed her chin against his chest as she looked at Kace expectantly.

"The wolf is tired, I will show you another time." Kace pushed her hair from her face. "Get ready, I will pick you up at four."

After saying that, Kace let go of her and Hope didn't really like the distance between them. "Why don't you come inside?"

Hope was confused, Kace usually would live in this house every time he came to visit her, but why now, since he decided to settle down, he chose to live in different place?

Actually, the only answer for her question was as clear as day if Hope wanted to know it badly, it was simply because she had grown up into a young beautiful woman with the right curves on her body and Kace was, after all, a man.

As Kace knew Hope quite well, he didn't think the girl would like his rush advanced.

Another reason was because there were a few things he had to handle and it would be more convenient if he lived alone for the meantime.

"I need to get the car from Ian's house." Kace stared the young girl in front of him, traced his eyes to the juncture of her slender neck, where he would mark her.

"Where will we go?" Hope casually asked, actually she didn't mind wherever Kace would bring her.

"Somewhere out of this village." Kace grinned when he watched a flash of surprise on her eyes.

"We will go out from this village?" It was a shocking idea. After years Hope was not allowed to go out because of the event three years ago, now Kace said he would take her somewhere out of this village.

"Is it okay?" Hope became concern, though she loved the idea to go to the city, but she didn't want to make another trouble for Kace. "Serefina wouldn't be upset?"

"I am with you." Kace said in matter of factly.

If last time Hope was gotten into trouble because she was trying to run away with her friends, now she was with Kace, meaning; it would relatively safe.

"Okay!" Hope literally jumped and hugged Kace before she rushed back toward her house giddily, grinning from ear to ear.

At this time, Kace hoped he could hear what his little mate was thinking.

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"So, do you think that Maximus has something to do with black magic?" Sterling saw the ugly four lines of wounds on Kace's back.

"This is obviously not a poison, I will heal within weeks if it is." Kace put on his clothes again and turned to face his old friend.

"What did Serefina say about this?" Sterling crossed his arms as he leaned against the backrest of his chair.

Both of them were currently in the kitchen, enjoying a glass of coffee that Sophia made.

"We didn't have enough time to discuss this." Kace remembered their conversation was cut short because Hope barged in and pissed the witch with her innocent comment. "And now she is not around."

Since Hope had grown older, Serefina and Lana became more often to leave her alone. Actually, this made Kace worried, but apparently the protection that she left around the house, worked just fine.

"You have to find a way to know what kind of magic is that." Sterling glanced at the scar on Kace's neck, which wasn't covered by his clothes. "But, is it possible for Jedrek to allow his man to use dark magic on you?"

"I don't know." Kace shrugged as he stood up. "But, he has been trying to track my mate's whereabouts. To kill her." his tone turned darker when he said it.

"Where are you going?" Sterling frowned, seeing Kace was about to go.

"I have a date." Kace grinned and then yelled. "Ian! Where is my car key!?"

Chapter 478 - A MOVIE

"Where are we going?" Hope was very giddy. She didn't look like a girl who just broke up with her boyfriend.

Probably, Hope didn't think of Oliver as her boyfriend and didn't feel guilty too because that boy had seen and treated her wrongly.

"Watching a movie?" Kace raised his eyebrows questioningly. "Or do you have something in your pretty little head?" He tousled her hair and enjoyed the moment when Hope's expression turned unsightly as she slapped his upper arm.

"Don't mess with my hair." She pouted cutely and this only made Kace laughed, he was very happy now. "Hm! Watching movie? Cool!"

"Check, what movies are playing in the Kingstone city?" Kace gave her his phone as his eyes focused on the road ahead.

Kingstone city was the closest city to mystic river village and since the small village didn't have a theater, thus the only way to watch a movie was to go to the Kingstone city.

The distance between two places was around half an hour by car.

"What genre will you prefer?" Hope took the phone and started to search what kind of movies were playing now. action

"I am fine with all genres." Kace shrugged his shoulder, actually he wasn't into a movie, but teenager like Hope, usually, would go on a date by watching one, thus Kace wanted to experience it too with Hope.

"Thriller." Hope saw one of the posters that picked her interest. "I want to see thriller movie."

"Are you sure?" Kace glanced at the girl beside him. "Thriller movie for our first date?"

"Why not?" Hope beamed with her choice of movie. "We need some adrenaline!"

"What an absurd reason." Kace chuckled. "Thriller movie then."

after that, Hope spent her time until they reached the Kingstone city by singing on the top of her lungs. Her voice was not really harmonious and she often missed the tone, but Kace enjoyed it nonetheless.

Kace glanced at Hope for the dozens of times since they got into the car, the girl was wearing blue tee shirt with white skirt, which was ten centimeter bellow her knees.

She was so cute with her hair was tied up into a messy bun.

"White and blue, huh?" Kace grinned as he teased her. "Is that represent my color?" his blue eyes and his white beast.

However, Hope didn't answer his question, she just pulled out her tongue and made a face. "Don't be so c.o.c.ky!"

After that, she sang again, not care about her surroundings, as she felt very happy now.

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Inside the theatre, Kace and Hope were like most of the couple there; holding hands, teasing each other and smiling most of the time.

Kace was sure there was no one who knew them there, people from the village was very rare to go to this city, as they would prefer to go to Iloned city, which was bigger than this and only took ten minutes longer.

Hope didn't know why, but she really enjoyed the moment and felt very comfortable with Kace beside her. Probably because she had known this man all her life.

It felt very natural to be with Kace, holding hand, talking and everything as if they had been a couple for years.

With ice chocolate in her hands, a small box of popcorn and a handsome guy beside her, Hope walked into the theatre happily.

This moment was very perfect!

Until she heard a woman's voice called Kace's name.

There were many kinds of women, but this one, who was approaching them with her slender legs and full b.r.e.a.s.t was the kind that Hope disliked the most.

"It really is you." The woman curly chestnut- color hair tumbled on her shoulder as she walked, beside her, there was a man as tall as Kace.

"Abby." Kace acknowledge the woman curtly as he pulled Hope closer toward him, which automatically drew the woman's attention toward her. "Leon." This time Kace grinned when he greeted the man behind the woman named Abby.

"What are you doing here?" Leon raised his eyebrows amused with this sudden encounter.

"Dating my girl." Kace nodded at Hope, put the limelight on her head as he smiled proudly.

"This is the girl..." Leon's hazel eyes traveled to the girl beside Kace. "Time really flies, she has come at the age that you can date her now."

Abby tilted her head as she scrutinized the girl in front of her and Hope really didn't like the way she stared at her, which she reciprocated with a cynical smile.

"What the two of you doing here?" Kace knew Hope was uncomfortable with this situation. "I thought you were in the southeast."

"There will be a coven in the north and every witch is invited." Abby replied to Kace's question. "And he wanted to come with me, since it had been years since the last time he was in the north." She tilted her head toward Leon.

Hope was at lost with this conversation, as she didn't have any idea what they were talking about right now.

However, she hated it when every time Abby was answering Kace's question, though those questions were not directed to her.

It was clear to see that Kace didn't want to talk to Abby, but this woman turned blind eyes to every sign that Kace gave to her.

Such an annoying person...

"Kace," Hope tugged his sleeves, "The movie is about to start."

"We will go first then," Kace was directed his words toward Leon.

But then, Abby had Kace's ticket in her hands. "Oh, this your seat number." She raised the ticket.

"Give it back to me." Kace talked solemnly, but his eyes flickered with the color of red.

Leon, who saw this situation, immediately snatched the ticket from Abby's hand and returned it back to Kace.

"Our seat next to you, why don't we go together." And all of sudden, from empty air, Abby conjured two tickets with number of the seat next to Kace and Hope. "Let's go?"

Chapter 479 - HUMILIATION

Even from the very beginning, Hope already disliked this girl. Her rosy lips pouted and her expression turned unsightly when she watched Abby walked ahead of them.

"Do you want to watch another movie?" Kace caressed her head to draw Hope's attention back to him.

Abby, who heard that, turned around and blinked her eyes innocently. "Why?" her voice was incredibly soft, as if Hope's reaction hurt her tender heart. "You don't want to go together watch the movie with me?"

Hope's frown deepened. Her beautiful obsidian black eyes traveled back and forth from Kace and Abby, but then her lips pulled into a smile as she hugged Kace's arm possessively.

"Why not?" she said cheerfully.

Hope's sudden change of mood caught Kace by surprised.

Abby slightly raised her eyebrows while Leon only chuckled as he muttered, "It will be interesting..."

Hope threw a confrontation look toward Abby when she waltzed past her with Kace in her arms. She slightly raised her chin and sneered.

Of course this gesture didn't go unnoticed by Kace and he felt his heart swelled with pride the moment he saw Hope was being possessive over him.

Kace let go her hand and put his hand on her shoulder as he kissed her temple, as if he supported her reaction. Hope reciprocated this gesture by resting her head on Kace's chest.

"What the hell they are doing?" Abby gritted her teeth as her eyes zeroed in on the two lovebirds.

"Not sure. You wouldn't know if you don't have someone you love and love you back." Leon grinned as he took the magical ticket from Abby's hand and gave it to the lady, who was standing right in front of the theatre door.

"She is only dirty human child." Abby's words laced with malice.

"I don't think Kace think the same as you about the dirty human child." Leon walked toward Abby, flashed her with his beautiful smile.

"Are you on my side or her side?" Abby followed behind Leon, flicked her hair with irritation on her eyes.

"I am on my side." Leon said lightly.

Leon had known Kace for decades and he also knew about Hope. The problem was; his sister, Abby, didn't know about this and probably wouldn't know it in the near future that her attempt to make Kace set his eyes on her was a futile effort.

"Don't embarrass yourself." Leon warned his sister when Abby pushed him away and walked toward their seat beside Kace.

However, upon seeing Abby's blatant intention, Hope pushed Kace to sit on the other seat as she plopped down beside Abby.

"Sit." Hope blinked her eyes at her, the same innocent eyes that Abby gave to her a moment ago. "You don't want to sit next to me?"

"Of course, I would love too." Abby feigned her happy smile as she sat down grumpily beside Hope while Leon was sitting next to her.

When the movie started and all the adds popped out, Kace leaned over to whisper something to Hope's ears.

"I love it when you are being possessive like this." His warm breath brushed her ears and made Hope slightly shudder.

"I am not being possessive." Hope whispered back, rejected Kace's statement immediately.

But, all Kace said was only. "So cute."

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When the movie ended and all of the people was walking out of the movie theatre while talking about the movie, Leon walked toward Kace, the lycan was teasing his mate happily, didn't even bother to give Abby a second glance.

"Kace, since we meet here, there is something that I need to tell you now." Leon gave Hope an apologetic smile. "Can you lend me your boyfriend for a while, beautiful?"

"Don't talk to my mate like that." Kace's eyes hardened, he disliked another man called Hope endearingly.

"Sorry." Leon raised both of his hands. "Can we talk then?"

"Let's go Hope, they need to talk about important thing." Abby crossed her arms in front of her ample b.r.e.a.s.t. "I will accompany you since I already know what they are going to talk about. So, you will not be alone. How about we buy an ice cream over there? I want one."

The way Abby said it, it implied an underlying meaning that she knew more about the things regarding Kace than Hope herself.

And the ice cream? Who did she think she was talking to? A five years old kid? Damn this girl!

This annoyed Hope greatly. Probably because of the rush of adrenaline or maybe because of the provocation that the girl gave to her, but Hope clutched onto Kace's arms tightly.

"I want to hear it too." She stared at Kace resolutely. "Why can't I know?"

This was their first date after, finally, Kace decided to stay beside her and if what Kace said was true, he would never leave her again, so why Hope couldn't know whatever his businesses or secrets were?

She thought to herself.

However, when Hope saw there was no reaction from Kace, she felt her stomach flipped.

Maybe, she was just being childish now, putting herself in a competition that she didn't know exactly what the situation was.

If Kace refused her childish behavior for being a nosy girl in front of Abby, Hope didn't know if she could handle the humiliation.

Well, she didn't think about it. Maybe, she had stepped over his boundaries? They just started this relationship, right?

Hope's resolution faltered. She bit her lips as the silence from Kace made her nervous.

People who were walking out of the theatre had gradually gone and now there were only the four of them in this empty corridor.

"Of course you could stay." Kace was only teasing her. He would never embarrass his mate that way, especially when their first date was ruined because of meeting these two people.

The smile that Hope showed to Kace was something that made his beast purred in delight.

But, Hope didn't stop there to entertain him, she turned around and faced Abby, with mocking smile she said. "You can buy your own ice cream, right?"

Chapter 480 - I HAVE GROWN UP!

Hope was quite irritated when in the end Abby stayed with them to hear whatever Leon was going to tell Kace.

Actually, Hope didn't really understand what Leon was saying, but because Kace had told her earlier to not ask any question and he would answer all of her curiosity the moment they were alone, thus Hope kept quiet, though her head was trying to figure out what the topic of this conversation.

"Just like what you thought, that thing is indeed in that place." Leon said firmly as he sipped his coffee.

Now, they were inside a coffee shop, enjoying a cup of coffee while Hope, who didn't like to drink coffee, was eating her croissant with a bottle of mineral water.

"Do you know what exactly owned it?" Kace asked, playing with Hope's hair absentmindedly, as if by doing so, it helped him to think.

At first Hope wondered why Kace and Leon were talking in riddle, but when she raised her head and witnessed the confusion etched on Abby's expression, she realized that the slender girl didn't have any idea what they were saying too, despite her declaration before.

Ha! Eat that girl!

Abby couldn't ask or demand an explanation from Kace or Leon because she had said that she knew what they were going to talk about.

Although Hope was in the same position as Abby, but she could always ask Kace the moment they were going back to the village and for Abby... Hope wasn't sure if Leon would let her know, he didn't look very fond of her.

"The thing that you mentioned before." Leon contemplated. "There is a lot of things that you don't know in that place. Be careful."

Kace sighed and caressed Hope's cheeks, "I will."

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"I don't understand what you were saying." Hope said the moment she got into the car. After the long conversation, they were finally going back home.

Kace chuckled as he turned on the engine and drove away from the parking lot. "I know you don't."

"So?" Hope raised her eyebrows, waiting eagerly for Kace's explanation. "What is that with 'that thing', 'that place', 'that creature'?"

"Will you stop asking if I said I don't want to explain it to you?" Kace paid parking fees and turned toward the main road.

"No." Hope answered immediately and this earned a soft knock on her head from the lycan.

"Always eager to know more."

"You don't like it?"

"I love that." action

Both of them chuckled.

"So?" Hope still didn't let Kace changed the subject.

"I don't know where I have to start the explanation." Kace said in matter of fact. "This things are related to one another."

Hope bit her lips, unsure if she had to say it or not, but then she thought there was no harm to try. "Why don't you tell me from the very beginning?"

Kace tilted his head as he stared at Hope. "The very beginning?"

"From how all of you guys could adopt me." Hope said it firmly. "You said it before, years ago that you will tell me everything when I am older. Now, I think is the right time."

The conversation in the coffee shop with Leon was only one from dozens things that Hope wanted to know and needed Kace's explanation.

Hope didn't forget about that. Maybe, in the surface she looked like any normal careless teenager and was ignorance about her surroundings and the things that she was able to see when another people couldn't see them.

She wasn't that ignorance, because she knew there was a secret behind all of this.

Why she lived with Lycan, werewolf and witch?

Why she didn't know her real parents and what happened to them?

Why she was able to see those creatures while the other could see nothing?

There were so many mysteries that needed answers and Hope had been waiting the right moment to have this conversation with Kace.

Unexpectedly, Kace pulled over to the dark side of the road before he turned his attention toward Hope. "Do you really want to know about everything?"

Hope held his gaze calmly as she nodded. "Yes. You promised me to explain everything to me when I am older."

Kace narrowed his eyes, "This will be a tough topic to talk about."

"I am aware." Hope nodded. Of course she knew, there was a high chance that the explanation would take a bad turn and she discovered something that would hurt her.

But, Serefina always said; knowing the truth is always better.

Since Hope was growing up under the witch's influences, though there was a time when she didn't agree with her, but she always held some degree of respect toward the witch.

Hope had asked Serefina about the questions that roamed around her head, but the witch would always have this weird expression.

Living with Serefina for her whole life, Hope could say that Serefina didn't really like to hold back information that was not necessary to conceal.

And the fact that Serefina couldn't tell Hope, was not because she didn't want to, but there was someone who told her to not do that.

Hope had thought about this and the only answer was because of Kace. Because she was his mate and she was his responsibility.

It sounded weird, but that was the only explanation of Serefina's reaction every time Hope threw the questions.

In spite of the fact that Serefina and Kace would often fight every time they saw each other, but they respected the other person's decision too.

Hence, since Kace wanted Serefina to not reveal this piece of information yet, the witch wouldn't say anything.

"You have changed... you become slightly bold now." Kace expression softened when he witnessed this side of his mate.

"No," Hope shook her head, her eyes glowed with purity, but there was a resolution in them. "I didn't change. You are not around very often when I was child, then you had been missing for three years, and when you were not with me, I have grown up."