

## Chapter 61 - Welcome Home Mate

LEX

I trained everyone for two hours.

Blaze was lying in my head, panting.

“NOW,” I shouted. “THAT’S THE END OF TRAINING.”

Everyone stopped. Some huffed out and collapsed on the ground, while others started to walk away, talking.

“We need to tell them about that stupid Alpha,” Blaze muttered in my head.

I knew he was right.

I looked back at them, and I knew I had to prepare them for the war that was coming. “Before you all go,” I shouted, which made everyone stop what they were doing and look at me.

“As you all know, Roxie still hasn’t been found,” I said; many people were mumbling, but I carried on talking. “I have some information that will become a shock, but we only found out about this information a few hours ago.”

Pack members stopped talking, and all gave me their undivided attention.

“We got information that Alpha Trevor is targeting us, and he will be attacking us,” I said.

Pack members started to voice their concerns.

“What?” one member shouted.

“WHY?” another yelled.

All questions you can think of were flying at me, which wasn’t helping me control Blaze, who wanted to be let out.

I was having a hard time controlling Blaze, we both wanted Roxie back, and we were finding it hard to concentrate on everything.

I glanced to the side and noticed Sofia, Jason, and Nathan were watching on.

“QUIET,” I yelled. I could feel Blaze let a low growl in my head, but I ignored him.

“I know you all have questions,” I said. “Alpha Trevor has infiltrated our pack with spies. We don’t know what he is after, but he has been after my mate when she was at Alpha Gareth’s pack, even telling people she was his mate.”

A few growls erupted, but I carried on.

“We were told he will attack this pack soon,” I said. “We need to be prepared for what comes. We need to ensure everyone who can’t fight needs to be placed in the pack house; Luna Stephanie will be waiting outside for all children and the elderly in the next few hours. I don’t want to take any chances.”

Everyone nodded.

“I want you all to be prepared and stay close to the pack house,” I said. “I want us all to be ready for when he comes, and no one leaves the pack. Everyone stay safe.”

I looked toward them and motioned everyone to leave.

“We need to get mate,” whimpered Blaze.

I could sense everyone was anxious and scared about what was about to come.

I could only tell them what we all knew, which wasn’t much.

I sighed as I turned. I noticed Sofia, Jason, and Nathan walking over to me.

I looked between them. “We need to place more people on patrol,” I said. “We need to figure out where Alpha Trevor is.”

Jason nodded. “I will arrange for more patrols around the territory. Once everyone who can’t fight is inside the pack house,” he said. “I think we should look into the human town which is close by.”

I stared at him, but he sighed. “Alpha Trevor has told all these women different versions of what he wants, but no one knows the truth,” he said.

I frowned.

“What do you mean?” I asked.

Nathan cleared his throat. "I had a mind link from the Gamma back at our pack," he said. "He placed Ana into a cell, and she started to talk straight away. Ana told him that a man approached her and asked her to look out for Roxie."

I raised my eyebrows, but Nathan carried on. "Ana said that the guy was worried about Roxie as there was trouble at the pack when she was here," he said.

"How the hell would Alpha Trevor know about what happened to Roxie?" asked Sofia.

Nathan looked back at her with slight confusion. "What happened to Roxie here?" he asked.

"Naomi, that's what!" Jason said as he looked between us. "Naomi must be working for him."

I knew I had to tell Sofia and Jason everything we learned about Naomi and Alpha Trevor.

"I think we should go back to the office," I said. "I don't want other pack members to hear about this."

Everyone looked around and nodded.

I trust my members, but we know a few more people would return to Alpha Trevor. I just needed to figure out who else was on his radar.

I turned around and headed toward the pack house with everyone following behind.

We walked into the office, where we found Alpha Gareth, Alpha Dean, my father, Tim, and Keith waiting for us.

I walked to the desk and sat down while the others took seats around the room.

I could feel Blaze move closer to the surface but never show himself.

"Has anyone found out where Alpha Trevor is?" I asked.

No one said anything, only shook their heads.

Fuck, we needed to know where he was.

I sighed.

"Is Luna Stephanie waiting for all the pack members who can't fight to come in?" I asked, looking at Alpha Dean.

"Yeah," said Alpha Dean. "Most pack members are on their way; she mind-linked me moments ago. Three members of my pack are waiting with her."

I nodded and looked at Sofia and Jason. “I need to tell you everything we know about Naomi and Alpha Trevor,” I said.

I explained everything that I remembered. After twenty minutes, Sofia looked pissed, and so did Tim, Keith, and Jason.

“They not too happy about all this,” muttered Blaze as he looked through my eyes.

“You mean to tell me that bitch and Alpha are siblings,” growled Tim, pulling me from my thoughts. “How didn’t we know about the birth father?” His eyes went to my father, who was staring back at him. “Why didn’t you ask her?” he asked.

I looked at my father; his face was hardened. “What are you suggesting?” my father snarled back.

Tim was about to open his mouth, but I had enough. Everyone is accusing everyone, all because of one man and his damn sister.

“ENOUGH,” I shouted.

Tim glared at my father, but my father looked at me. “We all need to remember who the enemy is,” I said. “We don’t need to fight with each other. What happened in the past needs to stay in the past. We need to be prepared for whatever Alpha Trevor brings us.”

The office was silent.

I looked toward everyone.

“We need to ensure the pack is secure before he comes,” I said.

“Lex,” called Alpha Gareth, making me stop and look at him. “We will help,” he said. “We all know what needs to be done.”

I looked at him but didn’t say anything.

“Everyone misses mate like us,” Blaze murmured. “We need our head in the game. Mate can look after herself, and she will return to us.”

I didn’t know whether to believe him or not, but I knew I had to get my head back in the game; I had an alpha to kill and a mate to get back.

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We didn't stay too long in the office.

The conversation stayed the same, and even a few apologies were made. Tim and my father shook hands before we left.

We needed to ensure everyone was prepared, and all the pack members who couldn't fight were safe within the pack house.

The pack was busy as everyone was making sure everything was ready. I was helping Alpha Dean, my father, and Luna Stephanie. I knew we had a bunker but never thought of it being able to hold people in it. My father had shown us where it would be safe for the members who couldn't look after themselves.

Luna Stephanie ensured all elderly, pregnant she-wolves and children were in a bunker at the back of the pack house.

Luna Stephanie kissed Alpha Dean as she was the last member to go in.

Once the door was closed, he walked over to me and looked pissed. "We need to make sure we kill Trevor," he muttered. "Either you or I will; he needs to be stopped."

"I plan to," I snarled.

Whenever an image of Alpha Trevor entered my head, Blaze and I would get angry. We needed to get him, but dead or alive all depended on if Roxie was with him.

Part of me wished she was, so I knew she was okay. But the other part didn't; I didn't want to see her in the state she was in the photograph. I couldn't handle it.

"We will get her back," growled Blaze. "I will kill every single wolf that is out there."

I knew he would.

I looked at Alpha Dean and was about to say something, but a mind link came through from Jason. "They are here," he growled out in my head.

"We need to move," I said as I turned to walk away. "They are here."

I started to move quickly through the pack house.

All pack members were getting into positions.

As I got to the front door, I spotted Jason standing with Keith, Tim, and Sofia. They were all looking ahead.

As I approached, the stench of rotten eggs wafted toward me, making me want to gag.

Blaze was up on all paws, growling. "I want them all," he roared. "LET ME OUT."

I ignored him, stopped next to Jason, and glanced at my friend.

"I want them dead," he growled, not looking at me. "He took my sister, Lex. I want her back."

Jason turned his head and looked at me. He was holding so much, but everything was heightened due to what was happening.

"I wasn't the best brother back in the day," he muttered as he stared at me. "Both of us did her wrong. Right now, we get her back, and we both grovel for forgiveness."

I could feel the hurt in his voice.

We may not have known what was happening back when Roxie was in the pack, but we did cause most of the problems for her and the people around her, even if we were too blind and stupid to see it happening.

I know I have a way to go with Roxie in making it up to her, and I will.

"Now we get mate," said Blaze as I looked back at him. "No more pity party for you; become the alpha and mate she needs."

I nodded and looked back at Jason, who was still staring at me. I didn't say anything but glanced behind him to see Keith staring at us. Like the rest of Roxie's family, his face was holding so much. "We will kill everyone who steps foot in this pack," he said as he walked up and placed his hand on Jason's shoulder, giving him a slight squeeze. "If Roxie is there with him, we will free her."

"What if she is not with him?" asked Tim. "Where will we search for my baby?"

I could hear the pain in his voice at the nickname he gave Roxie. He was defeated, but I knew he would do anything to get Roxie back.

"We will search everywhere," Keith said, pulling me back. "Roxie knows how to fight and will kill if she needs to. As for finding her, we will search his pack and everywhere he has been. He must have her somewhere."

I nodded. "Keith is right," I said. "We will do everything to get her back. But first, we must deal with what is in front of us. We need to kill Alpha Trevor or capture him to find out answers. I

know I can't promise him to be alive as Blaze wants to use him as his next chew toy, but we will figure it all out when it comes."

All three nodded.

I glanced toward Sofia, who was staring ahead.

Jason looked at her and sighed. "She wants her back just as much as we do," he mutters. "She wants to talk after all this."

I stared at him, but his face was stern.

"Not the time or place," he said, shaking his head.

I nodded.

I knew it wasn't, but knowing Jason through the years as I have, he never talks about anything. He would let it rot more till it became a problem.

"They are here," says Sofia as I look up and look at where she was looking.

In the distance were loads of men and women standing on the outskirts of the forest. More rogues appear around, and many are behind them. It was hard to work out how many there were.

It was nerve-wracking as we didn't know how many would come and judging on the scene in front of me. This would be one attack that could break my pack in more ways.

There had to be over a thousand rogues, more even.

Growls erupted around me from pack members as rogues appeared around the forest clearing.

I glanced around and noticed everyone was in position, but the worry and fear that came from them suffocated me. I couldn't help but listen to all the murmurs around us.

"There are too many," muttered a few.

"We are not going to survive," someone else sneered.

I growled and turned to face everyone.

Everyone went quiet as I scanned the faces that stood before me.

"Listen up," I yelled. "I know there seems to be more of them than us, but we have trained every day for years to deal with these situations. We will come out on top of this stronger."

I glanced around, taking in everyone. People's faces hardened. "We will take these mutts down, and we will become the pack we are meant to be," I yelled. "We are not just fighting to save the pack; we are fighting for it and the people who are unable to. People that you may love, who will come out of this and find out that there will be a new era for our pack, but also the most feared. We will take everyone down."

People nodded, and fear was replaced with determination.

"The pack link is open if anyone needs help," I said. "Use it; we are all in this together."

The pack link opens, and everyone's emotions hit me like a tidal wave, hard and fast.

I cleared my mind as Blaze came forward. "We kill them," he says. "We kill them and get mate back."

I let Blaze come forward as we join as one.

I turned to look back at the rogues. There seemed to be more there from when I last looked. But as I scanned the faces till my eyes landed on the one person who started all of this.

Alpha Trevor.

Alpha Trevor stepped out and was accompanied by his Beta.

I looked over to Jason, who was staring at them. I opened a mind link to him, and only him. "His Beta is with him. Can you tell if there are others from his pack?" I asked.

Jason didn't say anything for a few seconds and let a low growl out. "I can spot some, but not all the pack members are here," he snarls. "His Gamma is not here either. He must have kept them all back or something."

I growled as my eyes locked onto Alpha Trevor, who was smirking.

"I can't see Roxie," Jason says through the mind link. "Where the hell is she?"

I scanned the crowd, but Jason was right; there was no sign of Roxie.

"Naomi's not there either," muttered Keith, standing next to me.

I growled.

After what felt like hours, Alpha Trevor roared as his eyes bore back into mine.

"ATTACK," he yelled, and all rogues behind him started running toward us. There was a massive band of them; if I would have guessed, there were definitely more than a thousand of them.



I watched as human and wolf forms moved forward.

“NOW,” Blaze and I shouted as I charged forward.

Pack members growl out, and all follow me right into the abyss.

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ROXIE

I struggled against the chains, trying to get free, but there was no use.

Every time I moved, the chains dug into my skin more, causing more pain.

The movement outside where I was being held was loud; it sounded like many footsteps running away.

I glanced at the doorway, but no one came inside.

I sighed and glanced back.

There was still no sign of Bex.

I needed her back; I needed her to help me.

I couldn't think of a plan to kill Naomi, but I might have to wing it when it comes. I knew I could take her, but it was all depending on where her head was at.

Movement came from the doorway, pulling me back to look. As I glanced around, Naomi was standing by the door. She stared at me, looking pissed. I could tell she was muttering to herself.

Something was wrong.

Naomi looked at me and snarled. “WE HAVE TO GO,” she shouted.

I didn't say anything.

Naomi walked toward the gate and pulled it open, stepping inside.

I didn't know if I was strong enough to take her.

Naomi looks at me and walks toward a lever, kicking it. I don't see it coming as I fall to the ground on my knees, and my hands land on the floor.

I grit my teeth as pain shoots through my kneecaps, but I use my hands to steady myself.

“MOVE,” screams Naomi. “WE NEED TO LEAVE NOW.”

I looked up as Naomi grabbed the chains and yanked them toward her, making me fall on my face.

I groaned out, but I got up.

I know if I don't do something soon, she could flick more pain on me.

I use what strength I have and get up onto my legs.

I stagger toward her as she pulls me more with the chains.

Using the pain radiating from where the chains were rubbing into my wrists, I grit my teeth. I might be in a lot of pain, but I knew I needed to move and know where we were.

Naomi didn't utter a word; the only thing she was doing was pulling me and muttering. I couldn't help but overhear the muttering coming from her. “Stupid mutt,” she muttered as she dragged me out of the cell, through the gate, and out the doorway.

We walked through a corridor that had windows on either side.

I couldn't help but look around, and I had a funny feeling about where I was, and I knew I wasn't far from the pack.

As Naomi opened a door in front of her, the light from outside blinded me. Naomi stepped outside and yanked me again, which made me stumble due to my inability to see.

I land with a thud on my knees as I blink away the brightness, which hurts my eyes.

Once the blurriness went, I knew where I was.

There was a small hut once used for hunters back in the day; no one knew about it, and it was old. But it was something many kids would use to hook up with someone back in the day, and it wasn't too far from the pack.

“GET UP BITCH!” yells Naomi, who kicks me in the side.

I grunt out as I land on my side.

Naomi was still holding the chains; an idea came into my head. I could use them.

I waited, but something hit me again, but this time, it hit my face hard.

I grunt out as blood comes out of my mouth as I spit it out.

I looked at Naomi, grinning back at me. "I might have to keep you tortured for a while, but my brother is so stupid thinking I would let you live," she says.

I looked at the chain in her hand.

I know she didn't use the chain when she punched me.

"I will kill you," she yells at me. "Lex will be mine."

The mere mention of Lex has my heart aching. I knew the mate bond was in full effect, but I generally care about him. My feelings back then were always there. I had a lot of time to think while being tortured. Lex sent me away to help Blaze. What happened back then was more over what the she-wolves were doing to me. I didn't believe in having a chance with Lex; he never showed that he was into me that way.

I knew I wanted to be with him.

I wanted more than anything to get back to him right now.

Naomi clenches her fist, but as she draws it back. Her face goes blank, and her eyes change, "NOW LITTLE WOLF," came a voice.

Naomi's voice changed; it was Elle.

I knew I had to move fast.

I used the chain, pushed Naomi to the ground, and punched her face as her eyes returned to Naomi.

"STUPID WOLF," she shouts, but I move. Staggering to my feet, I wrap the chain around my knuckles as quickly as possible and turn my hand into a fist. I use the chain and pull it hard toward me, making Naomi come hurtling toward me.

I punch her in the face again, which makes her groan.

I don't stop the attack on her as I keep punching her till Naomi falls back on the ground, covered in blood.

I move quickly and straddle over her, with the chain still wrapped around my knuckles. I knew we were both bleeding, but it was hard to tell where the blood was coming from and where the chains were.

I used the strength I had that seemed to find its way somehow back to me and hold Naomi in place.

“You won’t have Lex,” I sneered near her as I leaned toward her face. “He’s my mate.”

I loosen my hand on the chain and wrap it around Naomi’s neck.

Naomi tries to move, but I use all my weight to keep her in place as the chain goes around her neck.

“ROX,” she says, I could tell she was frightened, but I knew she was messing with my head.

Naomi was like that with everyone, getting her way. I knew what I had to do, and I believed her wolf over anything she had to say. No wolf would wish for death.

“PLEASE,” she begged.

I ignored her as the chains were in place.

I looked into her eyes, but her eyes changed to Elle’s. “NOW,” she whined.

I guess she was having trouble holding Naomi back.

I pull the chain, which tightens around Naomi’s neck. I pulled with everything I had, which was not much due to what Naomi put me through.

Naomi moved underneath me, her hand gripping my legs as her nails dug deep into my flesh, but nothing was going to stop me.

Naomi gasps, but her eyes turn to Elle. “Thank you,” she gasps as her body stops moving underneath me as I pull harder, which causes her neck to snap.

After a few seconds, I drop the chains and stare at her lifeless eyes of Naomi.

I killed her.

I killed the person who caused most of my pain growing up.

My head hurt, but I knew I had to move.

Someone would find me.

I looked up and noticed there was no one around.

I slowly moved up and away from Naomi’s body, and my eyes fixed on her.

As I get my bearings, I look over my shoulder toward the forest clearing.

I needed to get out of here.

I needed to get to the pack, I didn't know what to expect, but I knew I needed to return. If Naomi were supposed to move or kill me, I would have been back in the pack grounds in five minutes, fifteen with my injuries.

I moved my eyes from Naomi's dead body and moved toward the forest clearing, staggering toward it, and using the rest of my energy to get back my pack.

As I got closer, the stench of rotten eggs hit me hard, and I wanted to do was throw up. Once I shook my head, I breathed through my mouth, so I didn't have to smell them.

Rogues were here, so that meant they were at my pack, which made a low growl escape my lips.

I needed to get there quickly.

I used everything I had to walk toward the stench; all I knew was I had to get to the pack fast.

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LEX

The stench of blood fills the air; it makes it rotten to the core.

Everyone was either injured or dead.

Death has a horrible smell too, which I was met with as I killed every rogue that came at me.

Blaze and I stayed together, never letting his shift as we used our combined strength to take everyone down.

Blaze wanted out, but I didn't want him to have all the fun. I wanted to be part of this, so we came up with being one. It worked better; due to being an alpha and Blaze's strength and mine, we took out everyone who came at us with a flick of his claws.

Every pack member, whether in human or wolf form, fought and showed bravery.

More rogues came, and we fought, but every so often, I could feel a pack member lose their life; I could feel it through the pack link.

I wanted to protect everyone, but I knew I couldn't.

I was only one man and wolf; I needed to stop this attack, and I knew how by killing the man who started it all.

I ripped another wolf apart but looked around and spotted Jason, who was in wolf form. He was fighting two wolves while Sofia was in human form, killing another with a knife.

I quickly shifted my focus and looked around when my eyes landed on Nathan and his father, Alpha Gareth, who were fighting more rogues than I could count.

It felt like we were being separated, but something told me something would happen soon. I watched as more rogues came toward me, but instead of attacking me, they started to circle me.

There had to be ten men, all growling.

It looked like Alpha Trevor picked the largest men he knew to fight me.

I growled, but one man decided to lunge at me. I quickly use my speed and rip out his throat as soon as I grip his neck.

Blaze and I weren't playing with them; we wanted them gone.

We wanted to get to Roxie.

I kept up the fight between all ten, and after killing everyone, I glanced around and spotted my father with Alpha Dean. Both men were in their wolf forms and killing every rogue that came toward them, but I noticed they were being pushed back as they did with Nathan and Alpha Gareth.

I looked around when my eyes landed on Keith, who ripped out a wolf's heart. His back was against another, which was hard for me to see. But a few seconds later, the other person came around before I looked away. It was Tim.

I never thought about fighting like that before.

I was about to move when a roar rippled through the air, making me look.

My eyes landed on Alpha Trevor, who was stocking toward me.

I looked around and noticed rogues had me surrounded again.

They formed a big circle around me.

Blaze growls.

I could feel him wanting out, but something hit me on the head, making me stumble forward.

I don't know what it was, but I landed on my knee.

I growled.

I try to move, but rogues use that moment to attack and pin me down.

Blaze roars out, letting our aura slip past, but it doesn't affect any rogues. That never happened before, but I guess they follow Alpha Trevor.

Feet and fists were hurling toward me as I was pushed down.

How the hell was I going to get out of this?

"I want out," growled Blaze.

I could feel hands pulling me up as I was forced onto my knees.

I looked like a begging man, even though I wasn't

I look up and realize that nine fully grown men are holding me back as Alpha Trevor walks toward me.

"Well, look at what I got," he grins as he steps in front of me and stares.

"Shame my mate is not here to witness this," he murmurs, which causes Blaze and I to growl out.

"She's not yours," I say through clenched teeth, moving to get free, but nails dig into my body as the men try to hold me in place.

Alpha Trevor laughed.

"She is mine," he says as he calms himself down like he had told a joke. "Your mate is mine, and so is your pack. Everything you have is now mine. You can't stop me."

Alpha Trevor moves closer toward me as I struggle against the rogues.

I don't know what smells worse, the rogues or the blood.

Everyone holding me was covered in blood from pack members they had fought against moments earlier.

“Tell your pack members to stand down,” Alpha Trevor called out. “Let them choose to be free and be with a better alpha than you.”

Murmurs were sweeping through the pack link. “DON’T SURRENDER ALPHA,” they yell. “WE WOULD RATHER DIE THAN BE PART OF HIS PACK.”

I felt every pack member fight through whatever they were doing.

I knew I had to fight back.

I knew I had to be their alpha, the alpha they truly needed.

“They will never follow you,” I say to him.

Alpha Trevor smirks.

“Very well,” he says and looks around. “KILL THEM ALL.”

I growl loudly.

Alpha Trevor turns and looks back at me, his eyes changed into his wolves.

“My wolf has been dreaming about this day for years,” he says as he shifts into his wolf.

I could feel nails digging into me more as I tried to move, but the more I tried, the more it felt like more men were holding on to me.

This is the only way Alpha Trevor and his wolf can kill me; I will give them everything I have before they finish me off; I need to get out of these goddamn rogue’s hold.

I moved more, but they tightened more.

I growl.

Blaze tries to push forward and comes up with me, using everything we have.

Alpha Trevor’s wolf inches closer to me.

I growl, but a scent wafts toward me, which makes me stop moving.

It can’t be.

Where was she?

I watch in slow motion as Alpha Trevor’s wolf stops in his track as a giant blob of white lands in front of us.



I knew who it was; her scent was everything that Blaze and I were craving.

Bex and Roxie.

She was growling loudly, bearing her teeth at the gigantic black wolf in front of her.

Blaze and I stood with the rogues, gaping at the white wolf. Some let go of me as I felt less of them.

The stench of fear washed over them.

I knew I could use this as my chance, but her scent wafted over to me as I stared.

I could make out marks on through her fur. She was injured, but I couldn't tell how bad.

“Mate,” shouted Blaze in my head, pulling me back from my thoughts.

“Blaze,” I said. “Let's get these shits off us now.”

Blaze knew what I wanted to do as he started to shift.

I looked up as I watched Alpha Trevor's wolf charge toward Bex and Roxie; he would kill them.

I growl out as I let Blaze take over. The rogues were too busy staring at Bex and Roxie as we used our strength and pushed them all off us.

I stood up as Blaze shifted into his proper form.

Blaze stood up and let out a roar, letting our aura slip through.

The only way we can defeat these arseholes is to do it in his form.

I knew who we would kill, and judging by how Bex fought with Alpha Trevor; she would do the same.

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ROXIE

I stagger through the forest.

Most of my injuries slowly healed, but the pain radiated through the ones still on show.

I followed the stench of rotten eggs.

The stench was everywhere. I couldn't figure out how many there were, but judging by the footprints on the ground, there had to be over a hundred, maybe more.

I moved between each tree, pushing off each one and moving to the next one, needing support.

I felt weak; no food would do that to you.

I walked further into the forest but slowly started to realize where I was, the north side, not far from the pack house.

I needed to tell someone about Naomi's body and where to find it.

An image of her body came flooding back harshly, and I felt sick but also some relief. The girl gave me hell for years till I left the pack, but killing someone was never my intention. I would never have done it, but she never gave me an option and her wolf Elle was adamant.

The thought of Elle saddened me. She was willing to die for her happiness. A wolf should never have to choose as Elle did.

My thoughts went to Bex; I missed her.

I missed her voice of reason and thinking about what she would think about the whole thing.

I leaned on a tree as I closed my eyes.

I sent a prayer up to the moon goddess, asking for forgiveness for killing Naomi and also to send Bex back to me, I knew I needed her. I didn't know what I was walking into when I returned to the pack.

I opened my eyes, but as I looked around, a loud, piercing scream erupted throughout the forest.

It sounded like a child.

I pushed off the tree and moved quickly till I came close to where the scream came from.

I stopped in my tracks as I watched four rogues, three in human form and one in wolf, stock up toward a girl who seemed to be in her teens. They start to circle her. The fear radiated from her as she tripped over a branch and landed on her ass in front of them.

"Look what we have here," said one of the rogues in human form. "Something we can have; I'm sure the alpha won't mind us taking one of the females for ourselves."

I felt sick, but anger swept in as I stared at them.

I needed to save the girl.

I looked down and realized that I was covered in blood, but most of my wounds were healing.

I looked back up and growled.

“GET THE FUCK AWAY FROM HER,” I shouted.

All four men turned around and looked at me.

The girl stared, fear clearly radiating off her, but her eyes went to mine and widened as she mouthed, ‘Luna.’

I stared at her but looked back at the men, not caring what came out of her mouth.

I am her Luna; I am Lex’s mate, after all.

“What do we have here?” asked one of the men, looking toward his friends. “Another toy to play with.”

I growled.

A rogue came toward me and lunged at me, but I sidestepped him and kicked him hard in the head with a spinning kick, sending him straight into a tree.

I looked back at the others, who stood like lemons.

I ran toward them, not caring what had happened to me.

I use everything Uncle Keith taught me over the years at his pack. I used every kick, every duck, and punch to get to them.

I could feel movement in my head, but I couldn’t concentrate.

I took out one rogue but ripped out his heart, and blood splattered all over me.

I was about to get attacked by another, but the young girl shifted into her wolf and lunged at him, ripping his throat out.

I looked at the last rogue, who looked worse for wear after the knockout he received from the tree.

He growled and charged at me, but I moved out of the way as the young she-wolf took care of him.

I landed hard on the ground as I tripped over something.

I lean up but felt weak.

My body was failing me, and I was too exhausted to do anything as I lay down and closed my eyes.

All I could hear was the young girl shifting back and yelling, “Luna.”

My eyes were closed, but I felt a force pulling me back as a pair of eyes looked back at me.

I knew those eyes.

I missed those eyes.

I could feel tears run down my face as I stared back at her.

Bex was grinning.

“Rest,” she said. “You did good, Rox.”

With that, I felt my body shifting.

Bex shifted into her proper form as I came closer to look through her eyes.

I stared at the young girl, who was stunned but smiled.

“Luna,” she said with a bow.

Bex nodded.

“Let’s find mate,” she said.

Bex trotted through the forest with the young girl, who shifted back into her wolf and followed behind us. We weren’t that far from the clearing to the pack. We had no idea what we were getting into, but the stench of blood filled the air, which was not a good sign.

I knew I had to talk to Bex before we did anything.

“Bex,” I called out. “I missed you.”

Bex laughed. “I missed you too,” she said. “I must admit, I felt everything that bitch did to you.”

I looked at her.

“You felt it all?” I asked, more of a question than anything.

Bex didn't say anything for a few seconds but sighed. "Rox," she said. "I will be honest with you; I felt it all, but I wasn't alone."

I stared at her, but a frown formed.

"What do you mean?" I asked.

"Well, I wasn't alone," she said, "I mean, the moon goddess was with me. She told me that I had to wait till you needed me; she told me that you needed to deal with the human as the human's wolf asked for your help."

The thought of Elle saddened me slightly, but knowing the moon goddess was there was something unheard of. She never interferes with anything that is regarding her wolves. Well, I mean, there have never been any sightings or stories we were told over the years.

"Rox," she called out, pulling me back to her. "I got this now, but when we need to kill that alpha, we need mate. I mean, we need to be with him."

Bex looked back at me as she slowed her pace and came to a stop.

I smiled.

"I want Lex," I said. "I missed him too."

Bex nodded, and her face softened. "I know," she said. "I felt that too."

Bex looked back and trotted to the clearing, and stopped.

I came closer and felt sick to my stomach as I stared out.

The pack grounds were covered with bodies of wolves, rogues, and pack members. It was hard to work out if there were alive or dead.

Our eyes scanned over what was happening, and Bex gave a low snarl.

Rogues were circling the remaining pack members, separating them into sections.

I noticed Alpha Frank, Alpha Dean, Nathan, and Alpha Gareth were in one circle, while all pack members were in a third with Jason and Sofia, trying to get through and get to the third circle.

I looked at the circle closest to me; more than eight men were holding one person.

My heart clenched as I knew who it was; he wasn't in the other circles.

Lex.

My mate.

There was no time to think as Bex started to charge, as a man began to walk into the circle toward Lex.

Bex growls out.

We knew who it was.

I wanted that prick's head for what he had done to my pack.

Bex sprinted toward the circle, and two rogues turned around as we got close, but we jumped over them all and landed right between Lex and Alpha Trevor, who had just shifted into his wolf.

Bex doesn't think about it as we both know what to do as we attack his wolf, not giving him a second thought.

We needed to keep Alpha Trevor's wolf busy so Lex could get free.

Alpha Trevor's wolf snapped at us, but Bex went for him. She aimed for his legs and even jumped on him, digging her nails into his shoulder.

His wolf was strong, but we were too fast for him.

"Wear him out," I shouted as she lunged at him once more and bit his hind leg.

A scent wafts toward us, which causes us to stop.

We look up and spot Lex, who just took out six of the rogues that held him down.

A shadow loomed over us, but as Bex went to turn around, Alpha Trevor's mouth gripped onto her side, causing her to howl loudly.

The Alpha dog's grip tightened as he lifted her, shook her hand, and threw Bex hurtling toward the side.

We landed with a huge thud.

I felt Bex shift back, whimpering. Pain radiated through me.

I was back in human form, trying to get up. I glanced to the side, where the stupid mutt gripped us, and there in its place was a lot of blood spilling out of my side.

I felt weak and could feel darkness sweep in harshly as I fell back, lying on the ground with my eyes beginning to close.

Darkness overcame me, but I turned my head and spotted Lex on top of Alpha Trevor's wolf.

My eyes close, and I stare back as Bex's eyes fall asleep. "Rest," she murmurs before she falls into a deep sleep.

I could sense tiredness swooping in, and all I needed was to sleep.

Chapter 66

## Chapter 66 - Welcome Home Mate

LEX

I stare as Alpha Trevor's wolf throws Bex like a ragdoll.

He stokes toward her.

Anger fills every fiber of my body, and Blaze growls out. "Mate," he snarls.

Blaze comes forward once more, and we use all our strength to push off all the rogues. We used our speed and gripped each one that came at us, either squeezing the life out of them or ripping them apart.

I stare ahead as I only have one focus, and that's getting to Bex before Alpha Trevor's wolf decides to use her as a chew toy.

I watch as he stares at me. His wolf's eyes focus on me, but he looks back at Bex and sniggers as he walks toward her.

Oh no, you don't, I thought.

"Blaze," I shouted. "Now."

I pushed back and let Blaze take over, shifting into his form and ripping a rogue, shredding him apart with his claws.

We start to charge toward Alpha Trevor's wolf, but two wolves jump in front of me. Blaze pushes off the ground and jumps, landing on Alpha Trevor's wolf back.

Blaze sinks his teeth into his neck, and the big dog howls.

Blaze sinks deeper, placing his claws deeper into his back.

Blaze grips tighter, shaking the wolf hard. Blaze growls and snarls as the wolf tries to free himself, but nothing works.

“Blaze rip out his throat,” I yelled.

Blaze uses his other paw and grips his neck, claws sinking into his neck. Once his nails are in, Blaze rips his throat and drops the dog’s lifeless body.

Blaze roars, letting our alpha aura slip through to let everyone know that Alpha Trevor is dead.

Blaze growls loudly as he moves the dead body to the side and snarls as he stares back at the rogues.

Rogues stop and stare, fear rolling off every single one of them.

Blaze lets me take control, and I shift back into my human form.

Anger fills my veins.

Rogues start to run away as pack members try to catch some.

“ALL PACK MEMBERS GET THEM,” I yelled. “NO SURVIVORS.”

I didn’t want no rogue to survive after what went down here today.

All pack members follow the rogues. Some tried to surrender, but pack members weren’t letting anyone live. The look on some pack members’ faces was complete pain and anger. Some members were lost during this attack, and we all felt it.

Pack members lost loved ones, all due to a madman and his desire to have whatever I had.

I watched as the pack members ran.

“Mate,” whimpered Blaze in my head, pulling me back.

I turned around and looked at where Bex had landed. But Bex wasn’t there, a human was and a young girl who was checking on her.

I ran over to her.

Roxie.

As I approached, the young she-wolf looked up at me. A tear ran down her cheeks. “Alpha,” she whispered as she looked back down.

My eyes landed on Roxie.



She looked like Roxie, but she was covered in loads of blood.

“Alpha,” the young woman yelled, which pulled me from my thoughts as I went to my knees. I picked up Roxie and noticed a big chunk of her side was gone, and blood was gushing out.

Blaze whimpered in my head.

The girl had something in her hand and placed it on Roxie’s wound.

I looked at her.

“Thank you,” I whispered.

The girl nodded.

I picked Roxie up and turned to run toward the pack hospital.

I knew I had to get her there.

I needed Roxie to be okay, better even.

But my mind was racing. Where the hell did she come from?

“Mate tried to save us,” muttered Blaze in my head, which made me remember how I managed to get free from all those rogues. They were stunned when a white wolf came to an alpha’s aid.

I ran all the way, but I could hear people behind me.

I knew who it was; it must have been Tim, Jason, and Keith.

I could feel a mind link trying to open up, but I ignored it. I needed to get Roxie to the hospital and fast.

I ran through the pack hospital doors as a doctor was waiting with a stretcher. “Alpha Lex,” the doctor said. “Alpha Frank told me you would be bringing our Luna.”

I didn’t say anything as I placed Roxie on the stretcher.

The pack doctor checked her over. He went to remove the cover that was placed over her wound, but more blood came out.

“We need to move her,” he yells, and everyone grips hold of the stretcher and starts to run. I followed them, but the pack doctor stopped me by placing his hand on my shoulder. “Alpha Lex,” he said, looking at me. My eyes never met his; they were on the stretcher that was turning the corner.

“I need to be with her,” I blurt out.

“Alpha Lex,” called the pack doctor, which made me look at him.

The doctor looks at me with a stern look, but it softens. “Alpha Lex,” he said. “I need to go in there and stop that bleeding, but I will come back with an update for you as soon as possible.”

I nodded.

He went to move, but my feet followed him, making him stop me again. “Alpha Lex, you need to stay here, please,” he said.

I am about to move, but a hand goes to my shoulder and pulls me back. “Let him go to her son,” Tim says in a strangled voice.

The doctor looks back and nods.

I stayed rooted to the spot as I watched him leave.

As the doctor turns the corner, I look over my shoulder. Behind me were all the men in Roxie’s life; her brother, father, and uncle.

Their faces were all full of concern.

There was so much blood on her, remembering the state I saw her in.

I turned around and walked past everyone, not saying a word.

There was a waiting room, and I went in, out of sight. I needed to collect my thoughts and have some quiet.

My head was racing with all the events that had happened.

I didn’t get to think as the door opened, and I walked to the others.

“Lex,” rasped out Jason, which made me look at him.

His eyes were rimmed with tears.

“Rox,” was all he could say before the tears flowed.

I turned and walked over to him, wrapping him in a brotherly hug that we had done many times over the years.

I usually never hug people, but this was for Jason and me. I needed it.

Jason pulled back and looked at me. “Where the hell did she come from?” he asked.

I shrugged.

I looked at Tim and Keith, who had taken seats around the room.

“Where’s Sofia?” I asked as I turned back to Jason.

Jason looked at me and sighed. “She’s okay,” he said. “She is being checked out as a rogue bit her.” The last part came out more of a growl.

I looked over at the men, but the mind link that I ignored came back to life.

I sighed and opened it.

It was my father.

“Lex,” he bellowed. “Don’t ignore me. How is she?”

“I don’t know,” I said numbly and shook my head. “Where are you?”

“Alpha Gareth got hurt during the attack,” he said. “Nathan and I are with him and walking back to the pack hospital. Alpha Dean has gone to get out all the pack members in the pack house.”

I sighed.

“Lex, once I have made sure Alpha Gareth is okay, I will pop by to see you,” he said. “But I will deal with the aftermath; you concentrate on Roxie. I know you will want to be there when Roxie wakes up.”

Hope flutters out as I think about Roxie.

My father closes the mind link down, and I walk to a nearby chair.

I sat down and felt lost.

Blaze moves in my head, which makes me look back at him. “You, okay?” I asked.

Blaze looked at me, and his eyes were holding so much. “I want, mate,” he whispers, which sends my heart into a breaking mess.

I can’t lose her.

Not like this.

I lean back on the chair and close my eyes, sending a prayer. “Please, moon goddess,” I pleaded. “Bring her back to me.”

Chapter 67

## Chapter 67 - Welcome Home Mate

LEX

I opened my eyes and stared at the ceiling.

It felt like minutes had gone by, but I looked over to the others in the room, and they all had their eyes closed.

I looked around, but there was no sign of the doctor.

My mind and heart needed to know what was happening to Roxie.

I was pulled from my thoughts as the door to the waiting room opened, and in walked my father, with Sofia and the young girl from earlier.

“Any news?” asked my father, which made all the men in the room move up slightly.

I shook my head, but my eyes went to the young girl.

She looked no more than fourteen.

The girl stared at me as a tear slipped down her cheek. “This is Macy,” said Sofia, which made me look at her.

Sofia gave me a small smile as she placed her arm around Macy. “Alpha Lex, I think you might want to know what Macy has to say,” she said as she gave Macy’s a slight squeeze.

I looked back at Macy and nodded.

I couldn’t open my mouth as I was afraid of what my voice would sound like.

“Alpha,” she said as she stared at me, but her eyes looked around the room at the others but back to me. “I was behind the pack house. My family left me behind; I didn’t know where they were. When the attack started, no rogues were coming from the back of the pack, and I thought I could hide. But I was wrong. I hid for a while, but seven rogues emerged from the forest. I could hear them say they couldn’t wait for someone to come any longer.”

I stared at her but never said a word. No one did.

The girl sighs and carries on. “I stayed out of sight, but I moved, which caught the attention of four rogues,” she said with a shudder. “I moved away from my hiding place and tried to run toward the forest, but they surrounded me when I tripped. After a few seconds, someone growled, and it was the Luna.”

My eyes widened at the mention of Luna, Roxie.

“She was covered in blood and was in some pain,” she said, “but she fought in human form.”

I stared at her, confused. “What do you mean in human form?” I remembered that Bex had saved him, so why wouldn’t she use Bex?

“Luna fought in human form; she took them all down with punches and everything you could think of,” she said, sounding proud.

“That’s my girl,” muttered Keith.

The girl looked at him but turned back to me. “I helped once the rogues turned their attention on her,” she said. “My wolf was too scared to shift, but as soon as we knew it was the Luna, we knew we had to help her.”

I gave her a small smile.

“Once the rogues were killed, Luna fell on her side and looked like she was knocked out, but after a few seconds, her wolf shifted and ran to help you.”

Wow, I thought.

“It sounds like Bex wasn’t there at the time,” said Tim with a snarl. “They must have used wolfsbane on her.”

I let a low growl out.

I looked at the girl. “Do you know which way the Luna came from?” I asked.

The girl nodded. “The north side,” she said.

My mind raced as I tried to think about what was on the north side, but Jason growled.

“That sly bitch,” he said as he shot up from the chair, he was on and looked at me. “The hunter’s cabin,” he gritted out.

I stared at him, but something clicked.

Years ago, a hunter's cabin was not too far from the pack. We never knew about it but stumbled on it when we were looking for a place to hold parties, but six years ago, after Roxie left, my father told everyone that no one was allowed to go there; it was forbidden due to a child dying there.

The photo Naomi took of Roxie; I never placed it together as I was more focused on Roxie and her injuries. But Roxie was chained up; all I could see in the background was a wall behind her.

The cabin was made out of wood back then.

Over the last six years, no one from the pack ever went there, but clearly, people have been there over time and changed it. It had to be the hunter's cabin, and it was the only place we had never looked.

I looked at Jason but turned to my father, who stared at me with a knowing look. "Send men to the hunter's cabin," I said. "Naomi must still be there."

My father nodded. "I knew what you were going to say and had already sent some guards there the moment Jason mentioned the cabin," he said.

I nodded.

"The photo didn't look like a cabin, though," said Sofia. "Have any of you been there since?"

We all shook our heads at her.

Sofia frowned and looked at my father. "How many cabins are not in the territory?" she asked.

My father stared at her blankly for a moment and sighed. "I know of three," he said as he looked at her. "I had some pack members look for Roxie at those, but there has been no one there. One was used with Naomi a few days or so ago, as a loyal friend told me before she killed him."

Sofia nodded, but she looked at me. "By the sound of it," she said as she looked between us. "Naomi must have set up her meetings with Alpha Trevor or whoever in them. Ever since I came to this pack, pack members were quick to tell me not to leave the territory, but they did tell me about the hunter's cabin in the north and never to go there."

She looked over to Jason. "You said a child died there," she said.

Jason nodded.

My mind never thought about it; it was still on Roxie.

Blaze was quiet, but he took in everything everyone was saying.

"Mate wasn't far from us," he said as a low growl slipped out.

Blaze and I never go north.

A child died in the hunter's cabin. He fell through the flooring that was loose and broke his neck. My father found him when his parents told him their child was missing. No one thought about the cabin, as all the older children used it to hook up, but my father went there and found him.

My father made a law within the pack for no one to step foot in the cabin again. He was planning to tear it down, but along the way, it was forgotten about as we were suffering attacks or helping other packs with issues.

I was about to say something when the door opened, and the noise of the hospital filled the room.

Alpha Dean and Luna Stephaine walked in, closing the door behind them.

The pack hospital sounded overcrowded outside the door.

Alpha Dean looked at me, but his eyes were holding so much. "I have sent word to my pack to come here and help with the cleanup," he said. "Nathan has done the same too."

"How is Alpha Gareth?" asked Keith, who stood up from his chair.

Alpha Dean looked at him and sighed. "No news yet," he said. "Nathan is waiting for word and is with one of his men."

Alpha Dean looked back at me. "How is Roxie?" he asked. "Where did she come from?"

I stared at him, but Jason explained what we had learned and what the young she-wolf told us. I looked over at her; she was sitting on a chair with Sofia.

Alpha Dean let a low snarl slip past and looked at me. "That explains a lot," he said, which made me frown.

Alpha Dean sighed. "That was the only place we never searched," he said. "Alpha Frank told us about the child's death, and my father told us never to step foot in there."

I looked at him. "It seems to have been modified over the years," I said.

Alpha Dean looked at me with a confused look. He went to open his mouth, but the door opened once again, and in walked the pack doctor.

I moved out of the way and stepped in front of him, which startled him. "How is she?" I asked.

The pack doctor looked at me, then at everyone else. His eyes landed back on me, and he sighed. "The young Luna is a strong one," he said. "Whatever she suffered when she was away has now healed; her injuries healed quicker when her wolf came back. Her only injury is the chunk the

alpha wolf took from her. It will heal, but it might leave a huge scar in its wake as if it was from an alpha bite.”

I felt slightly relieved but also anxious about what I wanted to know next.

“Can I see her?” I asked.

The doctor looked at me and nodded. “She is asleep at the moment,” he said and looked toward Tim. “Alpha Lex and Tim should go in and sit with her, and the others can see her when she wakes up.”

I nodded.

“I will take you both now to see her,” he said as he turned around.

I looked at my father and then at Jason. “I will mind link you when she is awake,” I said to him.

Jason nodded. “I’m going up to that cabin,” he muttered. “I need to see what else is there.”

I stared at him for a moment, but something was telling me he wanted answers, and he was the only one that could get them for us.

“Be careful,” I said and left, following the doctor out of the waiting room with Tim walking with me.

The hospital was packed with corridors crowded with people.

Pack members were covered in blood and wounds gaping open.

I felt terrible for them, but my mind was on Roxie.

The doctor took us around a few corners of the hospital till we came to a quieter part of the hospital. “We placed the Luna in here,” he said as he stopped outside a door. “We wanted her to have some rest.”

I nodded as he opened the door and walked in.

I walked in behind him, with Tim following.

The room was dim, but I looked toward the bed, and there was Roxie, lying in the middle, looking slightly better than the last time I saw her.

“She is asleep,” the doctor whispered. “She should wake up soon. She’s not in danger, but that wound might take a while to heal on its own, but it all depends on her wolf too.”

I looked at him and nodded.



Tim and I went to different sides of the bed, where two chairs were placed on either side.

I took my seat as he took his.

The door opens and closes, letting us know that the doctor has left.

The room was silent.

I stared at Roxie and placed my hand in hers.

Tingles rippled through me as Blaze came closer to see her.

“Mate,” he whispered.

He had been quiet during the whole of the findings, and he never said a word, and I started to get worried about him.

“You okay?” I asked him.

Blaze steps back and looks at me.

“I’m okay,” he mutters. “Want mate to wake up.”

I sighed.

“I know,” I said.

There was silence between us, but Blaze spoke again. “Mate saved us,” he whispered, feeling pride sweep over him.

I didn’t say anything to him but stared at Roxie.

My heart was racing.

I needed her to wake up.

I needed her to let me know she was alright.

Chapter 68

## Chapter 68 - Welcome Home Mate

ROXIE

I stirred but woke up with a start, not knowing where I was.

I blinked a few times, as I didn't know what was happening to me.

I looked around and couldn't help but frown.

I was in a white room, nothing in there, only me and a bed I was lying on were here.

I glanced down and realized that I wasn't in my blood-soaked clothes from before but in a white dress.

"You look better," came a heavenly voice.

I looked around, but no one was there.

Where the hell am I?

I tried to rack my brain, trying to remember where I was. Then a black wolf came to mind; it was staring at me with blood dripping out of the corners of its mouth.

I looked like I was his next meal.

I closed my eyes tight and shook my head.

Someone clears their throat, which makes me open my eyes. I looked around, but as I stared toward the side, a gorgeous woman stood there with wide eyes.

"You didn't answer me," she said as she stepped closer.

I stared at her and felt weird.

I didn't know this woman from anywhere, but I felt safe. How was that possible?

"You are trying to figure out where you are," she asked, which made me nod. I never took my eyes off her.

The woman smiled. "It's ok," she said. "You're not dead, just resting. I wanted to meet you."

I stared at her, feeling slightly confused.

"Who are you?" I asked as I cocked my head to the side, trying to figure out who she was.

The woman showed her teeth in a grin. "I'm Selene," she said, which made my eyes widen. "I'm the Moon Goddess."

My mouth went dry as I tried to process what she said, but Selene moved closer and held out her hand. “We don’t have much time, and I have someone who wants to see you.”

I looked at her hand and moved off the bed. As soon as I placed my hand in hers, the room changed. Like a puff of smoke, the room went from white to us standing in a garden.

I couldn’t believe this was happening.

“Beautiful isn’t it,” she said with a smile as she let go of my hand.

I nodded, taking in the garden’s beauty.

As I look toward a set of trees, something white comes hurtling toward me and pounces on me, which makes me fall to the ground as something starts licking my face.

“Rox,” says Bex as she moves back.

I move up onto my arm and look at the white ball of fluff that is my wolf.

“Bex,” I whisper.

I look up at Selene, who is giggling but gives a slight nod.

I looked back at Bex, who licked my face again. “Where are we?” I asked, which was more for Selene than Bex.

I got up off the ground and looked at Selene. Bex stood close to me, rubbing her fur against my legs.

Selene smiles.

“You are in the rest world,” she said. “I brought you here as your body went through so much due to that she-wolf, and you needed to heal.” Selene’s face hardened at the mere mention of Naomi.

I looked at her.

“I didn’t mean to kill her,” I said, slightly guilty, but Selene shook her head. “I know you didn’t,” she said. “I didn’t know how strong of a hold her emotions were on your mate.”

I didn’t say anything, but Selene looked at me.

“I give all wolves, my children, their soulmates for a reason,” she said. “Alexander is yours. He was always meant to be with you, but the way everything played out was mainly the fault of no one except those who were out to destroy both of you.”

I stared at her, but something soft brushed up against my leg, which made me look down to see Bex sitting next to me, with her head resting on my leg.

I looked back at Selene.

“Why was she hellbent on doing the things she did?” I asked.

Selene sighed. “Naomi knew who her father was from when she was young, her mother told her. She believed that she had alpha blood in her system and was a true alpha.”

I frowned, even though I knew that not to be true.

Selene looked at me. “Naomi wasn’t meant to be born,” she said, which widened my eyes. “I mean, she would have been if her mum went to her mate like she was supposed to, but when an alpha like Alpha Trevor’s father wants you, you had to go to him.”

She sighed and turned around, walking toward something, but she continued talking.

“Alpha Trevor believed everything his father believed,” she said. “He was a mad alpha in the making, and I should have dealt with him, but I wasn’t allowed to interfere in my children’s lives. He ruined everything I created, including his son.”

I watched as Selene stopped, looked over her shoulder, and gave me a small smile. “I need to right all the wrongs he has done,” she said. “I need you and your mate to help me do it.”

I stared at her and cocked my head at her. “How are we supposed to do that?” I asked.

Selene smiled.

“I need you both to visit Alpha Trevor’s pack because of the destruction he caused to them,” she said. “They never wanted any part of his beliefs. Alpha Lex and you will have to prove that not all Alpha and Luna are like them.”

I stared at her, trying to wrap my head around what she had said.

“You know you are meant to be together,” she said. “You were written in the stars for one another. You are perfect for one another; he brings out everything you hold and love. Also, he never said he didn’t love you.”

My heart beat faster as she talked, but Lex and I were written in the stars sounded like a cliché type of thing. We were opposites.

“You know he never thinks before he speaks,” I muttered, which she heard. “Well, you will put him in his place. You will ensure he knows what to do, and you are his equal.”

I stared at her.

Selene stares, but her face softens slightly.

“If you don’t believe me,” she said and looked to the side of her. “I think someone else will make you see sense.”

I looked at where she was staring, and a bright light appeared but went out as someone stepped out. I adjusted my eyes to the brightness, and my eyes went round as tears filled my eyes.

My mum was in front of me, with a smile itching the corners of her mouth.

“Rox,” she murmurs. “My baby girl.”

Her voice sounded like the day I remembered our last conversation.

I ran toward her and wrapped my arms around her.

She pulls me into her as I let my tears fall.

“Mum,” I whispered.

After a few moments, I pulled back from my mum and looked back at her.

Her finger removes tears from my eyes as her face lights up.

“Rox,” she said. “I am so proud of you.”

My heart melted at her words.

I always wondered if she was.

“You are,” I asked.

My mum nodded.

“Not only did you and Bex protect me till your father came,” she said. “But more about how you changed your perspective of what you went through regarding that she-wolf. I have been with you every step of the way in here,” she said, pointing to my heart and placing her hand there.

A lone tear escaped my eyes as I smiled at her.

“You have turned into one of the most powerful Luna I have ever seen,” said Selene, who made me look at her. My eyes rounded as I stared at her.

Selene smiled.

“You are someone everyone will follow, Roxie,” she said.

I didn't say anything.

This all felt so unreal.

"Rox," my mum called, which made me look at her.

"I don't have much time," she whispered, which made my heart break. "I want you to get your Dad to move on."

I looked at her, shocked.

She had to be joking. My mother was the love of his life; he would never move on.

My face must have said something, which made my mum's face soften. "He will always love me, and I will always love him. I will wait until he returns to me, but he needs to move forward and live. There is a world outside those pack grounds with his name on."

I knew where she was coming from, but I knew my Dad; it would take a lot of convincing for him to leave.

"Maybe get Keith and Alpha Frank to go with him," she said, sounding slightly amused. "I mean, the old men on tour sounds about right."

I couldn't help the snort that left my mouth, which made Selene, Bex, and my mum laugh.

My mum bent down and started to smooth Bex as Bex approached her. Bex nudged her hand as she tickled behind her ear, which earned a whine.

My mother smiled and looked up at me. "You have one beautiful wolf," she said.

I smiled.

"She is," I said, looking at Bex. "Also, my best friend too."

Bex let out a bark and jumped up, placing her paws on my shoulders as she licked my face.

I groaned, which made Selene and my mum laugh again.

Bex jumped down and wagged her tail but glanced over to Selene. She trots over to Selene, who bends down to stroke her.

I sighed and looked back at my mum, who was staring back at me.

My mother's face hardened slightly. "Our moon goddess is right," she said. "Lex has changed, but I know why you have been hesitating about letting him in, but he needs you as much as you need him."

She cocked her head to the side as she stared at me.

“Also, I need you to talk with Jason,” she said. “He was suffering due to what happened to me. He needs to deal with it.”

I sighed, but she carried on.

“Jason suffered,” as she looked over to the moon goddess, then back at me. “He used the women as a distraction to cope, but it’s slowly unraveling, and he will need his baby sister.”

I nodded, but I looked at her.

“I am accepting Lex as my mate,” I blurt out. “After what happened with Naomi, all I could think about was him.”

My mum smiled, but her face softened and changed slightly as she stepped closer to me. She placed her hand in mine and used her other to caress my cheek.

I couldn’t help but close my eyes.

“I’m so proud of you, sweetheart,” she said as I opened my eyes, but a bright light started forming behind her.

“Mum,” I said in a strangled voice. “I love you.”

Tears ushered down my cheeks.

“I love you too,” she said.

The bright light shone, and my mum slowly vanished.

I looked toward Selene, who smiled at me. “You are ready to wake up now,” she said. “You are the true Luna of this pack. Let them all know who you are.”

The light shone again and was sent tumbling through and back into the darkness.

I slowly could feel myself being pushed forward as I groaned.

Mumbles could be heard around me.

“She’s waking up,” someone said.

Tingles erupted through me as a hand squeezed mine.

“Rox,” the voice calls out to me, which makes me want to open my eyes.

“Come back to me,” the voice pleads.

I slowly move and blink as my eyes open and look straight at another set of eyes. They were tired-looking, but they were beautiful to look at.

I knew who they belonged to, which made my heart beat fast, knowing he was with me.

Lex.

Lex was staring back with concern, but relief, too, was written all over his face.

I cleared my throat and spoke. “Mate,” was all that left my mouth.

Lex stared back as a smile slid across his face.

Chapter 69

## Chapter 69 - Welcome Home Mate

LEX

The hospital was busy, but I was glued to Roxie’s side.

I never left.

I was too afraid to sleep just in case she woke up.

After a few hours, Tim left, and Keith joined me. We didn’t do any talking, but I could feel his anxiety roll through him.

I knew I had to be the pack’s Alpha, but my main concern was Roxie.

My father was updating me on what was happening, and he told me many pack members were concerned about their Luna.

I looked back at Blaze, who had been silent most of the night.

His eyes were open, but something told me he was thinking about Bex and Rox.

I looked back at Roxie, but my eyes scanned over to the wall where the clock was sitting.

Roxie has been sleeping for most of the night.



The sun was coming up.

I looked at Keith, who was sleeping with his head resting on the wall.

I could feel my eyes start to get heavy, but movement on the bed made my eyes open wide.

I looked at Roxie, who was moving.

“She’s waking up,” I said a little too loudly, which startled Keith, who jumped out of his seat.

I move and place my hand in hers, and tingles erupt through me.

Blaze moved in my head, and was happy. “Mate is waking up,” he murmured.

I kept my eyes glued to Roxie, who was trying to open her eyes.

After a few blinks, her eyes met mine.

“Roxie,” I said; everything I held back came ten folds. I didn’t know whether to cry or not.

Roxie cleared her throat, and all that came out was, “Mate.”

My heart shuddered in my chest hard.

Mate.

She called me mate.

I couldn’t help the big grin that formed.

Roxie tried to move but winced slightly as her hand went to her hip. “Ahh,” she moaned out as she leaned back.

I looked over at Keith, but he wasn’t there.

Where the hell did he go?

“You okay?” I asked as I stood up from the chair and moved closer.

Roxie’s scent engulfed me, sending every fiber of my soul alight. I didn’t know what I wanted to do with myself.

Roxie looked at me and gave me a small smile; her hand squeezed mine, letting me know she was okay.

“I’m okay, Lex,” she whispered.

The door burst open with the pack doctor, Keith, Tim, and Jason, coming into the room.

I stepped back, but as I was about to move my hand out of Roxie's, she gripped my hand tight.

I didn't move.

The doctor checked on her and took every wire on her off. The room was silent, but the relief was written on everyone's faces.

"You had a few minor injuries that were already healing," he said with a smile, looking between us. "Luna will have to be careful with her side, there will be scarring left where the Alpha bit her, but I'm not too worried."

I nodded but looked at Roxie, who frowned. "Great, a reminder of the prick," she muttered.

I stared at her, but I squeezed her hand to let her know it didn't matter.

Roxie looked back at me but turned to look at the doctor. "When can I leave?" she asked.

I looked at him, but the doctor grinned. "Well, hopefully, today," he said. "I will need someone to fill out the paperwork, and we can send you on your way, Luna."

That was music to my ears, but there was a slight problem. Where the hell was she going to stay?

"Never going to get used to people saying that," said Roxie, who tried to say it quietly, but due to the werewolf hearing, everyone heard it.

I looked at her but frowned.

Roxie shook her head and cleared her throat. Her eyes scanned the room as she sighed. "Dad, can you fill in the forms?"

Tim nodded without saying anything.

His face was soft as he did what Roxie wanted.

Tim followed the doctor out of the room.

I was about to talk when the door burst open, and Alpha Dean and my father walked in.

"Roxie," said my father, with a smile. "Thank goddess; you're awake."

"Yeah, I agree with that one," said Alpha Dean with a smile as he looked at Roxie. I noticed his eyes wander to our joined hands, and he gave me a knowing look.

Roxie didn't say anything but smiled.

I kept looking back at her.

I don't know what, but something was off with her.

My father turned his attention to me and cleared his throat. "Some guards came back from the hunter's cabin," he said. "There were traces of loads of footprints around, and there was a body, Naomi's."

I stared at him in shock.

Naomi was killed, but by who?

"Some snapped her neck," he said, but he was cut off by Roxie, who had everyone stunned to silence with what came out of her mouth. "I did it," she said. "I killed her."

I turned to look at her, and my eyes widened.

Roxie looked between us and started to tell us everything that had happened.

Blaze came forward as he wanted to see her. He felt proud of her, and I was.

After Roxie explained, she looked at me. "I didn't want to kill her," she said. "Her wolf wanted to die. It seemed like Naomi was hellbent on taking you as her mate and killing me. Whatever promise she made with Alpha Trevor, she wasn't going to keep it."

A low growl erupted from my chest at the mere mention of his name, but a squeeze of my hand from Roxie made me feel better.

Her hand stayed in mine.

It calmed me, knowing that she was close by.

"It's sad to hear that a wolf wanted to die," said Alpha Dean. "I never heard of such a thing."

"That's why it was so hard to kill her," Roxie blurted. "I kept thinking about her wolf in all this."

I sighed.

Tim walked back in, looking slightly flustered. "I forgot how much paperwork there was," he said.

I smirked.

Roxie cleared her throat, which made us all look back at her.

“I know I am leaving here today,” she said, but her eyes scanned over to Tim and Jason. Roxie looked at them for a few moments but looked at me. “Lex,” she said. “Could you give me some time with my family for a moment? I need to talk to them about something.”

I stared at her, thinking she was joking, but her face turned serious. “I want to stay with you when I get out,” she exclaims.

My eyes rounded, but she carried on. “I need to talk to my family about some things,” she said. “You can get yourself ready and shower. Once I’m ready, I will let you know when to come and get me.”

I smiled.

I felt relieved that she wanted to stay with me, but something was clearly up with her; I didn’t know what.

“I will see you later,” I said.

I leaned down and placed a kiss on her head.

I wanted to kiss her, but I thought it might make it awkward with everyone being around.

I pulled back and smiled.

Roxie smiled. “I will see you in a while,” she whispered.

I nodded, letting go of her hand. As soon as my hand left hers, I felt lost.

My father, Alpha Dean, and I went out the door, leaving Roxie with the men of her family.

“She is staying with you,” said Alpha Dean, pulling me from my thoughts as we walked through the hospital.

We were walking out of the hospital and heading toward the pack house. “Yeah,” I said, feeling slightly off. “I thought I heard her wrong.”

“You didn’t,” said my father as I looked at him. “I knew she would come around.”

“I wonder what she has to say to her family,” said Alpha Dean.

I shrugged.

I looked toward the pack house entrance, which made me stop as I spotted Luna Stephanie waiting for Alpha Dean.

I smiled as Alpha Dean took off running.

“I will be in the office,” said my father, who stopped with me. “I will get the funerals for the pack members who lost their lives in the attack.”

I sighed as remembering the attack brought everything back.

“How many did we lose?” I asked.

My father was quiet for a moment but turned to look at me. “Not many, fifteen,” he said.

I closed the pack line down while waiting for news about Roxie. All the pack members were there, trying to find out how she was. I didn’t want to hear from them, but I wasn’t being nasty; the emotions that come through such grief were the worst emotion to feel, especially when it’s not your own.

I cleared my throat.

“Organize all the funerals and do them for the next few days,” I said. “Let all pack members grieve, and training is off for a few weeks.”

My father looked at me with a smile. “Yes, Alpha,” he said, which made me frown.

My father laughed.

“You are taking on the role I have been trying to get you to do for the last few years,” he said. “I didn’t push you, especially since most of it was due to Roxie leaving. But I like this new you; she brings the best out of you.”

I smiled.

“She does, doesn’t she?” I said.

My father nodded.

He looked toward the pack house and sighed. “You better get ready for Roxie,” he said. “She won’t be long till she comes here to be with you.”

My heart was going like a train, running fast on high alert.

Roxie was coming to the pack house to stay with me.

I was excited, but nerves were kicking in.

Blaze came forward, which made me look back at him. “You better shower,” he said, wagging his tail. “You smell bad.”

I grunted. “Thanks,” I muttered under my breath.

I looked back, and my father was staring at me. “What’s wrong?” he asked.

“Blaze told me I smell,” I muttered, which made my father laugh out loud.

“I have to admit, Lex,” he said. “You do. You need to be all clean for Roxie’s return.”

I stared at him, but a smirk was trying not to itch the corners of my mouth.

“Come on,” he said as he started to walk toward the pack house.

I watched as he walked away.

I was happy but also afraid of what would happen when Roxie showed up.

A lot has happened, and she was injured. But more questions were running around my head, but I shook them away. I couldn’t think about them now; I had to clear my head before she came.

I started to walk toward the pack house with one thing on my mind, Roxie.

## Chapter 70

# Chapter 70 - Welcome Home Mate

## ROXIE

Lex leaves the room with Alpha Dean and Alpha Frank following him. I was left looking back at all the men in my family.

Bex and I were trying to figure out what the hell we saw in our dream.

“It was a dream,” she muttered. “It had to be.”

I stared at her. “I guess,” I said. “But it felt so real.”

Bex nodded.

Someone cleared their throat, which brought me back to the room.

Uncle Keith and my Dad were smiling back, but Jason looked like he wanted to be elsewhere. He kept looking at the ground. I looked around and realized that Sofia wasn’t there.

“Where is Sofia?” I asked.

Jason shook his head and looked at me, giving me a small smile. “She is helping around the pack,” he said, but something about his body language made me think something was wrong.

I gave a small smile, even though I didn’t believe him.

“Well, shall we get you ready to go home?” said my Dad.

I nodded.

I planned to go to the house for a few hours to collect my things. I wasn’t going to stay; I needed to be with Lex. I knew I had to talk to them about things, but how could you explain what I saw without freaking anyone out?

The way the tingles were with us, I knew the mate bond would never give up on the fact that I needed to be with him, and in all honesty, I wanted to be with him. I was going to make him work for it more, but I don’t know if I can. My body can portray me. I have seen it before, and it is only a matter of time before it will again.

I wanted to go back so I could talk to each of them.

The dream affected me.

“Mama Wolf looked like she was happy,” whispered Bex through my head, which made my heart ache slightly. The mere mention of her had my mind racing about whether I should tell them the truth; knowing my luck, I would end up being the laughingstock of the family.

I got up and moved to the edge of the bed, placing my legs over the side. My hip was throbbing. The doctor told me that the wound would be gone soon, but it would take a while as it was from an alpha. That part was not good, and the fact he told me that it could leave a scar would be a permanent reminder of what happened, but I’m not going to let that prick get to me.

Uncle Keith went around the side and handed me some clothes.

I smiled.

All the men left, and I quickly got changed; even though the wound was painful, I managed.

Once I was ready, my uncle and father walked back in. “Jason will meet us at the house,” said my father, as I took his arm.

There was definitely something going on with my brother, but I didn’t know what.

We walked out of the room and headed through the hospital.

Pack members kept saying Luna, which was nerve-wracking, to say the least. I wasn’t going to get used to this, not in a hurry.

As we approached the doorway, a faint stench of death remained from the attack. “How many of the pack members died?” I asked when we were out of earshot. “Fifteen,” Keith murmured.

I felt sadness wash over me.

I felt for them and their families too. No one should ever lose their loved ones like this. I should know.

We carried on walking till we reached the house. As we approached, I noticed Jason was already there. He looked like he would rather be anywhere else but at the house.

We all walked in, but I looked at Jason as he shut the door. “What’s up with you?” I asked.

Jason looked at me but didn’t say anything.

I stared at him for a few moments. “Well,” I said. “Are you going to talk to me?”

Jason lets a low growl escape. “Rox,” he snarls. “I don’t have to talk to you. You need to rest.”

I stared at him.

“You need to start opening up,” I said. “If you don’t, it will all blow up in your face.”

Jason stared at me, and his face changed slightly. Anger was written on his face. “You need to butt out of my business,” he yelled. He looked around and growled. “I don’t need to be here; I’m going.”

Jason turned around and opened the front door. He stormed out with the door slamming hard behind him.

“Rox,” uncle Keith said. “You could have waited until we were inside the house and settled.”

I looked over at him. “Seriously,” I said.

Uncle Keith stared at me, but a sigh escaped. “He is going through something,” he said. “He will talk when he is ready.”

I could feel Bex move in my head, but she didn’t say anything. I knew she was listening.

“He will never open up,” I muttered, which made uncle Keith frown. “You don’t know...” he went to say, but I couldn’t help the low growl that came from me. Uncle Keith’s eyes widened.

“Jason will never open,” I said as I walked over to the couch and sat down. My Dad and Uncle Keith stared at me. “Jason needed to open up; he used the girls to cope with everything. Mum’s death took a toll on us.”



“Let it go, Rox,” said my Dad.

I stared at him. “Why?” I asked. “I’m worried about him.”

My Dad stared.

“Tell me,” I said.

My Dad looked at me but turned to Uncle Keith, who nodded. My Dad sighed. “Jason and Sofia have a few issues,” he said. “I don’t know much, but the tension between them has been off lately.”

I stared at him.

“The women,” whispered Bex in my head. “Some of them must have been talking about what they did with him.”

I couldn’t help but growl.

I looked at my Dad. “Jason needs to own up to everything he has done,” I said. “I know what it was like when all those women were here; it was like a sex club for teenagers. I had to endure everything Naomi dished out to me and the others.”

I got up from the couch and stood, staring at them. “Jason knew all the women here would have mates,” I said. “Some may have found them, but can you imagine what it is like to walk around a pack, no less one you don’t know, and have everyone tell you what your mate is like in the sack.”

I don’t know if that was happening. But knowing how she-wolves can act, I wouldn’t put it past them.

Both men stared at me, but the understanding was written on their faces. They knew what I said was right. I learned firsthand what rumors and what people are like in this pack. Things needed to change.

The house was silent.

My Dad cleared his throat. “Shouldn’t you go and pack to stay with Lex?” he asked.

I stared at him; his eyes were on me. Something was there, but I couldn’t work out what.

I nodded.

I looked toward the stairs; I might as well go up and pack.

Talking to these two will be hard.

I walked over to the stairs, but when Uncle Keith asked his question, I stopped in my tracks. “Why are you staying with him?”

I sighed.

I turned around and looked at him. “Why shouldn’t I?” I asked.

“It was only a few days ago that you rejected him,” he said.

Bex was up in my head and moving closer.

“After everything I have been through over the last few days,” I said. “I learned there is more to life than holding onto the past.”

I moved closer to them. “You taught me that,” I said to him. Uncle Keith gave me a small smile, but I looked at him and then at my father, whose face was holding so much. “I didn’t know the extend of what was going on with Naomi; no one did.”

I stopped just in front of them and placed my hands in theirs.

“Dad, Keith, I accepted Lex as my mate because it’s my fate,” I said. “I needed space and might need some more. But I am ready to be with him.”

My father squeezed my hand, which made me look at him. I moved to him and wrapped my arms around him, pulling him into a hug. I pulled back and did the same to Uncle Keith.

I could feel dampness on my cheeks; tears were flowing. They weren’t sad tears; they were happy ones.

“I need to move on from all this,” I said. “I am supposed to be by Lex’s side.”

I stared at them both and smiled. “You know,” I said, trying to lighten the mood, but part of me wanted them to know that this was what my mother wanted.

“It’s okay to move on,” I said and looked at my Dad. “Mum wouldn’t want you being stuck in the house and feeling sorry for yourself.”

My Dad looked at me and gave me a small smile. “I don’t think I can do that,” he said. “I loved her so much. How could I move on?”

A lone tear leaves his eye as he looks at me.

I move from Uncle Keith’s hand and place my hand on my father’s cheek, catching another tear that escapes. He leans into my hand as I leave it there. “You don’t have to forget her,” I said. “It is alright to smile, laugh, and even have fun moments. She would probably want to hear about them when you meet her with the moon goddess.”

My father's tears were coming, but I kept moving them away.

"How did you get to be so grown up?" asked Uncle Keith. I looked over at him as he wiped his tears with the back of his hand.

I gave them a small smile. "I had two amazing teachers," I said, looking between them.

I couldn't help but hug them both again.

I pulled back after a few moments and looked at them. I let my arms drop to my sides and look at them. "I had best go and pack," I said.

"We will help," said my Dad.

I smiled. "I'm only going to take a few items with me for the time being," I said. "I don't want to move all my stuff in just yet."

"You are going to make him work for it a bit more," said my Dad with an amused look.

I couldn't help but laugh.

"Too right," I said, which made them both laugh. "Knowing him, he might say something to me that will get on my nerves."

My father smiled.

I turned around and walked toward the stairs with Uncle Keith and my father following me.

As we got to my room, I quickly grabbed a small bag from the floor and started to put a few items in the bag.

My father and Uncle Keith sat on the bed and talked.

It was nice.

Bex moved toward the front, which made me look back at her. "You okay?" I asked.

Bex nodded, but there was a slight change in her mood. She seemed happy. "I can't wait to see mate," she said.

I laughed. "I know," I said.

Bex looked at me but cocked her head to the side. "You seem nervous," she said. "Should I be worried?"

I stare at her.

She was right; I was nervous. I was going to be staying with Lex, my mate.

My insides were doing summersaults, and I felt sick.

“Rox,” she called out, which made me look back at her. “Mate won’t hurt us,” she said. “He is sorry.”

I sigh.

“I know that,” I said. “I don’t know. I guess I’m overthinking everything.”

Bex nodded. “I got you,” she said. “You don’t have to mate or mark mate yet. We will wait till you are ready.”

My eyes widened. “Mate and mark?” I muttered. “That can wait for a little while.”

Bex nodded, but I could see the disappointment in her eyes. I guess she wanted to mate and mark with Lex so she could talk to Blaze.

“Bex,” I whispered. “I will, but I need some time.”

Bex nodded, but I knew she wanted me to say more.

“I will,” I said. “I promise.”

Bex didn’t say anything but moved back slightly. She laid down in my head, with her head resting on her front paws.

I looked back at my father and Uncle Keith, who were staring at me. “All okay, sweetheart?” asked my father.

I cleared my throat. “Yeah,” I said, looking around and realizing I got everything I needed.

I glanced at my father and took his hand into mine. “I will leave now,” I said. “Can we have food tomorrow?”

My father nodded. “All three of us will,” he said, looking over to Uncle Keith.

I looked at them both.

“Well, I had best make a move,” I said.

I picked up my bag and placed it over my shoulder.

All three of us move out of my room and head back downstairs. I hugged and kissed them both before I opened the front door and walked out.

I knew they were watching me as I walked away.

I was going to be staying with Lex.

I was completely nervous, but I could feel the excitement too.

I knew I needed to do this and be there with him, not just as his mate, but as his Luna.

All pack members needed to see me and know that I accepted him.

It might take a little time to get there, but I know we will. Let's hope he doesn't open his mouth and drop himself into a hole. I could hear Bex chuckle. "We know human mate will," she said, which made me smile as we walked closer to the pack house.