

Unwilling 51

Chapter 51

By the time Ayla gets here, I have just finished my work. I was happy with the extra preparations I made. But it was a lot of extra

work, and with me being deadset on not having to work on the weekend. I have been hauled up in the office all day. To the point

where I was too late. to walk outside and welcome her back. Now she is standing at the door opening carrying a bag that is way

too big to be just an overnight bag. Was she thinking the same thing as I was?

“Are you okay Griff, you seemed a little off yesterday and now you didn’t come to greet me? Not that you have to of course but

well you...” She stammers, probably not wanting to make me feel bad about it.

But I like she expected me to wait for her outside to be the first one to welcome her in. I’m pissed at myself I lost track of time.

“I am more than okay now you are here again, Darling,” I tell her as I walk up to her.

To my relief she lets me k*ss her, wrapping her arms around my neck and pulling me closer. Deepening the k*ss until it leaves

me breathless.

“I haven’t been fully honest with you, and because of that, I was swamped with work today” I almost miss the way she goes pale

and shivers like it is cold in my office.

“Nothing to worry about, I just set up a double date with, Dillio, Collin Gerald, and Jessa I figured you missed her. And I had

Krystal buy you some toiletries even if I think she went a little overboard” As soon as the last word leaves my l*ps she drops her

bag and jumps into my arms.

“Thank you, thank you, thank you Griff” she practically squeals.

As always I get happy she calls me Griff and when she has both her feet on solid ground again she rushes to get something out

of her bag.

“Here we had meatloaf the other day and I told Grandma you would love it so she packed you the leftovers. And oh euhmm I

packed some more clothes hoping I could leave them here. You know so I don't have to pack every time. They can just stay in

the bag if you don't have closet space" Her cheeks redden again.

As if she needed help looking cuter than she already does.

"You and your grandmother are the best. And the extra clothes are perfect I was thinking about how much easier that would be

just yesterday" I took the bag from her hand, because I like doing things. like that for her.

Dad always acts like a true gentleman to Mom, I always grew up wanting to be like him. Things like holding doors open, pulling

her chair back, and carrying her bags. Not because she needs me to, but to show her how appreciated she is. In the short

distance between my office and my chambers, I spent listening to Ayla excitedly chatting about having missed Jessa and the

dresses he packed for special events and dates. She wants to match like she wanted to do at the ball for Krystal. Clearly, that is

something she enjoys. It showed me she was a romantic at heart. I hated that, that side of her was destroyed but I would do

anything in my power to build it up again. I didn't mind matching at all, I kinda like people could see we belonged together. She

chose a deep red almost burgundy dress with three-quarter-length sleeves. The skirt ends a little above her knees and she pairs

the formfitting dress with white sneakers. I can't take my eyes off her, I wish the twist on her left hip would come undone so the

dress would fall open. That will have to wait until later tonight though. I made preparations for after dinner but to make those

plans we needed to go to dinner first. Fulfilling my promise to her I change into a button-down shirt in the exact same color as

her dress. I paired it with some

dark blue jeans and of course my white sneakers.

Gerard whistles as he sees us coming down the stairs to meet up at the front entrance like we agreed to. Commenting on what

a good-looking couple we are.

“Actually Your Highnesses I agree, we discussed announcing that

Lady Hemmings accepted you as her mate. To stop the rumors a picture in these outfits would be perfect. Especially since our

Princess has on this elegant make-up” The royal secretary that happened to walk past us comments.

I freeze for a bit, this is part of being the royal family, in the current day and age, we have a secure website to keep people up-to-

date about news from the royal family. Mom and Dad suggested announcing this, and I was going to tell Ayla in person but I

wanted to enjoy the date first. Fearing that she might need a bit of persuasion. Dillion, Collin, and Gerald tense up. And when he

notices the awkwardness so does the secretary, but my perfect mate surprises me again..

“Are you the one taking the pictures or not, if so can you mindlink the person who will over? I think it’s a great reservation but

honestly. I am starving” Ayla says, a smile playing around her lips.

Dillion and Jessa giggle, and the others sigh in relief as her raw honesty takes all the tension out of the air. The secretary

immediately mindlinks someone before turning to us again.

“The photographer can be here in 20 minutes but my wife made donuts for dessert and our garden is beautiful maybe we can

come up with some sort of deal” He winks at Ayla completely ignoring me.

“Well that sounds perfect” Ayla smiles.

And after the royal secretary mindlinks again he leads the six of us to their home. His wife is excited to meet Ayla. Hugging her

as soon as

she steps inside. Ayla just smiles at her and soon we are sitting in the garden eating warm donuts and chatting. I love how she

can be polite and proper as a Princess, strict as a Queen, and kindhearted and warm as the perfect Luna. Still, after we have

taken some photos in front of the rose bushes I am glad we can head to the restaurant only a few minutes late. The restaurant is

outside of the park ground because we do not have a Tex-Mex restaurant in the park. This place had handmade tortillas and a

taco share platter with tons of sides. I loved sharing my food mostly because I was horrible at choosing. I always wanted

everything on the menu.

When we got to my SUV Jessa sl*pped in next to Ayla telling Gerald she missed her bestie. I chuckled thinking I was better off

since Ayla would still be sitting next to me. She put her hand of my hand on her knee but she just rambled on to Jessa. It was

like she forgot I was there she even whispered about things I had done for her: I could only hear fragments but they seemed to

be positive and they would constantly burst into fits of giggles. Jessa and Gerald's mate-moon was the next topic so I shot him a

sympathetic look. He winks at me through the backview mirror in response. Because we know neither of us minds we are just

happy our mates are having so much fun.

I grew up with these two, and I trust them with my life that is why I asked them to become my Beta and Gemma. We always had

dreams of our future where our mates would become best friends too. Jessa liked Collin so far and Ayla seemed to like him too..

The future we dreamed of as pups seemed to get closer and closer. During dinner, we see just how much as after the first twenty

minutes of catching up at super speed the two ladies join the rest of the conversation and dinner is a blast. We laugh and joke

like all friends and Ayla is constantly touching me. Whether it is just our knees touching or her hand on my leg. Even wiping a bit

of sauce from the corner of my mouth. It makes me feel giddy and excited for tonight.

I hope Ayla likes the surprise, after last weekend I figured it would be

perfect but now we were together I was getting nervous. The last thing. I wanted was for Ayla to feel pressured, I know after what

happened last weekend I felt like I couldn't wait any longer. Now I realized that if she wanted to I would have. But there really

only was one explanation for what was waiting for us in our bedroom.

Chapter 52

I love that Griffin surprised me with a triple date, I instantly clicked with Dillion and Collin. And I had missed Jessa like crazy, I

hadn't talked to Gerald a lot with their matemoon but he seemed like a good guy and I was excited to get to know him better.

Griffin seemed to get uncomfortable when the royal secretary sprang the idea of taking pictures together to announce us being

mates on us. He had obviously talked about it before. But I was not mad for him agreeing with me. accepting him to be

announced, I got it was a part of being royalty. He had been working himself to the bone to be able to have the weekend off. Plan

a triple date he was equally excited about. So I smiled, joked to deal with the tension, and behaved like I knew what was

expected of a Princess. I might not be royalty, but I knew enough about protocols and how my high-ranking family members

behaved at certain events.

Dinner was amazing, the food was good and I was happy he loved to share food too. I can't stand people who don't even let you

taste a bite of their food. This way we could taste more types of tacos so what was not to love? It was only at the end of the date

when he brought us all home that he seemed to be getting nervous. As he told me about Krystel and discussed the triple date

with Jessa and Gerald yesterday, hours ago when I just arrived. All the worries I had and all the suspicions were erased. He had

been holding back because he wanted to surprise me. Now that gnawing feeling that little pit of unease in my stomach came

back. Until he opened his bedroom door. His room was bathed in soft candlelight rose petals were placed all over the bed and

there was soft music playing. It was beautiful and so romantic that I couldn't understand why he would do all this for me and then

was nervous about it.

"Darling, after last weekend I figured I wouldn't be able to keep my hands off you, and I wanted our first time to be special. But

now I am

scared I am pressuring you into doing something you don't want to" I love how he blushed as he told me all about why the room

was decorated like this.

Truth be told, he was not the only one after last weekend I had been talking about mating with him. Quite often too, telling him

about David's insistent texting would have to wait. The only thing on my mind now was to make love to this wonderful man.

Because slowly but surely I was starting to accept that I was falling for him and there was nothing that would protect me from

falling further. Or getting hurt again if he was to walk away. He needed a little push though to be sure I wanted this as much as

he wanted it. I jumped in his arms, and he caught me like I knew he would. He always did and he seemed to love it. With my legs.

firmly wrapped around his waist, his hands supporting me holding my ass. I wrapped my arms around his neck and k*ssed him

with all that I had.

He returned the k*ss, it was eager and hungry and soon his shyness was forgotten. He started walking to the bed never breaking

the k*ss, kneading my ass. The smell of our combined arousal filled the bedroom and when he finally reached his bed and laid

me down I shivered in anticipation of what was to come.

"I thank the MoonGoddess every day for blessing me with someone as perfect as you." His voice was raspy and lust-filled as he

whispered into my ears:

He undressed me with skillful hands, just brushing my skin in the right places. I unwillingly clench my thighs together as they

could never cause enough friction to help with the burning ache between them. Only Griff could and he knew it. He smirked as

he saw me losing control. His actions are deliberate and slow. In a delicious torture, I wanted to end immediately and

simultaneously feel until the end of time. He had taken off my clothes but was still fully dressed himself and it felt unfair. I needed

to see him, to feel him like he could with me. Instead, he sat upright looking at me with adoration written on his

face.

"Your b*dy is amazing" he sighed before bending over, hovering over

1. me.

Trailing k*ssed from my l*ps to where I wanted it most. Commenting on how he adored my collarbone because it would one day

have his name on it. My breasts because they were soft and fitted his hands. perfectly which he demonstrated, by fondling with

them. My stomach he said was smooth and enticing.

"I want to adore your b*dy too but you are hiding it from me" I tried to joke but even I could hear the neediness in my words.

Earning me a happy chuckle before he dove in, licking my, sucking me until my legs started to shake and I could only cry out his

name in my ecstasy.

"I will give you all I want until the day that I die," He told me, his chin still shiny and wet from the orgasm that hit me seconds ago.

And when he finally undressed I did even attempt to hide my attraction, how my eyes wandered over his b*dy. Following the trail

of the skin that was getting exposed. Or how his boxers tented as he was looking at me taking me in. He then embraced me

pushing his now n*ked b*dy against me and I could feel every inch, every curve of his need. Which only fueled me with more

need to have him, but Griffin was still hesitant.

"Are you sure you want this Darling? you can still say no!" He asked me again.

Bucking my hips up and grinding his erection I told him. "Feel how much I want to, I need you unless you want to wait"

I understand man can still second guess or change their minds and I

didn't want to pressure him either. Fortunately, as soon as I answered him he let out a sound, something between a growl and a

moan. He put on a condom and placed the tip in front of my entrance. He was driving me insane so I started whitering

underneath him. Wanting us to take this last step and ride him like I was supposed to.

"What is the matter darling impatient?" He smirked and before I could

The answer mixed with the loud moan as he finally filled me up. He filled me up in one long stroke right away. It burned and it felt

as if the skin was tearing up for a few moments and then the bliss came. Nothing has ever felt so right in my entire life. He was

so large I thought it would hurt far longer than it did. Most likely with how turned on I was, it was all-consuming. When his teeth

grazed the spot where he would mark me I almost cried out for him to just do it. To mark me and make me his, instead, I bit my

lip so hard I drew a little blood. He repositioned us no longer laying above me but sitting on his knees wrapping his arms around

my legs that he had laid up against his chest. It felt like he was going even deeper. harder and I trembled with the orgasm that

was creeping up at me again. His growl as he hit his peak was too much for me. Stars exploded behind my eyes, as came with

him. My head fell back to my pillow I was ready for him to fall down next to me and cuddle but he kept thrusting never stopping. I

expected him to go soft but he didn't. It didn't take as long as it did the first time for his thrusts to get sloppy. But it didn't matter

because again I was right there behind him. I screamed his name, digging my nails into his skin before the white light flooded my

vision again. It felt like I had floated off and when I came too again. Griffin was holding me, looking at me with so much love that I

knew it would be only a matter of days before I would succumb to him. Before I would let him claim me, mark me, and spend the

rest of my life as his fated mate, his luna, and his queen. For now, I just snuggled up into him as I let exhaustion win and gave in

to my need to sleep. Safe in the arms of the man, I tried and failed so hard not to fall in love with.

Chapter 53

When I woke up the next morning I had forgotten all about the texts David had sent me. My head was in the clouds, and there

was a small pit of fear nestled in my stomach. That fear pointed out how fast I was falling for Grill. How vulnerable that made

me. I noticed last weekend that Griffin liked to sleep in. Probably since last weekend has caused a shift in our relationship. He no

longer tried to hide it. When I moved he pulled me back in closer to him. Burying his nose in the crook of my neck mumbling.

“Ten more minutes, Darling, I am so tired”

I chuckled pointing out that he had no stamina for a strong Alpha- blood wolf and tried to get out of bed. My teasing managed to

wake him up and he shifted us so that he straddled me a knee on either side. of my b*dy. Keeping my arms in place next to my

b*dy.

“What did you say?” He laughed at me and then started to tickle me.

Poking my sides when I was unable to move. so I started to wriggle trying to get out from under him. Soon the energy shifted

between the two of us. My wriggling did something to him. Feeling and smelling his arousal like this did the same for us. Without

saying a word Griff bent forward slamming his l*ps on mine. His k*ss is rough and possessive and it heats my b*dy like I am on

fire. Yesterday we took our time it was loving, we both were nervous about it being our first time. Now I just longed to feel him

again, I rushed to take my top off. Loving how Griff’s eyes widen with lust as they darken. I start tugging on his waistband I need

to see and feel more of his skin. He is more than happy to oblige. He jumps off the bed, rushes out of his pajama bottoms, and

then pulls mine off in one fast swoop.

I didn’t even see him get a condom but he did, and when he put it on he kneeled down on the bed again hovering above me. He

is taking too long, clearly loving to tease me. I’m not sure what to feel about the fact that I am so desperate for him but I am. So I

whine and buck my hips. Griffin fl*pped us over, we were still not connected but before he could tell me what he wanted. I

lowered myself down over his erection. Gasping as he fills me up again I love being the one in control now. Almost as much as I

love Griffin being in control. His hands are on my hips, digging his fingers into my buttc heeks. He starts thrusting up in time with

my rhythm sending us to another level of pleasure.

“Come for me Darling, I’m almost there” Griff grunts so I adjust my rhythm going faster in a steady motion and only minutes later

I feel the telltale sign of my legs starting to quiver. And then the heat that pooled in my stomach exploded. Two sloppy thrusts

later Griffin’s upper body falls back to his bed. Jerking his hips up a few more times still holding on to my hips as we both ride out

our orgasm. I lay down on top of him, he wraps his arms around me and we decide to take a breath for a few minutes.

Two hours later we woke up again, because of someone knocking at our door. That might be a good thing because Griffin was

looking at me like he wanted a second round. And if he so much as hinted at it I would have agreed to it. Without a second

thought, it’s funny I seem to be unable to resist this man. To my horror, Queen Isabella walks into our bedroom. She shoots us a

soft proud smile seeing us in our compromising position. Even with S*x being such a normal part of our everyday. Facing my

mother-in-law when I am still laying on her son in some sort of post-S*x haze. As I suddenly remember my ex’s texts. Is making

me feel awkward.

“I am sorry to disturb you but Ayla now that you have accepted Griffin as your mate there are a few things I need to discuss with

you. Can you

come to my office in let’s say two hours?” She tells us still unbothered by the fact she found us like this.

All I can do is nod as I feel my cheeks burning up. The door shuts and the second it does Griffin starts kissing my neck, sucking

the sensitive skin. Clearly starting something he cannot finish. Or he probably can but not when I am about to go and meet with

his mother. I am nervous just thinking about what it can be that she is trying to tell us.

“Darling I have to share you with others most of the weekend it is unfair, and now you are refusing me too?” He pouts at me and I

cannot resist so I give in again here in this bed. And a third time under the shower. If we are this on normal days, I am scared to

think about what I will be like during the heat. I end up having to rush to Queen Isabella's office because I am late.

"Have a seat. Ayla, can I get you a drink?" Queen Isabella says, and I am too nervous to ask for a coffee.

What good has ever come from someone saying they need to talk to you? At first, she is just standing there waiting for me to

answer but when she notices I am not saying anything she mindlinks for a little bit and then looks at me again.

"Just take a seat. I promise you it is nothing bad, Griffin told me you like a latte without any syrups or sweeteners so that's what

my assistant is bringing you" She states as she sits down herself.

Her office is exactly what I expected it to be, warm and inviting as the office of a good Luna should be. With an unmistakable

regal air to it. Reminding everyone she is not just a Luna but the Luna of all Luna, our Queen. A title that will soon be mine if I

complete the mating process with Griff, and lately it has been feeling like I don't really have a choice in that matter. I just can't

help falling for him.

"First of all, my husband and I are overjoyed you accepted Griffin as

your mate. He seems to be so happy with you and that would have been enough. But you already seem like such a sweet,

poised, and most importantly intelligent young she-wolf. That we could not have asked for a better mate for our son" She pauses

when her assistant places our drink on the desk in front of us.

She didn't have to ask who had the Latte Machiatto and who had the Flat White. Within seconds I hear the office door close

again. Queen Isabella takes a sip with her eyes closed savoring the flavors for just a moment before she opens them to speak to

me.

"Now that you accepted him the chances of you becoming our Queen have grown a lot. I've been thinking this over all week and

that's why I kind of burst into your room just now. I want to offer to help you train to become a queen starting now. I don't want to

pressure you but..." She seems to be looking for the right words, but I understand her.

Normally as the next Luna of the pack, you get trained by the old Luna from the moment you meet your mate. Or accept them at

the very least because the normal course of action is an instant rejection or in most cases acceptance. I wasn't ready yet and I

needed to take things slow, or as slow as we still could. As nice as it was to be able to not rush into anything. It did mean I would

lose out on valuable learning time.

"While I would love that, when would I if I am only here on most weekends and not even all of them?" I shrugged.

Isabella smiled. I think she knew I wanted to spend most of the time on my weekends with Griff. She hadn't been kidding when

she told me she spent a lot of thought on this. So she could come up with a plan that would work. My lessons would mostly be

online via Zoom meetings and FaceTime. I happily agree to the plans, and after we finish our coffee just chit-chatting for a bit I

make my way to Griff determined to tell him about David's text as soon as I am in the room with him again.

Chapter 54

I knew why Mom wanted to speak to Ayla, and I was happy for her. Training with my mom would be a good thing. And I hoped it

would show her just how much my family loved her. Even if I did wish, she didn't just barge in like this. She is just as impatient as

I am, but being on the receiving end of it wasn't great this time. And I was a little nervous to hear what Ayla thought about all of

this. She has been doing a lot better with accepting what we have and accepting my parents and most of my packmembers see

that too. Honestly, the very few people who have something negative to say about her dislike that she is waiting so long, keeping

me at a distance for a bit. I've been telling everyone that we are the ones to set the pace of our relationship. That helped stop the

gossiping, as does the fact she officially accepted me now. And soon they will see that my personal living room has been

redecorated as our living room.

Well if she likes

idea of going to a furniture store to get some new stuff anyway. The first weekend she was here she commented on my couch,

and if we replace those most of the other stuff would not suit the new couch. I've never spent a lot of time in my living room, so

back then having a sleek modern modern-looking room was all I needed. It looked good when I had friends over. Now all I want

is to have a comfortable room where I can spend time with my mate. Hanging around in my bed with her was great but now we

have taken the next step in our relationship I think that just spending time in bed would get too tempting. But most of all I felt like

a room where you can live as a couple, maybe even a family down the line was a sign of maturity. Something that fits me now, a

room to reflect that I am a mated wolf. Ready to start a life with the woman I love.

That's exactly what I tell her when she comes back to the room. Asking me why I am dressed like we have to be somewhere. For

a second

something flashes over her face, regret or uncertainty. As I brace myself for the rejection of my plans she shakes it off and gives

me a mega-watt smile.

"Sure, let's do it I'll show you we can have a beautiful living room without it being overly modern and impractical" She happily

agrees.

As soon as she tells me it is OUR room I no longer care about the look on her face just now. Whatever it was she didn't mean it.

Her excitement is genuine and she sees this room as ours too. It is all I ever wanted, it's another thing that is giving me hope.

She has been giving me so much hope lately that I have already started looking at jewelry to gift her after we complete the

mating process. As is custom for members of the royal family. I'm still not in a rush, but seeing as it took only two weeks of dating

to get her to accept me. It is clear she feels the matebond too. It's the only explanation for falling so hard and so fast for

someone.

We spend the entire day shopping for furniture and while it has been a lot of fun. Especially since we told all the humans working

at the shops we were a couple moving in together. Causing them all to congratulate us. But it had worn me down, I was happy to

walk back into the castle planning to order some food from the kitchen. Crawl in bed with Ayla to eat there and then we would

spend our night as we loved to most. With her reading leaning against my shoulder as I was gaming. My gamer friends had

already texted me about another. campaign they would start tonight asking me to join them. But when we walked inside we were

greeted by a servant. Letting the two of us know my parents invited us for dinner at their place. Just them and us, a little family

get-together. The same weird look flashed over her face. and it had me a little worried now. But she was the one to tell me we

should go.

"Your parents want to get to know me better Griff, and I think that's

only fair. Let's go freshen up and then we can go there" She was right, of course she was so I told the servant to let them know

we accepted the invitation and then we made our way back to our chambers.

"Why didn't you just mindlink them?" Ayla asked the second the servant walked off.

So I explained to her that would make it a bit awkward for the servant. Who then had to walk off to either help my parents

prepare for the dinner or to retire for the night. She agreed that in cases like this, it was better to just let the servant tell my

parents. As she was going to go there regardless. She told me to go shower first as she needed to pick out something to wear. I

did but I was hoping she would join me in the shower as she was done picking out an outfit but she never did. And when I got out

she was waiting for me at the end of the bed, doing something on her phone. I know it was a little silly we didn't have to be

together all the time. We could just shower separately and most likely it would have made us late if she had gotten in the shower

with me. It just felt like something was a little off, and all I could do was wait hoping that it was just her nerves for going to have

dinner with my parents. As official mates for the first time, I know she still struggled with it a little bit. She might have been able to

accept me. And she did beyond good with the things expected of the prince's mate like the sudden photoshoot yesterday. But all

the trauma and the hurt she has gone through weren't just about to disappear. I would need to love her until she believed it with

every

fiber of her being. Not that would stop loving her after that.

At the start of the dinner, she was a little quiet and it reassured me the only thing that was going on was her nerves. The more

we ate, the more we chatted and the more we laughed, the more relaxed she got. I could see her visibly relax her b*dy going

softer not as uptight and rigid as she was for the first minutes. When dinner was ready she

insisted on helping my mother clear the table and clean up the kitchen. I always loved that Mom and Dad hardly had serv ants

clean their personal quarters. As a kid it always made me feel more normal. Sitting at the kitchen table seeing one of my parents

cook or clean the kitchen, doing the dishes always felt homely. It wouldn't have been a big dealbreaker if Ayla had wanted to take

more advantage of the fact we did have serva nts. Still seeing our wishes aligning for yet another thing, something that would

severely shape the lives of our pups made me smile.

"Boy, you're smitten your face tells an entire story" Dad chuckled at me. I could tell he liked it.

I had no other choice but to agree with him, because I was smitten with her. He was happy for me, especially since he could see

the change in Ayla too. He was convinced she was just as smitteri with me. I didn't know if that was true, I felt like she wasn't

exactly there yet but this was the one thing I could be patient about. Mostly because I wanted her happy, and I was a little simp

for my mate according to Dillion. He stated he was a simp for Collin so he could tell.

When we are back in our bedroom however the mood shifts again, Ayla looks even more nervous than she was before dinner

and it's making me worry. Even more so when she tells me to sit down because we need to talk.

"I hope this doesn't change how you feel about me Griff, and maybe I should have told you before. But I was just trying to find

the best way to tell you something like this. Please promise me not to get mad or do anything. Not until you hear the full story

okay?"

Her words do not soothe me at all, I just give her a tight nod with my jaw clenching and then she begins to speak

Chapter 55

This weekend with Griffin has flown by, I needed to tell him about David. I had been trying to find the perfect moment to tell him

the entire weekend. All while he had gone overboard to fill our weekend with wonderful stuff to do as a couple. Add in his family

wanting some of our time. We would be heading to bed in a few minutes, and I was so exhausted I was sure I could not keep my

eyes open. So I decided to not wait for the perfect moment anymore. He was tense there was a tick in his jaw that made me

want to reach out and caress his cheek. I couldn't though so I just sat down next to him.

"David, texted me last weekend just when I got home, some bullshit about missing me," Griffin growled, clearly fighting to stay

the one in control.

Since he didn't say anything I just continued explaining to him how I ignored David at first dismissing it as a drunk text. How over

the course of the week he had kept texting me. And that the only reason I did not tell him about it was that I wanted to tell him in

person.

"That's why you looked guilty a few times when we had plans, you wanted to tell me before," He said, like he was just realizing it

himself just now.

I nodded not knowing what to say, as it was hard to get a read on him at this moment. In the last two weeks, we've grown so

close that I could easily read him. So the fact that he was so closed off now made me anxious.

"Don't be naive, Darling, he wants you back. He must regret that he rejected you, I don't blame him for missing you but he is

overstepping" Griffin still wasn't facing me as he was talking to me.

Even when I placed a hand on his shoulder, he let me. He did not shrug off my hand, but he did not face me either.

"There would have been an easy solution for this, we could just complete the mating process but of course, you don't want that"

Grislin was right, David would have to be extremely foolish for him to pursue. me when I was the Crown prince's only mate. That

didn't stop his words from feeling like a slap to the face. I jumped up from the bed whirling around to face him. About to cuss him

out for making me feel bad about this. After he did nothing but promise me he would be patient with me.

"Maybe I should have rejected had you back in my place, since you are already breaking your promise about being patient with

me" Was the only thing I managed to choke out.

Rushing to his closet, the very closet I filled with clothes to keep here. Because I saw a future with him. I honestly don't want to

go, and my heart is breaking thinking about leaving him behind. What other option do I have though if he is going to throw my

past, my trauma in my face every time some wolf shows interest in me? Like he hasn't noticed the stares he has been getting

when we go out anywhere. She- wolves and humans alike. Some guys too, and I get it even for a wolf he is muscular. Combined

with his caramel skin, deep brown eyes, and dark curly hair he was extremely handsome. Never have I blamed him. for it though.

I knew he would never betray me like that. That he is too kind, too genuine and he honors the matebond far too much to cheat.

Why isn't he able to give me that same trust in my loyalty?

Is it because I still not have accepted him or because I want to take it slow? But if that's the reason why didn't he tell me then?

Why did he tell me, he would be willing to wait for as long as I needed? Then again, I have seen that jealousy of his before, even

when his best friend called me firecracker. Jealous mates are a thing, jealous Alpha's even more. To me, it is the most off-putting

thing though. There was no way

I was going to stand for my partner being overly jealous. I can hardly see what I am doing through the tears in my eyes.

Suddenly Griffin is right behind me, his voice strained as he tells me.

"Please don't leave me, Darling, I love you I just need to go for a run to clear my mind please wait on me" His hand is flexing like

he wants to reach out for me but won't allow himself.

I roll my eyes and I don't want to give in, but I am too far in, I have fallen too deep for this man. So I sigh and tell him I will wait

for him, not bothering to unpack what clothes I managed to shove into my bag. Without saying another word I walk into the

bathroom to take a shower. Hoping that it will clear my mind. Because why would I not. complete the mating process, if I am.

unable to leave him if he doesn't treat me right? I wish I could just talk to Jessa, but if she knows Gerald knows, and if he knows

there is a risk Griffin will know exactly what I am feeling and I can't deal with that right now.

About an hour later I was lying in bed, scrolling on my phone because I could not focus on my book. When Griffin walks back in, I

can sense he is tired but when he speaks to me his voice isn't as strained anymore when thanks me for still being there. He did

as he said and took a quick shower then he just got into bed with me. Spooning me without saying a word.

When we woke up the next morning he seemed too eager to forget it. Apologizing for his behavior. Something was off, he

seemed too quick to bury it. Maybe I should press him more, ask him why he was so chill about everything now. When only yesterday evening he was raging with jealousy blaming me for what happened because I was the one who wasn't ready to complete the mating process. But when I asked where we would go from here. And he just muttered "Forward" into my ear I was eager to let it go two. Maybe it was just a heat-of-the-moment reaction, maybe the run did clear his mind. After today we would need to miss each other for a whole week again. To spend the weekend with all of my family celebrating Kate's mating. In a pack, both of us were unfamiliar with.

There was no way I would end our almost weekend with another huge fight. I pushed down every doubt, every negative thought and I let the joy of the moments we spent together lull me in a sort of happy trance. We're good together, or we can be good together when we focus on us. Focus on the good things, the morals and values we share. I know in my heart that we can be good together with everything. We just need to find a way to communicate better..

Still, when I was about to head out I felt sad. I would have to miss him and as much as I tried to ignore it. Something was off, Griff was sweet and caring, and he had spent half of the day making lame jokes. It all just seemed a little less, genuine than we normally would. I hoped that showing Griffin I had blocked David's number would soothe his mind. So the last thing I did before I got in the car was show him my phone. And when he k*ssed me thanking me for doing so. It felt like it was before our fight on Saturday night.

**

It's Thursday again and in only twenty-four hours, I get to see Griffin again. Last weekend he explained that he normally had work on the weekends too. Because he wanted to spend our weekends together he worked harder during the weekdays. It was extremely sweet and I could never complain about that. However, it did mean that we had a lot less time to text and FaceTime

and it made me sad. And it made me consider things, pushing me towards making a decision. When I finished my job I was

thinking about what decision to make. I noticed a familiar car in the parking lot and my heart skipped a beat as my stomach

dropped to the floor like it was made of concrete.

Chapter 56

“Hey, Baby, do you like the surprise?” David smirked.

But what the hell was he doing here? He was the one who rejected me. Now he was practically stalking me. Who travels to the

other side of the country to visit the mate he rejected.

“What the f u ck are you doing here?” I snarl crossing my arms.

I am much stronger now, and I am in a pack where I know other pack members will have my back. Some of them have already

gathered around us. Keeping their distance, even though they could perfectly hear everything that was being said with their wolf

hearing. But they give the impression of not watching us. Of giving us some privacy but if David would make one wrong move

they would be on his ass.

“You blocked me, and I know you have the Prince convincing you, that the two of you are second-chance mates. But you know

you don’t get a second chance mate. Your mate did not die” David wasn’t done talking yet but I was done listening to him.

“It’s a shame my ex-mate didn’t die though because then he wouldn’t be bothering me” I scoffed turning my back to him.

“No wait, baby listen I regret rejecting you. I want you to become my chosen mate, it will recover the matebound. I mean Hannah

is a beautiful, strong she-wolf sure, but she is not loyal. She is holding out on becoming my mate to see if Prince Boy will end up

single or not.” David continued talking holding my wrist stopping me from walking away. Several pack members had started

emitting low growls. The only thing stopping them right now is that attacking the Alpha’s son is an act of war.

“Go tell Hannah, he won’t be alone so you can choose her and get the fu ck out of my life” I shout, causing my pack members to

close in on

UN

They are growling and snapping louder now, from the corner of my eyes I see some of them in a stance that allows them to shift

casily. David seems unaware of the mess the scene he causing is making. He goes even further pulling the collar of my shirt

down and observing that I don't have a matemark yet. .

"See you haven't committed to him, because you were hoping for me to come back. I could grovel like they do in your silly books.

But I can do you one better, one k*ss and you know who you belong to" David tries. to pull me closer.

And then it all goes to shi t fast, just as he tries to pull me closer I raise. my hand to slap him. Every other wolf around us stops

growling and snapping and David almost pulls me to the ground and something jumps at him. Or someone because even in this

blur I recognize him. Griffin decided to show up here a day early without letting me know. Probably as an early surprise, because

I was supposed to travel to Kate with my family, Griffin would travel alone, as my parents and Daniel would.

"She told you no" Grillin roared before he started punching David.

One or two punches would have been able to be excused. After all, David was touching another Alpha's mate knowingly. Most

likely Griffin actually heard a part of the convo, since he knew I wanted David to let me go. But Griffin kept beating David, and

while he deserved it. This was now an act of war, the Crown Prince now waged a war on the BloodMoon pack, here on White

Oak pack ground. involving us too. Even if multiple pack members tried to pull Griff off of David. He was just too strong with his

royal bloodline. David had stopped fighting back and I was scared Griffin was killing David. The

only thing worse than beating another Alpha's son was killing him, or letting him get killed on your packground.

***Griffin's P.O.V. ***

We made up for our fight Sunday, but it was only at the end of the night when she showed me she had blocked David, we found

our vibe. back. It put a damper on the weekend we had and I knew it was my fault. Especially when Gerald and Dillion point out

that I basically told Ayla I did not trust her. I knew I needed to make it up to her, and I knew how to do that. It meant I had to work

even harder and with Mom training Ayla. We hardly had the time to talk to each other.

It worked in my favor a little though, hardly speaking meant it wasn't as hard to spoil the surprise. I felt almost giddy when I

boarded the plane Thursday afternoon. I pre-ordered the groceries I needed, and I had a rental car waiting for me at the airport. I

just hoped the Hemmings, would all love my surprise, and Ayla most of all.

Conan was on edge ever since I got the groceries for the store. I tried to tell myself that it was just the nerves for doing

something like this. I tried to ignore Conan telling me that there was more going on. That something was wrong with our mate.

Until I parked the car and saw Ayla and David together. This time I no longer had any doubt if she wanted this or not. Even

before I got close enough to notice her distress and disgust. It was crystal clear that every pack member was ready to jump

David. It made me feel a little calmer, so I tried to walk up to Ayla and David staying calm. Nob*dy would benefit from me raging

a war on the BloodMoon pack.

But when I saw him pulling down her collar, stating she was his because she hadn't let me mark her yet. I saw red and all I

wanted to do now was to kill him. Letting Conan take over the moment I saw Ayla stumble as even when I jumped him, David

didn't let go of her. We felt

others trying to pull us off him. But Conan wouldn't let up and I didn't want him to. David deserved to die and I was too far gone.

Locked in my anger to care about the consequences of my actions. Until I heard the only voice that could reach me now.

"Griffin stop it you will kill him you idiot" Ayla screamed at me.

It caused me to stop for a second, I let my guard slip but David didn't retaliate. As a matter of fact, he didn't even try to get out

from underneath me. It made me break eye contact with Ayla and look down at the man I was still straddling holding him to the

floor. To find him unresponsive. Quinn had run up to us without me even knowing as had Alpha Cedric they helped me scramble

up. And then they tended to David, who luckily enough was still alive. Cedric ordered some pack members to take David to the

pack hospital. Ayla stood frozen to the ground she did not follow David to the hospital. Which selfishly pleases me, but she does

not come up to me either. And when Alpha Cedric tells all of us to go into his office she seems to be dragging her feet. All I want

is to be alone with her, to explain to her why I did what I did. That I trusted her. that I was sorry, and that I would fix it all. Take all

the responsibilities that would come from this. Anything but her leaving me. And to tell her that I knew her not wanting to

complete the mating process was because she still loved him. It made me sick to the stomach that I had accused her of the

exact same thing as David did minutes ago.

We made our way into Alpha Cedric's office and I managed to sit down. But I didn't hear a word of what he was saying. I was so

focused. on Ayla. On trying to get her to look at me. To make eye contact hoping I could see if she was mad at me. If there was a

chance to get back from this. Hating how often I had felt like this during our relationship, I couldn't believe I was such a shitty

mate. Alpha Cedric's low voice boomed into the room calling my name, finally getting my attention.

"There is no way we can talk like this you two need to settle this first. I will come back to my office in thirty minutes." With that,

they left me alone in a room with my mate.

Chapter 57

I didn't know what to tell Griffin, I was so angry with him. Uncle Cedric was telling us how Griffin declared war on the Blood Moon

pack. Angry since I had gone to such lengths to prevent the war from happening. And he just sat there staring at me, I don't think

he heard a word that's being said. Until Uncle Cedric announces he will give us some-privacy

"Please, Darling, don't reject me" Griffin falls to his knees tears in his eyes.

It makes me cry too, because I was ready to tell him I was falling for him this weekend. I planned to discuss moving in and

completing the mating process. I was about to give up on this whole idea of going slow: David didn't mean to but he made me

more sure of my relationship with Griffin. He proved to me that thanking it slow didn't offer any guarantees. I knew David for most

of my life, yet he betrayed me the second he found out we were mates. Seeing this side of Griffin made me change my mind,

what if this was going too fast? What if after years of being together, Griffin would betray me too?

"Please talk to me, Darling" Griffin was still on his knees on the verge of tears.

"I am not going to reject you Griffin. I was about to tell you I am ready for the next step. You ruined that by not trusting me. I can't

even look at you right now and we need to listen to Uncle Cedric now. You caused a war and possibly killed a man. There are

more important issues than our relationship now" There was so much more I wanted to tell him but I didn't lie I could not look at

him right now.

Being angry at someone who looks so guilty, and so heartbroken is

hard to do. With nothing else to do I mindlink Grandpa and Uncle Cedric to come back. Seeing me mindlink Griffin gets up and

sits back down in the chair with a sigh. This time he listens to Uncle Cedric and Grandpa. They want to prevent a war because

that always means losses. on either side. Hell, it is the reason I tried so hard to hide my hurt, hide the abuse. Thinking about the

fact that the man I finally started trusting. I finally let myself feel something for just ruined everything still makes me so angry.

Angry and disappointed in both myself and Griffin. All these emotions raging inside of me make it hard to concentrate on the

conversation happening now. After I scolded Griffin for needing to pay attention. .

“You are always welcome in my pack Prince Griffin, but I would like to know why you were here unannounced. I am going to ask

David the same thing?” Uncle Cedric asked.

He didn’t need to ask David though, he told me he stated it clearly. Several pack members overheard it too. David was here to

win me back, to disrespect my matebond with Griffin. To force me to become his chosen mate, to make up for the fact that he

had rejected me as his fated mate in the first place. He was trespassing, so some punishment and some punches were

warranted. Griffin just went too far with beating him to an inch of his life.

“I wanted to do something sweet for Ayla, in the car are groceries for a BBQ from visiting your brother’s home it seemed like that

is a big thing within your family. Seeing as I am her mate I figured I would be welcome. We could all travel to Kate’s new pack

with the royal airplane after. Or at least that was the plan” Griffin stares at his hands. as he explains the reason for his visit.

It was sweet, and if he had not tried to kill David it would have been a wonderful surprise.

“Okay, so you had a legitimate reason to be on our background. That only leaves us with the reason why you attacked David and

so

violently at that. Why not let the pack handle it” Grandpa asked, he was no longer the Alpha but he would still get involved with

things like this. He had a great reputation too, back in his day Grandma and he stopped an army of rogue wolves that were trying

to take over packs, to claim the background as theirs. It made most wolves happy to have his insight and involvement. Uncle

Cedric didn’t mind it either mostly because Grandpa would never be overbearing, he never tried to be the Alpha.

“It was a mistake, during the entire drive here I felt Ayla’s distress, because of our situation I cannot mindlink her so when I

walked up to find David pulling down her top, not letting her go even when she demanded it. I just saw red, I regret it now. I

regret hurting Ayla, I regret losing my cool. I regret disrespecting your pack” The sincerity in Grillin’s voice hurt me.

Maybe he did not deserve this anger, but why couldn’t he just trust me? Let me deal with David. Seeing both Grandpa and Uncle

Cedric growl and snap at Grillin’s words. Both are clearly upset with David’s behavior.

It didn’t stop Grillin from taking a deep breath and continuing.

“My father warned me that some Alpha’s grow overprotective when the mating process isn’t completed yet. Or if their mate has

been hurt before.” Then he turns to face me

“And I am so sorry I did not tell you, Darling, I did not want to pressure you into completing the mating process. It was why I

snapped to Alpha Rob like that, and to see the one that has hurt you in the past putting his hands all over you” he continued and

I could feel the anger radiate of him.

He hated David for what he had done to me but it was more. It must be the overprotectiveness he was speaking about. I wanted

to tell him I

wasn’t angry at him anymore and that I regretted what he had done but thinking of the night I met Alpha Rob made me realize

something else. Alpha Rob Had been flirting with me and I stopped things from going further by accusing him of treason. King

Roderick had later laughed about it telling me I was right to do so. That anyone touching the mater of a member of the royal

family, even before their place in the family. was cemented by a completed mate ceremony was treason and so punishable by

either dead or banning them from all packs forcing them to become a rogue.

“He is the same as Alpha Rob,” I said struggling to formulate my plans.

“I know Darling, and just like with Alpha Rob I overstepped I let you down, and I...” Griffin swallowed hard, clearly upset even

saying out loud how he had disappointed me.

“No that’s not it, he is the same as in he committed treason, and he entered another pack’s ground without an invitation. Griffin

as my mate has a standing invitation and saw David commit treason by ripping his clothes off” I told the others and they were

quick to catch

on.

“Alpha Phill*pe will want to do everything to make sure word about that doesn’t come out”

Uncle Cedric wasted no time in calling Alpha Phill*pe telling him how his son had trespassed only to stalk the future Queen.

How he groped me and tried to pull my top down, pointing out how several pack members were witnesses to the whole ordeal..

“Crown Prince Griffin regrets fighting your son, and as a show of that regret, he is willing to drop the charges for treason. Since

the Crown Prince is my family now, his future Luna he asked me to drop the trespassing charges. This means your son will be

released as soon as he has recovered enough. Unless you want to go public with all of this,

you have the right to wage war on us. But it will mean the very public execution of your son” Uncle Cedric finished the

conversation with Alpha Phill*pe.

Who as expected agreed with all the terms as long as it meant his son would be home soon and in one piece. Uncle Cedric put

his phone down on the desk with a happy smile. Stating it was all settled, making Griffin jump up lifting me off the floor, and

spinning me around.

“We did it, Darling, see I told you, you are going to be an excellent Luna and I am so...” He started but his face fell as he

remembered how ready I was to take the next step.

And how what he had done, no matter the outcome had made me reconsider almost everything about it.

Chapter 58

Everything happened in a blur, Ayla telling me she would have been. ready to take the next step. And how what I did had caused

her to come back on that decision. How she didn't wait for me to finish apologizing but how she had just mindlinked for her family

to come back inside. I don't think I will ever forget the look of disappointment. she had when I told her about my

overprotectiveness.

But then she showed herself to be the perfect Luna. David was a damn fool for not seeing it. Now that the rage is gone, and I

can see clearly once again I pity him. Of course, he wanted her back I heard how that Hannah girl, who could have been his

chosen mate. was waiting in hopes that I would be single again soon. I hoped to the Moon

Goddess that, that wouldn't happen but if it did then I would still not choose her as my chosen mate. She would not make a good

Luna, and everyone not blinded by rank and physical appearance knew that.

However, the moment Alpha Cedric puts down the phone, smiling broadly at us, reassuring us that it is all settled. I forget

everything, I jump up and lift Ayla and spin them around. I love being able to pick. her up so easily. It is when I feel her b*dy

stiffen I realize what has happened about an hour before. So I awkwardly put her down on the ground again. I have no idea what

to do next. If I am still welcome at her sister's mating ceremony? Or if she even wants me to be here tonight.

"I guess it is time for a BBQ now, I will help you get the groceries from the car," Ayla tells me her warm hand resting on my arm.

Whatever she was going to tell me, whatever was going to happen after this. I had not lost her completely she told me she was

not going to reject me. But somehow her touch, her kind smile was more reassuring

than her words. Or they were until we made our way to my car, the car doors were still open and I could only hope the meat had

not gone bad from being out in the heat for so long. I will never know if the open car doors reminded her of what had just

happened or if she had suggested helping me get the groceries out because she wanted to talk to me in private. Whatever the

reason was, as soon as we reached my car she crossed her arms and glared at me.

“Grif, I want to be able to enjoy getting to know you, I may not have taken the final steps. But you see how serious I am about

this are you not?” She asks me and I can hear the pain in her voice.

“I know that Darling, I do and I am so happy with how things are going between us,” I tell her tugging a loose strand of hair

behind her ear.

All to touch her to be a little closer to her. She seems to lean into my touch, my hand before pulling away.

“Are you Griffin? Because if you are, and

work you’re going to start being honest wou still want to make this

me. I was about ready to

complete the mating process. Move into the castle. And you know why?” I want to answer her question but I have no idea how.

I want to ask her if it is because she loves me. After all, she cares about me as much as I care about her. But I can’t handle her

denying she loves me, or even telling me she did but I made her fall out of love. with me.

“Because David made me realize that I had known him for most of my life. I had hoped he would be my fated mate for at least

five years.” Ayla continued when I didn’t answer

I knew she was over him, I knew she chose me. I heard her tell David I would never be single again. I knew what she meant by it

but hearing her tell me she wanted someone else to be her mate for so long still stung me. I know I had to respond this time

though. I could not let her

pour her heart out as I was idly standing by.

“I know Darling, I know how long you knew him, what your hopes were but I don’t see why that makes you love me?” I honestly

asked her.

“Because, I did not know David, not the real David, because he was not honest with me. And I thought you were, to the point

where we didn't need to thank things slow because I knew more of the real you in these today st weeks than I knew of David in all those years. To find out today you are not honest with me" Her words as true as they were cut me deep.

And all I could do was to promise her to be honest with her from here. on out. To tell her every little thing, to let her be able to

worry about it.. Because if I was honest with her she would be able to be honest with me about her fears and her dreams.

"I know you will, Grill, I like to think I still know you" Ayla shot me at kind smile after reassuring me she believed me.

Followed by a quick peck on the l*ps before she took some ags from my trunk. We silently walked to her grandparent's home.

And I thanked the Moon Goddess it was once again a comfortable silence. All the awkwardness of the fight put behind us, all in

all, we were growing as a couple. There was nothing wrong with disagreeing every now and then as we did jus, as we were able to talk them through as a couple. Just like

now.

Of course, what happened between David and me was part of the conversation during the BBQ. But it soon changed to happier

topics, I got it now. Why Ayla and her family loved to have these family BBQs. Mom, Dad, and I regularly ate together. meals we

cooked ourselves but we didn't have bbq's together. Maybe I could introduce that tradition. into our family. It would also be a way

to bring some of Ayla's

traditions to our pack. Even if the atmosphere between us now was still very fragile. Like we needed to recover from the cuts our

fight left. I still envisioned a future with her, one where we would have pups running around. And I want nothing more than to give

our pups traditions from both our families. Just not because I wanted them to feel a tie with both the families they came from. In

getting to know the Hemmings I realized I liked them all.

Her Cousin James, Alpha Cedric's son was at the BBQ too. He was already mated and had a pup. The little fellow was just two

years old. James got lucky he found his mate the moment she turned 18 only. weeks after his 18th birthday. Alpha Cedric told

them to focus on their family first, giving them the time to raise pups before James would eventually take over as Alpha. I knew

Ayla and I wouldn't have that luxury but seeing her with her cousin's pup I knew what an amazing mother she would be.

She had set down in the damp grass reading stories to him. He was enthralled, soaking up every word she read to him. She.

smiled with pride. I felt this pull to join them. To sit in the grass with them, just to listen to Ayla read us both stories from the silly

little kid's book. Now however since our fight, it felt awkward to do so. Mid-sentence Ayla looked up and it was then that I heard

someone running up to the Hemming's home and we all instantly felt something bad was about to happen. Ayla scrambled to get

up, so she could carry Quinn Junior inside the house as the rest of us bare ourselves for what was to come.

Chapter 59

I enjoyed reading to James' son, Grill was just staring at us, I could. sense he wanted to sit down next to us. Something was

holding him back, and while I realized we had been able to talk about our feelings. and resolve things quickly. I hated the

lingering fragility between us now. Just as I was about to wave him over I saw David stumble through the trees coming towards

us. Little Quinn was far too young to understand what was happening. David had clearly not fully recovered he was swaying

around like he was drunk. He was about to start. trouble and I had no idea how the men of my family and my mate would reject.

There was nothing I could do to stop them so I just rushed to get Quinn inside.

Griffin's eyes burned holes in my back as I did so. The way David had run up to us made me worry so I turned on the TV for

Quinn. Once he was engrossed in the kid's show I put on I made my way back outside. Just in time to see David walk up to the

outdoor dining area where we had been having dinner..

“You tried to kill me, it is an act of war but I am willing to give you one chance for a truce, give me my mate back” David

screamed his words slurred, again reminding me of a drunk.

With his Alpha blood and the fact that he was a young, healthy wolf. we expected him to heal quickly. So it made sense he was

awake again, but he was far from healed and needed bed rest. Proven by some of his wounds that started bleeding again. What

the hell was he thinking demanding Griffin gave me back like he owned me?

I was about to speak up but Griff did before I had the chance.

“There is nothing to give away as I do not own Ayla” Griffin started

Causing David to scoff “Because you did not mark her yet, I would not have let her get away with not obeying me for so long”

Every wolf was now snarling and growling at David, who seemed unbothered by it. His eyes trained on me as I walked closer to

Griffin hoping to calm him down before he did something he would regret. When Griffin saw me approach he smiled and pulled

me closer to his b*dy. He seemed to be reasonably calm.

“I would expect no less from someone as stupid as you. Ayla is a gift from the MoonGoddess herself and I understand that you

regret rejecting that gift. I should not have attacked you like I did, because your stupidity granted me my biggest wish. A fated

mate as perfect as your future Queen is. As I thank you I will not murder you for committing treason, it is the deal I made with

your father. So you go ahead and provoke something that gives me a reason to go back to the deal I made with him” Even if

Griffin snarled, he kept his calm.

Uncle Cedric stepped back to call Alpha Phill*p without us knowing he did. Only when he walked up to David who snarled and

twitched. like a scared dog. He told David and the rest of us that Alpha Phill*p wanted to talk to him. We could not hear what

Alpha Phillip was saying and even David's words were hard to hear since he started mumbling.

"Fine, but this is not over yet" David growled at us before he stormed off

I pulled Griffin closer to hug him, whispering my thank yous in his ear. And soon this moment of tension was forgotten. Guards

had let us know David had got in his car and drove off. I was a bit worried he would get in an accident like this and hurt others.

But he made his own decisions and there is nothing I can do about it. Trying to put my worries on the backburner I ended up still

enjoying the rest of the night. By the time we all went to bed. Griff seemed nervous and unsure. I knew what this was about it

was the first time since I

accepted him as my mate that he would sleep here. No doubt, he expected to sleep in my bed here with me before our fight. He

must be unsure if he was welcome in my room, in my bed now. Not wanting to make this into a big deal I turned to him.

"Are you coming to bed with me Griff, or are you not tired yet?" I asked taking his hand in mine.

"No, no, I am coming with you. Goodnight Mister and Misses Hemming" he beamed, forgetting my grandparents asked him to

call them by their first names.

The moment my bedroom door closed he pulled me in for a deep, passionate k*ss. Pushing me up against the door, licking the

seams of my l*p. Tugging my lower l*p, tempting me to part my l*ps for him. To give him access to my mouth. It took all my

strength to push him away.

"I am sorry, Darling I just never expected you to let me sleep in the same bed as you. You made me so happy just now" He

breathed out, his hot breath skimming my sensitive neck, brushing down the spot on my collarbone where I had hoped his mark

would be after this weekend.

"You're my mate, Griff, I am not going to make us both suffer by letting you sleep in a different room." I started to explain myself.

He tried his best to look serious, guilty even but like every other time I mentioned something about our matebond. Or hinted at

feeling the matebond he couldn't keep the smile from his face. Deep down it was cute just how much he loved being my mate

and knowing I felt the same. I slapped his chest in frustration, I planned to tell him how angry I still was with him. How he could

sleep next to me but how that would be the most that was going to happen.

"Arghhh, how can I keep being mad at you when you're this cute when you smile" I rolled my eyes.

The only thing my exasperation did was make Griff smile brighter. He dropped to his knees and started unbuttoning my jeans

shorts.

"Then don't be mad, just accept me here on my knees begging for your forgiveness.

I knew the kind of begging he was talking about, and a part of me was screaming at me to stop him. To walk away but, it would

be dishonest. If I acted like I didn't want this, like I didn't crave this I would be dishonest with both me and Griff. And so I just

nodded. stepping out of my jeans shorts and panties.

"I am glad you accept my apologies, Darling, because I can smell just how much you want me" Griffin smirked.

Pressing small kisses from my ankle up to my thighs. My legs quivered with need, he was teasing me, savoring being able to

touch me again but I needed more.

"At this rate, I will neeee" my last words getting swallowed up in a moan I desperately tried to muffle by clamping my hand over

my mouth.

Griffin was relentless, licking me, his tongue swirling around my clit before sucking on it. His nails scraped down my tights, I

craved for his fingers to be inside me. But I feared the sounds that would leave my lips if I removed my hand from my mouth.

Especially since I was so close to the edge with just his mouth. I never expected Griffin to be able to make me cum this hard

with just his tongue but he did. My legs almost gave away when it finally hit, I was still shaking when Griffin lifted me up, and

instinctively I wrapped my legs around his waist as he carried me to the wall across from the door.

“I want to hear you moan. I want to hear you cry out my name when I make love to you” He smirked.

Then he entered me, he filled me up entirely without warning, but I was still so wet from my early orgasm that the only thing I

felt was this overwhelming bliss of being connected with my mate. And all too soon I was lost in the trance of his delicious

rhythm. Steadying myself on his shoulders I moved my body so as to match his pace. I can't focus on anything besides my

second orgasm closing in.

Chapter 60

I shuddered in his arms, and he was right there behind me. But as his orgasm closed in I felt his teeth scrape the skin of my

collarbone. Where he would eventually mark me, a pit of fear formed in my stomach. But he would never do that right, he would

never mark me without my consent. I tried to focus on what was happening, on asking him what he was doing. But the pleasure

from his teeth scratching my collarbone made me delirious with need. I knew he found his release too, but he just kept pounding

into me. It overloaded my senses, I clung to his body desperate, frantically trying to match his pace. Another orgasm crept in and

I was lost in the haze of lust and love for this man. Before I realized I screamed out to him.

Mark me, Griff, make me yours”

He dropped his head burying his face in the crook of my neck. Sucking and licking on the now sensitive spot on my collarbone

but he did not mark me. Even throughout another earth-shattering orgasm, I felt disappointment and fear bubbling up. He

carried me to the bed and laid me down. So tenderly, like I was a precious treasure he was worried to break if he was too rough

with it, before slipping into the bed next to me. During our love making he rushed out of his jeans but he kept his top on. Now he

had taken it off to go to sleep, and I noticed the mark of his deceased mate was completely gone. It was a sign of the bond

between us deepening. Still, the disappointment of Griffin refusing to mark me was overruling everything. Part of me felt relieved

he didn't, it was a heat-of-the-moment decision since I felt ready before the big fight.

Completing the mating process was more than just marking each other. It would make me a part of the royal family. It would

mean I would have to travel back and live in the castle on Sunday. Being apart from

each other is hard enough as it is, but after completing the mating process it would be torturous. Things I was not ready for at all,

Griffin used to be ready for it. For a while, it seemed like that was everything he wanted, and I needed to know what changed.

“Why did you not want to mark me, Griffin?” I asked staring up at the ceiling not daring to look at him.

“Darling, I wanted to, I almost lost control I drew blood and it made you delirious with need” He spoke softly tilting my face so I

was looking at him again.

“I fear you are not ready yet?” He continued.

And he was right I was not ready yet, not all but what if I had been ready? Then he would have refused me for no reason at all.

“And if it’s not like that and you are ready, give me 5 minutes and I will be ready for round two” He winked.

My cheeks burned a bright red, not only did he read my mind about what was holding me back. Now I had to verbally confirm I

was not ready yet. That he did everything right, and I was still upset about it. I despised how insecure my past had made me.

“You’re right, I don’t think I am ready yet. I will be ready for the second round in 5 minutes though.” I smirked hoping to get rid of

the awkwardness.

Griff smiled and started k*ssing me, and it didn’t even take us 5 minutes before we were ready to make love again. This time

without the urgency of the first time, it was slow and sensual and I loved every minute of it. When I was drifting off in his arm a

while later I finally felt the reassurance that everything would work out between the two of us. Our start might have been rocky, it

was not us that made it rocky. Things from the past kept coming up but we proved that we can deal with that.

"I love you, Griff." I whispered hoping he was asleep and not hearing this confession that filled me with hope and nerves at the same time. He just pulled me closer not saying anything.

I woke up to the sound of my alarm, and it made me regret staying up so late. My bed was empty but I could still feel the warmth from

where Griff had been sleeping. He must be up already, so I sat up rubbing the sleep from my eyes. We needed to be at the

airport in an hour. Luckily I had already packed I just needed to shower and have breakfast but first of all, I needed a coffee to

get me going.

I turned my face towards the sound of my door opening, Griff walked in dressed in just low-hanging pajama pants as he carried

two mugs. The smell of coffee filled my bedroom and the smile spreading over my face matched his.

"I figured you needed this" Griff said before giving me my mug and slipping back into bed with me.

I could see a future like this, starting the busy day ahead by enjoying a coffee in bed together. We didn't even speak much, all I

did was rest. my head on his shoulder in between sips of my coffee but it was enough. Griffin however seemed to be a little

nervous.

"What is on your mind. Griff, why are you nervous" I eventually asked him hoping I could help settle his nerves.

"What if Katie doesn't like me? The rest of your family does and it's important for me that they do. That your family not only

accepts me, I want them to like me. I want them to be happy that I am your mate. I want them to be happy I ended up being your

mate and not..." He stopped talking.

It must be weird telling your mate you want her family to be rejected before. That was not what I got out of this though. What I got

out of it was that he felt the same as I felt about his family. It wanted to be a part of his just as much as he wanted to be a part of

mine. And it made me love him even more.

“To be fair, Kate never liked David that much, that’s why they weren’t friends. She saw how heartbroken I was when he rejected

me. She hated him from then on out. If she sees how happy you make me she will love you.” I told him making him smile

Talking about Kate, made me realize how much I missed her. It’s normal for siblings to scatter over the country and move into

different packs. Kate never fitted in with this pack, every time we spoke I could hear it in her voice. How much happier she was

now, she even had a chance to become the lead warrior it would mean she was higher ranked than her mate. Tim being the

absolute Sweetheart she is was nothing but proud of her.

My little sister, even in her happiness had told me over and over again. she wanted the same for me. Griffin was nervous about

meeting a she- wolf who had been rooting so hard for us that it was almost comical. All she wanted for me was to find a mate

who loved me as much as she was loved. Who supported me as much as she was supported. Even with the bumps in the road, I

found that in Griffin, and for that reason. alone she would love him.

“Can I get her anything as a gift?” I had been so lost in thought that I had missed Griffin getting out of bed and rummaging

through his bag to find clothes to wear.

“She is nothing like me, she loves training and weaponry and she is in the running to be the lead warrior. But I think it is a little bit

short notice to get her anything” I thought out loud.

“Don’t worry about it, Darling. I have just the thing” Griffin told me

before he started tapping away at his phone. I had no idea what he was

about to do.

I trusted him though and there was something else I needed to discuss with Griffin. Something I hoped would make him happy.

Maybe even

settle his nerves about meeting Kate a little bit.

