

Chapter 86 - Unscentable

Piper POV

Their engagement party was in full swing in the pack-house ballroom. What seemed like a million black, gold and blue balloons were anchored to the floor by tiny gold-wrapped weights with blue and black ribbons to allow the helium-filled balloons to float at varying heights from 4 feet to 12 feet high.

Each balloon had her name and Brad's name embossed on them. The man, it seemed, had gone completely insane over this party. There were vases of her favorite flowers on all the tables. Massive big pedestal arrangements, by all the doors that led outside of the ballroom even though those doors were closed due to the cold and snow outside. There were two massive, and by massive, they were twice the size of all the other pedestal urns of flowers and also had balloons attached to them, by the entry into the ballroom from the pack-house. There were large ribbon garlands around the room in royal blue. Although Piper had told him to make sure it was also decorated for him, he'd laughed softly and growled "No, I want it all for you." and wouldn't be swayed by her on it.

Brad had gone out of his way to make this engagement party all about her, she'd not even been able to convince him of anything else. The man, it seemed, had made his mind up and wouldn't be budged on it at all. She had even tried to talk to Lilly and his father into helping her sway him. They'd both laughed at her. Cooper was also no help. He stated "Brad won't change his mind Piper, just go with it, he is as stubborn as you are, when his mind is set."

Brad had put it right on the full moon, had insisted on it, wanted to celebrate on the full moon, had not taken no for an answer, even though Piper had tried to tell him it was too soon a thing in the human world, to hold an engagement party three weeks after announcing their relationship. That tonight was also going to be the night they would find out about Hadley and Cooper and didn't want to overshadow that either. He'd not concerned himself with Hadley and Cooper at all, was still annoyed about that for the most part, Hadley had moved herself into Cooper's suite after he'd found out it still bugged him to see her come from Cooper's room all happy and smiling.

He'd simply said they were wealthy and could do as they please, rich wealthy humans did this all the time, and no convincing could be done. Hell even seducing the man in his own office hadn't worked to change his mind. He'd

chuckled afterwards and murmured “still going to be on the full moon my love.” The man was as stubborn as she was.

There was a reporter here inside the pack, one he apparently trusted to take photos and get out into the human world the way he wanted. Same one from their shopping trip apparently.

There were only wolfen guests here. She had bought a dress for this occasion, did not have enough time to design one and make one had other things to do. She had opted for a strapless A-line royal blue chiffon dress that fell to the floor and had a wide crystal belt and she was wearing a three-quarter sleeved bolero jacket. Pack colours for her tonight, seeing that her wedding dress would be white. Her hair tonight was loose and curled, flowing freely down her back. Brad had smiled at her, stated she looked amazing.

Piper was standing at his side, she had barely been allowed more than arms length from him all night, his hand was either on the small of her back, completely around her waist or on her hip, and walking his hand was in hers. He didn't seem to want to let go of her at all.

Brandon was happy and running around the room with a bunch of friends he'd made since settling into his new school. Acting just like a typical seven year old boy would. Aspen seemed to have settled completely once Brandon had been initiated into the pack, and he was more comfortable now that she and Brad were Marked and Mated. Still came forward to challenge Harper to a run once a week or so, sometimes twice. And it still annoyed him that he could not as of yet beat her. Still made Harper laugh and tell him he was still young.

Piper's eyes moved about the dance floor and she found Izzy being twirled around by Edward. He'd asked Piper many times to call him Eddie, but she still called him Edward, actually preferred to use his full name. Izzy told her it was driving him nuts and encouraged her to continue, liked it when her Mate was riled up and annoyed. He and Timber got all cranky sometimes and apparently, Fade liked Timber on the aggressive side of things.

Izzy had also bought a dress for the night's occasion, was wearing a simple off the shoulder deep purple dress with a high split. Her family were going to be here on the next weekend for her wedding to Edward.

She wanted a silk trumpet off the shoulder style dress, in ivory. Piper had put fine boning into the dress to show off Izzy's curves, and had embellished it with a lace off the shoulder neck line, and it had a soft pleated body, and a

beautiful laced-up back. Izzy was going to wear a simple tulle elbow-length vail with a soft silken ribbon edge that matched her dress, attached to a diamond-studded comb to hold it in place. Real diamonds Edward had insisted on that, Izzy actually loved that he spoiled her with gifts all the time.

Edward had not as yet been allowed to see the dress, it was currently on a mannequin in a spare bedroom in the Alpha Suite. She had only just completed it this morning. Piper had been working on it non stop to get it ready on time. Izzy thought it was beautiful.

Piper herself thought it looked amazing on Izzy. Their day was going to be big and flashy, just like tonight. The minute this party was over they would be setting up for Izzy's and Edwards' wedding. All of Izzy's sisters were coming, along with her mother and father. They'd all been sent invites along with Phillip though he was still sporting injuries from trying to take Izzy from Edward. The man had declined to attend, 'can't walk with two broken legs.' Edward had snorted, fully amused with himself.

They were both very happy together and watching her best friend be so very happy, made Piper happy. Chuckled softly as Cooper bumped right into Edward on purpose, while he was out there with Hadley, clearly he was trying to out dance Edward, some sort of challenge was going on out there she believed. They were all laughing at each other as well.

Piper had laughed this morning, very hard at the news that Hadley was indeed Cooper's Mate. The full moon had set at six in the morning today. Hadley had marched herself right out into the middle of a training session, full annoyed that Cooper had left the suit to train when the moon was to set this morning. Brad and his Unit were running their usual training session, and Cooper had joined them instead of hanging about to wait and find out.

So Hadley had to hunt him down when it was time and she had stalked out there and claimed that man as her Mate. Right in front of Brad and the entire Alpha Unit, along with all the warriors who were being trained, had apparently stalked her way right over to the man, launched herself up at him and sank her fangs right into him the moment he'd growled the word 'Mine' back at her, claimed him before he could her.

They'd been holed up most of the day in the Beta's suite after that, no real surprise there, but had come down for her and Brad's engagement party. They looked just as happy as Edward and Izzy and were having a good time. It seemed everyone was having a good time tonight.

Photos of her and Brad had been snapped, her and his family as well as them and some of the other guests. Of course, there was them and his whole Alpha Unit plus their Mates. One very formal one of her Brad and Brandon, them standing together and Brandon right in front of them. There were many photos being snapped of their guests as well from what she could see.

This party had been in full swing now for over three hours and it didn't appear to be winding down any time soon. She was a little tired, it had been a long day and wherever Brad went she was tugged along with him. The man's hand had barely left her hip the entire night.

Only when sitting for their meal or was dancing with her on the dance floor and then both his hands had been on her. That made the man happy, he was always looking at her. And always seemed to have lustful hands, that were always touching her. Had to fend the man off more often than not on a normal day. At least twice a day she was shooing him away out of her office and telling him to go and work.

Damned man was insatiable it seemed, not a single night had gone by without him pulling her into their bed all growling and hungry for her, stating he had to have her, needed to have her, not that she had denied him. Loved that he wanted her all the time, wanted him right back, was sometimes just so tired she found it hard to focus on work the next day. Needed a nap some days, she had never needed that before in her life.

Harper was always happy now too, though she still had not come forth in her wolf form. Piper had asked her a few times over the last few weeks if she wanted to. Had not really gotten an answer on the matter. She just hadn't. Though Harper and Benson did Mate in human form quite a bit, they both seemed happy enough with the way things were. Benson never asked Harper to shift, seemed to know not to, understood perhaps that she couldn't anymore.

Found herself pulled from her thoughts by Lilly, who was standing by her side. "Hi."

"Hi Lilly." Piper smiled down at the woman. She was bright and cheery all the time and very friendly. They got along well.

"Can I borrow you for a minute or two, sweetheart?"

Found Brad's eyes on the woman. "What for?" He asked her before Piper even could, already felt the way his hand tightened on her hip. So bloody possessive tonight, that she couldn't even take two steps away from him without him asking her where she was going.

"Girl talk." Lilly actually told him, then brushed his hand right off her hip and linked her arm through Pipers and walked her away across the dance floor to sit down at a table where Betsie was already seated. Hadley and Izzy joined them a minute later.

"What's going on?" She asked.

"Hadley!" Lilly stated "If you want the Luna's help, you have to tell her."

Hadley sighed and nodded, then took a deep breath in and mind-linked all the women at the table to her 'I'm pregnant and Bradley is going to kill Cooper for it.'

Piper nearly burst out laughing 'Hmm. That is a pickle Hadley!' She'd already heard Bradley tell Cooper, Hadley was too young to be a mother and to be careful. Wanted her to get her law degree first, had said so at this very party, in fact. Had heard Cooper actually agree with Bradley on this, he wanted Hadley to have a life first before becoming a mother.

'Does Cooper know?' Piper asked curiously, wondering if he'd just told Brad what he wanted to hear.

'No, not yet anyway. He told me earlier he wanted to wait till after I'd finished law school.'

Heard Lilly chuckle down the line 'There's more Piper, it's why you're here.'

Turned her attention back to Hadley 'It's twins.' she sighed 'and I'm two months along. Got pregnant that first night with him.'

'Alright, the problem is?'

'Can you tell Bradley and well distract him from Cooper?'

'Can I tell him...' Piper laughed now 'Oh, no. you can do that.'

'Piper please, he never gets mad at you.'

'Yes he does, you just don't see it. I tick him off all the time.'

'But he forgives you easily.' Hadley was practically pleading with her.

Piper sighed, that was true. He might get mad at her and annoyed with her but always either let it go or forgave her. She had learned that pouting up at him worked really well. Sometimes even just tilting her head down ever so slightly and averting her eyes from him. Made him hug her and say he wasn't mad anymore. The man did not even like thinking she was slightly upset. She'd used it once or twice to get him over an argument. Tried not to use it, but it was a neat trick to have up her sleeve.

Turned and looked over to where he stood now, found his eyes were on her. The man was obsessed with her tonight, it seemed. Hell if she knew why, 'Fine. You owe me Hadley.' She murmured down the open link and then got up. Made her way across the room to where he stood. He watched her walk all the way to him, smiled right up at him.

"What's going on Piper?" He asked, and had already narrowed those eyes of his on her. Not so dumb.

She laughed right up at him "Nothing, just funny girl talk."

"Hmm,...I don't believe you."

"Hmm, I might want to go upstairs now." Piper smiled at him. The man never said no to that option. Stepped right up to him, heard Harper snort fully amused inside her mind, as Piper slid her hand up his arm slowly. Sex was the easiest way to distract the man.

His eyes were still narrowed on her.

"Does Benson want to chase Harper?" She smiled, knowing full well that his wolf did in fact enjoy chasing Harper, saw the tell-tale flicker of his eyes behind Brad's and knew she had his beasts' attention as well as Brads now.

"A little game," she teased, slipping off her shoes, got growled right at all low, oh they were more than interested "Hadley's pregnant, with twins." She said and then just ran away from the man as fast as she could, laughing to herself, knew she'd have only a minute or two to run away from him while Brad and his wolf argued for control, and tried to decide what was more important. Hunting his sister and his Beta or hunting her, his Mate.

Felt Harper push forward 'It'll be my Mate who wins that battle.' She chortled and shot them out of the ballroom at full wolf speed, all the way down the hallway and right out the front door of the pack house. Out into the night, uncaring of the snow that lay on the ground and their bare feet 'Harper?'

'I want to play with my Mate.' Harper shot back and kept running. Was headed for the tree line to the eastern side of the pack-house, right into the woods, when they heard Benson growl inside their mind through their bond 'the game is on. Run my prey.'

Heard Harper snort fully amused, she could actually outrun him and he knew it in human form, though Piper was pretty certain he'd be coming in wolf form. It was the only way he could catch Harper, and she did love to run from him, be hunted and mated the hell out of by her Mate afterwards.

What she was not expecting was to hear the first crack of her own shift, or feel the excruciating pain of her wolf ripping out of her for the first time since she was twenty. All four of her feet hit the ground a moment later, leaving her designer dress tattered on the ground.

Then Harper was gone off into the woods as fast as she could, her grey and white wolf running freely for the first time in 8 years through the forest of their own Pack. Could feel how very happy Harper was. Piper herself was near ecstatic to know her wolf was able to shift once more.

Harper stopped in a small clearing and howled up at the moon high in the night sky, heard a large howl follow hers and turned to see Benson in all his Alpha Wolf glory step right into the clearing, his eyes right on his Mate. Seeing her for the first time. She was mostly all dark grey down her back, had a silvered underbelly and legs and had four white feet, her face was silver grey mostly with two darker grey markings around her eyes and a black nose.

Harper snorted right at him, was only about half his size, Piper realized, but that did not stop Harper from launching herself at her Mate. Saw him leap out of the way, only to have her run off away from him. The game was still afoot, it seemed. She could hear Benson giving chase now and Piper was laughing at her own wolf, she was taunting her Alpha Mate. Piper could feel Harper's excitement at being able to be chased in wolf form by her Mate. A real game now, of hunt the prey was on.

Heard Brad through their mind-link 'Harper's beautiful Piper. And so tiny.' he sounded amused by that last part.

'She's fast.' Piper laughed right back 'good luck to Benson catching her.'

'Oh, he will, I assure you.' he was laughing himself now. 'I've never felt him so excited and I can tell you he's got every intention of mating the hell out of her.'

Harper ran through the woods all over the place, with Benson hot on her heels, only stopped running from him when she'd had enough, turned on him and pounced right on his big black wolf, then they were rolling around on the ground together playing, it seemed, until he had her pinned down to mate her in wolf form.

The two of them lay in the snow, Benson's large head resting across Harper's shoulders, he was purring for his Mate, and she purred right back at him. They seemed more than happy right that minute just lying under the full moon in the snow. Spending time together as wolves. Mated each other more than once before returning to the pack-house and shifting them back.

Brad picked Piper clean up off the ground and kissed her deeply before saying "Harper is beautiful," touched her face gently "just like you."

Piper smiled up at him, her arms were wound around his neck "Take me to bed Brad." she growled up at him and kissed him hungrily, heard him growl right back at her approvingly.

"Yes, my love."