

## Chapter 16- Rogues & Responsibility

Emma POV

I step out of the portal and into a bloodbath. The rogues are numerous in numbers and they seem stronger than your average rogues, I groan. Great, someone has been training rogues again.

I take a deep breath and start surveying the area, trying to work out where the main cluster of the rogues are. I can see that James is handling himself well and his warriors are not doing too bad, giving me the time I need to cut the rogues off at the source.

I locate the rogues cluster, many are currently waiting outside of the pack territory, clearly planning a second ambush once anyone tries to leave the pack. Deadly but ecient, these rogues are ones that have clearly thought out their plan of action at attacking this pack.

I leave the boundary and mask my scent, deciding that a sneak attack is going to be more effective than attacking head on. While most of my powers may be sealed now to keep me alive, I can still access some of them, mainly the ones I need to help me ght.

I sneak up behind them, making sure that my footstep are quiet. I then picture all of the rogues in one place and send a huge rebal to the place. I take a deep breath and close my eyes, imagining the rebal and its effects on the rogues. Once I have the image of the rebal in my head, I throw it towards the rogues in front of me.

The yelps of pain and smell of burning esh lls the air. I open my eyes and see that while most of the rogues have been dealt with, a few managed to either survive the attack or dodge the attack completely.

Great, guess we are ghting, I think to myself as the remaining rogues lunge at me.

I smirk and send a wave of air ying at them, causing them to go ying back and hit the trees behind them. They go down, and they stay down. They are still breathing but they are out cold, I will inform them pack patrol and they can then take them to the dungeon and interrogate the ones alive.

But I fail to realize until too late that there is one rogue behind me, one that sneaked away from the group and has been lying in wait.

The hairs on the back of my neck stand up and I turn around fast, but too late to dodge the wolf ying through the air at me. The teeth on the wolf are aimed at my neck, but I manage to turn in time so that the impact hits me torso and the teeth land in my arm.

I yell out in pain, causing the rogue to smirk at me which causes his grip on my arm to loosen. I use this moment to send some wind up around us and then into the rogues back, piercing his heart. He yelps and his teeth dig deeper into my arm, but as he takes his last breath and jaw goes slack and my arm slides out of his mouth.

Now all I need to do is get out from under this wolf. I twist my body and slowly work my way out, nally releasing my feet and standing back up. I look down at my arm and watch as it heals, the healing process is slower than a normal wolfs but faster than a humans. I am just so glad that I am still able to heal.

I quickly turn around at the sound of disappearing footsteps, I cannot take chase as I can still hear the ght in the pack, but the retreating back looks familiar. Eric? But what the hell would he be doing here? Isn't he a gigolo in the omega house now?

Something is not adding up, but now is not the time to think about that. That comes later, for now I need to help the pack get rid of the rest of the rogues.

Once all of the rogues have been taken care off, I head back towards the packhouse to check on James and the pack members.

"James!" I call, gaining his attention.

"Emma!" He call back, rushing towards me and embracing me in a bone crushing hug.

"Thank you so much Emma." He says.

"What for? I did what anyone else would do." I reply, shrugging my shoulder and extracting myself from James' hug.

"Still, many of my warriors are alive now because of you and that means a lot to me. I was not able to protect them." He says, lowering his head.

"Of course you did, was it not you who called out to me?" I ask.

"Yes but..."

"Not buts, they are for ashtrays. Sometimes protecting others comes in the form of getting the help you need rather than taking the hits for them. Sounds harsh I know, but being able to mobilize and respond as quickly as you did saved more lives than you know." I try to comfort him.

Alpha James POV

Emma and I have been in my oce for the last few hours, reading the medical reports and witness statements of those involved in the ghting. The worrying thing is that almost all of the reports state that the rogues were faster and stronger than any we have encountered before.

"I have found the on who led the rogues here." Will says excitedly as he crashes through the door.

Emma bursts out laughing, and I chuckle as Will goes bright red.

"Sorry." He says, closing the door behind him gently and coming to sit next to me.

"No worries, mate." I say, kissing him on the lips which he then deepens.

"Ok love birds, that's enough." Emma says laughing while throwing a paper ball at us.

"So, who was it?" I ask Will.

"Eric." He says smirking.

"WHAT?!" I shout, but that's not possible. He was demoted to below an omega, he is now a gigolo and a slave, he is monitored all of the time. How would he have been able to do it?

Emma sits there in silence reading the paper that Will brought in with him.

"But I don't think he is working alone." Emma whispers.

"What do you mean?" I ask.

"It would make sense." Will replies, making me look at him. "There is no way Eric would be able to make a move on his own, in other words there is another party working behind the scenes to get to either Emma or us." Will explains.

"I think both." Emma says.

"Why both?" I ask.

"I know of three people who want me out of the way so that they can get to Inga, and hurting this pack would be a good way to start getting me out of the way, after all you and Will are one of my weaknesses. But by not attacking Ingas pack it tells me everything that I need to know." Emma explains.

"You know who it is, don't you?" I ask smirking. Well, our job just got a lot easier.

"Its one of three people: Ingas parents or Alpha Brandon." Emma says.

Shit! This has just got a lot harder.

"The ruthless alpha who uses his own daughter as leverage to get what he wants?" I ask.

"The one and only."

"It would explain the large number of rogues, he does have a habit of using rogues to do his dirty work." I say.

"Exactly, and they were extremely well organised and good ghters. Stronger than most rogues, which tells me there is a bigger game going on here that even we cannot see."

"But who would be the real target?" Will asks.

"This time its not you, this pack or me. It is Inga that they are after." Emma explains, re entering her eyes as anger consumes her. The air in the oce gets thick with anger, and Will shrinks into me.

I quickly reach forward and put my hand on Emma's arm. "They won't get him. They have to go through you and us to get to him." I say, and Emma starts to calm down.

"We need to watch out for the next attack, and now we know who the puppet is we can use it to our advantage. We can use the puppet to get to the puppeteer." Emma explains when I look at her oddly.

"But it also means that he may be coming after you again." A voice says, making us all jump as the door opens and in walks Alpha Inga.