

## Chapter 71 - Welcome Home Mate

LEX

Time was getting away from me as I tried to control my excitement about Roxie coming over.

It was getting darker as I showered quickly, as I had no clue when Roxie would arrive.

Blaze was happy, knowing that Roxie was coming. “Do you think we can mate with her?” he blurts out, making me stop in my tracks.

I wanted to mate her as much as he does, but something told me we had to take it slow with her.

“I don’t know,” I muttered. “I think we’ll see what happens when she gets here.”

Blaze was silent, which made me look back at him. His eyes bore into me. “We need to mate with her,” he said, which caused me to frown. “I know, but I am not forcing her to do it. You will have to wait or be in the doghouse with me if we don’t behave.”

Blaze grunts.

I looked back to my room and took it in. I needed to clean up; I seemed to have thrown most of my clothes on the bed. I quickly placed all my clothes in the washing basket and tidied up as much as possible.

The room was tidy as I could get it.

I quickly changed into a pair of sweatpants, but a knock at the door came before I could place on the t-shirt.

It sounded quiet, and I knew who it was as her scent wafted in. It made my insides ignite.

Blaze stood up to attention in my head as I walked to the door and opened it.

There she was, Roxie.

Her eyes bore into mine, but I watched as her eyes traveled down.

She was checking me out.

Roxie bites her bottom lip as her eyes travel back up, and I try my hardest not to smirk.

“You done checking me out,” I said as the smirk itched the corners of my mouth.

Roxie looked back at me as a flush of red spread across her face.

“Mate is embarrassed,” whispered Blaze in an amused tone.

“Can I come in?” she asked, trying to clear her throat.

As I stepped aside, I didn’t say anything, pulling the door wider.

Roxie stepped inside and walked a few steps but stopped. She took in my room, well ours now. “Your room is massive,” she blurts out.

I smiled as I walked up behind her, threw my t-shirt on the ground, and stood as close as I could to her.

My cock hardens, but I know I can’t be an arse.

“Can I take your bag?” I asked, which made her turn around and stare at me with wide eyes.

“Yea...” she starts to say but closes her eyes. There was a faint scent in the air, and I knew it was her arousal.

Fuck.

I can’t do this, I thought.

I took a step back. I needed to calm down.

I licked my lips as they started to get dry all of a sudden.

Roxie stared at me with wide eyes but slowly removed her bag from her shoulder and handed it to me.

I smiled.

I walked backward and placed her bag in the closet while my eyes stayed on hers.

Roxie cleared her throat and turned around; she walked to the chair and sat down.

I kept my eyes on her as her eyes met mine.

This shouldn’t feel so awkward between us, but why was it? I thought.

“You are probably wondering why I decided to stay with you,” she said, pulling me from my thoughts. I could feel Blaze moving closer, but not close enough for her to see him.

Roxie looked at me and smiled. “I thought I should,” she said. “I don’t want pack members to second guess about me being your Luna.”

I nodded as I gave her a small smile.

I take it she didn’t do it for us then.

“Also, I wanted to,” she whispered, which made me look at her with round eyes. Roxie smiled. “I wanted to be here, Lex,” she said. “The mate bond is working, and even if I didn’t, Bex would have found a way to get to Blaze. I don’t want to fight or argue, but I will state this, I will punch you if you get on my nerves.”

I stared at her with slight amusement, itching the corners of my mouth.

I know I don’t think before I speak, I have to work on that, or I will look like I have been in one too many fights.

“You will look like a pussy,” Blaze said with a hint of amusement, causing me to frown.

“That doesn’t mean you have to be an arse about it,” I muttered.

I looked at Roxie, who was staring at me with a smirk. “I guess Blaze said something you didn’t like,” she said.

I had to change the topic, or I would be classed as an arse if I made a move on her.

I cleared my throat. “So, do you know what happened while you were away?” I asked.

Roxie gave a slight laugh. “Trying to change the subject, are we?” she asked, leaning back into the chair.

I smiled.

Roxie smiled but let out a low sigh. “I want to know what happened,” she said.

I moved around the bed until I got in front of her and sat down.

I looked at her and told her everything that had happened. I mean, she was tortured for two days, and she had no clue what was going on, which I am guessing Naomi never told her what was happening within the pack.

“Well, it turns out that Alpha Trevor placed some of his mistresses in a few packs to find out information about us,” I said as I came to the end of the conversation. Her eyes widened. “Mistresses? Really?” she asked.

I nodded.

“Yeah, we found out Amber was one of them, and even the girl Ana from Alpha Gareth’s pack, the girl that knew you,” I said.

Her eyes stayed on me, but her mouth went into a hard line. She didn’t say anything but nodded for me to carry on. “You know about the attack, but we figured that Alpha Trevor used mostly rogues; only a handful of his pack members were here.”

Roxie nodded.

“I wonder if he made them suffer,” she said as she looked at me. “I mean, a pack follows its alpha, but why wouldn’t his?” That’s a good question, but then the memory of my father telling me all about his father. “Maybe, he was following his father’s footsteps,” I said. I told her all about his father and what happened to him.

Roxie listened and sighed. “So, this was all to do with an old man who wanted everything and his son trying to do what his father believed. I must admit, that's just low, even for an alpha.”

I couldn’t help but agree with her.

“Alpha Trevor told me he wanted you, and he wanted everything Alpha Dean and I had,” I said, which made her stare at me.

“I think Naomi and Alpha Trevor wanted what they both couldn’t have,” she said with a small smile.

Roxie kept her eyes on me and searched my face but sighed as she talked. “So that makes you the alpha of his pack now,” she said.

I nodded. It was far from my mind, being an alpha to another pack.

“I guess,” I said.

“We should go there,” she blurts out. “I mean, together, as Alpha and Luna.”

“Alpha Dean has sent men there to check the pack out,” I said. “We will have confirmation tomorrow on what is happening there. But for us to go together to the pack, I must think about it.”

Roxie stared at me, confused. “Why?” she asked.

“Alpha Trevor’s wolf bit you,” I said. “The doctor told you, you needed to rest for a few days.”

Roxie stares at me but moves closer, placing her hands on my face, which causes me to tense slightly but relax when she brushes her fingers on my cheeks.

Blaze comes closer and stares at her, and lets out a purr.

“Big softy,” I murmured to him, which he never did. “She’s our mate,” he whispered. “I am a big softy to her.”

I groaned inwardly.

I looked at her; her eyes searched mine. “Lex,” she whispered. “I’m coming with you,” she said. “We need to do this together like Alpha and Luna. I want to be there with you.”

Roxie moves back and removes her hand from my face, which makes me feel lost without her touch. “We don’t know what Alpha Trevor did to them,” she said. “I won’t fight. I want to see if I can help another way; I won’t fight.”

I stared at her.

I can manage that, her not fighting.

Blaze grunts, but I ignore him.

I needed her to rest; she needed to be a hundred percent before she did any fighting. “Okay,” I said. “I can agree to that as long as you don’t fight. You need to keep that wound to heal.”

Roxie nodded with a smile.

I stared at her as the room filled with silence.

I wanted to talk more, but what could I bring up? There was so much I wanted to know about her and say, but starting a conversation with her was easy before; this is weird as she is my mate.

“So,” said Roxie. “What is the plan for sleeping arrangements?”

I stared at her.

I wanted her to sleep with me, but I needed her to make the first move.

“You will take the bed,” I said. “If you want?”

I could feel Blaze letting out a low growl escape. “I want to sleep with mate,” he murmurs.

I ignored him.

Roxie cleared her throat. "I'm going to use the bathroom," she said. I watched her as she moved out of the chair, walked over to her bag to get something out, and then went to the bathroom. She walked in and closed the door.

I sigh.

This was going to be a long night.

I moved off the bed and walked to the closet to grab a pillow and blanket.

I was going to sleep on the couch.

I placed everything ready and sat on the couch as Roxie walked out of the bathroom.

I watched her move over to the bed. She had changed into a pair of tiny shorts and a tank top. I could feel my cock harden as I watched her climb in.

Damn it.

Roxie turned to look at me, her eyes searching my face. "I guess we should go to sleep," she said. I nodded without saying anything as she moved further down into my bed and settled to sleep.

I got myself ready and settled down, resting my head on the pillow.

"Mate," whispered Blaze, which made me look back at him. He was clearly dreaming, as his eyes were shut.

I sigh, but as I am praying for a good night's sleep, Roxie's scent wafts over to me, sending me into a stoned state. Her scent wraps me like a blanket and makes my eyes start to get heavy, which sends me into a deep blissful sleep.

I wasn't going to fight it.

Chapter 72

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ROXIE

I stir and move. I have to admit Lex's bed was soft. I thought I couldn't sleep, but Lex's scent on the pillow helped.

I was surprised when I asked about the sleeping arrangements that she should take the bed. I thought he would have at least fought me on it.

Bex was on high alert but was stunned to see Lex trying to keep to his word of going slow with me, and so was I. I am happy he did, but I did feel a slight disappointment wash over me.

“That was the mate bond,” murmured Bex in my head. I could feel her move around.

I slowly moved and sat up in bed. I looked around till my eyes landed on the couch. My mouth became dry just by looking at him.

Lex was still asleep on the couch, snoring. I stared at him, tracing his muscular form with my eyes. His sweatpants were hanging low.

I could feel my core tighten at the sight.

“Yum,” said Bex, which made me look back at her. “Mate looks hot.”

I stared at her as a smirk itched the corner of her mouth. “You know he does,” she said. “You want to ride him as much as I want to dry hump him.”

I felt a blush spread through my cheeks as someone cleared their throat.

I looked back at Lex, staring at me with a smirk pulling the corner of his face. “You okay over there?” he asked as he moved and sat on the couch.

I stared at him and nodded. That was all I could do; my mouth would have said something stupid.

I could hear Bex laugh in my head as I watched Lex move from the couch. I watched as he stood up and walked over to me.

I couldn't move.

Lex steps closer to the side of the bed and leans, his face inches away from mine. “Morning,”

He murmurs as he looks at my lips.

I cleared my throat. “Morning,” I rasped.

Lex looked at my lips and then at my eyes.

I wanted him to kiss me.

Lex moves closer but stops. I stare back at him as his face goes blank.

Fuck, someone was mind-linking him.

Bex looks through my head and pants slightly.

Lex's scent floods over us, calming us in an instant but also making everything as my insides tremble with desire for him.

I stare at Lex as he shakes his head. He looks back at me and sighs. "We have to get to the office," he said, pissed off. "Alpha Dean has some news regarding Alpha Trevor's pack."

Lex moves back and walks toward the bathroom.

I felt cold and lost without him near me.

I watched as he closed the door.

I wanted so much to walk in there and kiss him.

"Do it," murmured Bex as I looked back at us. "Mate wanted to kiss us."

"I guess," I said. "But whatever was said in the mind link made him angry enough not to."

Bex whined in my head. "It's okay," I said. "We're supposed to be taking it slow, remember."

Bex stared at me and sighed. "I guess," she said, and walked back into my head.

I knew his action hurt her, but part of me was still trying to figure it out with him. I wanted to kiss him, and I could give him one before we left for the office.

I could feel movement in my head, but I decided to prepare for whatever was going to happen next.

I moved out of bed and walked over to my bag.

I picked up a t-shirt and yoga pants.

I got dressed quickly, and as I placed my T-shirt down over my stomach, Lex opened the bathroom door and looked at me. He was wearing new sweatpants and a vest.

His eyes met mine as I looked over at him. I couldn't help but smile.

"You okay?" I asked.

Lex looked at me and smiled. "Never better," he said, stepping out of the bathroom doorway.

I walked over to him, which made him stop in his tracks. His eyes roamed over me.



I stopped before him, only leaving an inch between us, and looked at him.

His eyes were searching my face. He was trying to figure out what I was doing.

I moved closer, closing the gap between us.

I placed my hand on his chest and went on my tippy toes; I leaned into his cheek and kissed him.

I moved back and looked back at him; his eyes widened.

“What was that for?” he asked.

I cleared my throat. “I wanted to give you a morning kiss,” I said.

I smiled and went to walk away, but Lex grabbed hold of my arm and turned me back toward him, making me fall into his hard chest. His hand went to the nape of my neck and moved my head toward his. His mouth went straight to mine, and he kissed me.

I felt tingles ripple through me, which caused a surge of electricity to run through every fiber of my body. Lex licked my bottom lip to gain access, which I gave him, and his tongue slid in. His tongue glides over mine as he deepens the kiss.

I pull back slightly, panting for breath. I knew if I carried on, we both would be in that bed, naked and fucking.

Bex was panting in my head. “That was hot,” she murmured. I had to ignore her.

I licked my lips, savoring every taste of his mouth.

Lex stared at me with a grin appearing on his face. “That kiss was a good morning kiss,” he said, kissing the top of my head.

I smiled.

Lex placed his hand in mine and looked at me. “I know you want to go slow,” he said. “I will try as much as possible, but I am having difficulty controlling Blaze when you are around. I will be honest; he wants to mark and mate with you.” I could feel heat brush through my cheeks as he carried on talking. “I can keep him at bay for now,” he said. “But please, try to calm down too. Your arousal affects me more than anything.”

Oh fuck.

“I will try,” I whispered.

Lex smiled. “Come on,” he said. “Let’s go to the office.”

I nodded.

Lex and I walked out of his room, hand in hand, to the office. A few pack members saw us and bowed to us, saying Alpha and Luna, but I did notice a few unmated she-wolves glaring at me.

I knew this would still happen, but I had to ensure I didn't show it bothered me.

Lex was trying to prove that he was willing to do anything to make it up to me; I had to prove to myself when it came to she-wolves. They were jealous, and that's all I had to remember. They won't go for him; I will kill them if they try anything.

Bex growled. "Mate won't do anything," she said. "Besides, we will kick his ass."

I nodded.

As we approached the office, I could smell the food as soon as Lex opened the door.

There on the table were two plates of food and some coffee. I looked around and saw Alpha Dean and Alpha Frank standing by the window.

"There you both are," said Alpha Frank as he looked over to us as we walked in. "I asked an omega to bring you some food; you can eat while we tell you both what is going on."

I nodded and walked over to the couch.

Lex moved with me, and we both sat next to one another.

I let go of his hand as I picked up my knife and fork.

I could feel eyes on me, but I didn't care. I was starving.

"So what is so important?" asked Lex as he took a huge mouthful of food.

I ate quietly and listened in on what was being said.

"Well, I sent two men into Alpha Trevor's pack," said Alpha Dean. I looked up and noticed Alpha Dean looking at Alpha Frank, who nodded. Alpha Dean looked back at Lex and me. "I received news early in the morning from my Beta that they hadn't returned to the pack with any news. My Beta went to the pack to find out, only to find the men's dead bodies."

"You mean they were killed," said Lex.

Alpha Dean nodded.

"Yeah, they were," he said. "I don't know what to make of all of it."

I looked at him. “Do you know who did such a thing? I mean, did rogues do it?” I asked.

Everyone looked at me, confused. I cleared my throat. “I mean, Alpha Trevor used rogues for the attack; he could still have kept some in his pack, keeping an eye on the pack members.”

All three men looked at me, but Lex smiled. “I think we need to go and check it out today,” he said.

“I will have some of my men meet us there,” said Alpha Dean. “Your pack needs to rest after that attack.”

Lex nodded.

“I’m coming too,” I said as I sipped my coffee.

Somehow, food has been long gone from my mind. I wanted to know what was happening in that pack. Remembering what Lex said, only a handful of Alpha Trevor pack was there during the attack, which makes me wonder where the others were.

I looked around, and my eyes landed on Alpha Frank, who was shaking his head. “No, Rox,” he said. “I can’t let you go; you must stay here and look after the pack.”

I frowned.

“I’m going,” I said. “You can look after the pack, and I will go with Alpha Dean and Lex to the pack.”

All three men were staring at me, but I noticed Lex smile.

I sighed.

“Alpha Frank,” I said as I leaned forward for him to see me.

Bex was close by; she knew why I wanted to do this.

We were going; we wanted to see if our dream with Mum and the moon goddess was right.

“I think both of us should go. I mean, show what we are like as Alpha and Luna,” I said. “We don’t know what we are walking into, and we don’t know what Alpha Trevor was like with his pack. I mean, why use rogues if he had a pack in the first place?”

I looked at him, and I could tell he was pondering over what I had said.

Alpha Frank sighed and nodded. “Fine,” he said. “I would mind link some of our men to go with you too. You don’t know what you are walking into.”

I nodded but didn't say anything.

"Eat," said Alpha Dean. "Little Luna needs to eat and get her strength back if you want to come with us."

I looked at the food and began to eat.

After a few minutes, my food and coffee were gone.

I leaned back in the chair but felt a hand on my shoulder. I looked over to see Lex smiling back.

"SUVs are going to be outside," said Alpha Frank, with a smile plastered on his face staring at us.

"Keith and eight of our men are going with you," he said. "Your Dad is going to help me with the pack."

He looked at me. "I'm going to keep him busy, as I haven't mentioned you are going to be going with them," he said, looking directly at me. "He wouldn't be too happy when he finds out."

I was thankful to Alpha Frank.

Alpha Frank looks at me and cocks his head to the side. "How's your hip?" he asked.

I must admit that every time Lex is near, I don't feel the pain. It's when his touch goes; it throbs.

"It's okay," I said, slightly lying.

I could feel Lex tense slightly, which made me look at him. He stared at me, but nothing was said.

"We will need to leave," said Alpha Dean, who had been on his phone for a while.

I looked at him and nodded.

He smiled.

We all got up and left the office, heading toward the front door. Alpha Dean walks out, and we follow him. I could feel Lex's hand on the lower part of my back, guiding me.

Bex was up on all paws in my head, which made me look back at her. "Mate knows you lied about the injury," she muttered.

I sigh.

“I guess he did,” I said. “I know we need to rest, but something deep inside me is telling me to go to the pack. We need to know what happened to his pack.”

Bex nodded.

“I’m on your side,” she said. “I hope mate doesn’t sideline us and tell us to stay.”

He better not, or he will be getting a pissed-off Roxie on his case, I thought.

We walked outside and headed to where eight SUVs were waiting for us.

Lex and I climbed into one while Alpha Dean took another.

The SUV started and drove away.

I stared out of the window.

I could feel Lex move and place his hand into mine.

“You okay?” he asked.

I looked at him and nodded. “I’m fine,” I said. “I wonder what we will find when we get there.”

Lex looks at me and stays quiet for a few moments before he talks. “I wonder, too,” he said. “I have a bad feeling about it, though.”

I stared at him, but he didn’t say anything else.

Well, that’s not making this any easier for my nerves, I thought.

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LEX

The drive to Alpha Trevor’s pack was short and on the other side of the territory.

I couldn’t help but turn to look at Roxie, who had been quiet since we got in the car.

I could feel Blaze stir in my head and come closer to see her.

“Mate, thinking,” he whispered.

I have to admit; we were all doing it. Thinking about what the hell we were walking into when we got to Alpha Trevor’s pack.

My thoughts were questions about what could be happening, such as what the hell did Alpha Trevor do to his pack? Why use rogues and not his pack members?

“Maybe pack members won’t follow the crazy Alpha,” mutters Blaze.

I looked back at him; he had a point. Unquestionably, Alpha Trevor’s pack didn’t believe in what he and his father believed in; something didn’t sit right with me. How can anyone believe that trying to steal or even take what other people have is a good thing? If someone had a problem, surely they would challenge the alpha’s authority.

I heard Blaze huff out as I looked back at him.

Blaze sits on his hind legs and stares at me. “That Alpha had a feral wolf,” he murmured. “If anyone went against or even challenged him, they probably were tortured to death or killed. He nearly tore mate apart.”

I sigh, remembering how tough he was. We only managed to kill him as he had his back on us, stoking our mate. We used it to our advantage.

Blaze nodded.

I felt something stirring beside me, which brought me back to the car, and I looked toward Roxie.

Her eyes were on me, and she gave me a small smile as she noticed I was looking at her.

My heart fluttered at the sight of her, but my thoughts returned to the kiss we shared this morning. I couldn’t help but kiss her; I wanted to do more.

I could feel Blaze move closer to look at Roxie.

“You okay?” she asked.

I smiled and nodded. “I’m fine,” I said and moved my hand to hers, taking it into mine. She squeezed my hand slightly, making me look at her.

Roxie smiled, but she looked over the seat to the front. “Stop,” she said.

I looked in front and noticed a few cars parked to the side.

The driver pulled over and stopped.

I let go of Roxie's hand and climbed out of the car, noticing Alpha Dean walking over to the men.

I walked over to them.

"Alpha Lex," said Alpha Dean. "These are my men, and this is my Beta, Beta Kai."

I nodded.

"Alphas," said Beta Kai, looking between us. "We can't get in through the gate. They haven't answered the woman we sent to see if they would allow her to go in. She pretended to have a flat tire, but no one came. She's human and a mate to one of the men."

"What happened after she left?" asked Roxie, who made me look over at her. She was looking at the Beta.

Beta Kai looked at her but didn't say anything.

"Are you going to answer me?" she asked, slightly pissed off.

I could feel Blaze smirk as he came closer.

"This is my mate," I said. "Luna Roxie."

Beta Kai looked at me and smiled. "Oh, I didn't know," he said. "It's nice to meet you, Luna. As for your question, we sent two men around an entrance that we located, but they haven't returned. We did walk in, but as we got slightly closer, the stench of rogues started to fill the air. We had to turn back, and I notified our Alpha."

Roxie nodded.

Beta Kai looked at us. "What do we do now?" he asked.

I looked over to Alpha Dean, who nodded to me. "Well, since I am to be their alpha," I said. "We must get in there and figure out what the hell is going on." Beta Kai nodded as I carried on. "I think we should all go in and head in three directions, in three groups. We should go from all sides and head toward the pack house. Alpha Dean, Beta Kai, and I will take the men with us and head inside."

All members of Alpha Dean's pack nodded.

"What about me?" asked Roxie.

I looked over at her and sighed. "You are staying here with the cars," I said.

Roxie frowned. “Lex,” she said with a warning, but I wasn’t going to risk it. She was injured badly during the attack, and she needed to rest.

“No, Rox,” I said, stepping closer to her. “You were injured in the attack; you need to stay. I don’t want anything to happen to you.”

“Nothing will,” she said. “I can look after myself.”

I frowned.

“I know you can,” I said, keeping my eyes focused on her. “But that wound you have on your side...” I started to say, but she cut me off before I finished the sentence. “It has healed. Bex has been healing me. I need to be in there with you.”

I could feel anger fill me slightly.

Why can’t she do as she is told? I thought.

“Mate wants to help,” said Blaze in my head.

“NO,” I yelled. “YOU ARE STAYING HERE, AND THAT IS THAT.”

Roxie looked at me, her eyes rounded. “Alexander,” she grits out. “I am your mate; I will come with you as they are to be my members too.”

I walked up to her, closing the gap between us. I stared down at her. “NO,” I said.

“I will kick your ass, Alexander,” she said. “Let me go with you.”

I hate her using my full name, but clearly, I pissed her off.

I looked over to the driver. “YOU,” I shouted to him. “You will stay with the Luna; if she comes inside the pack, I will throw you in the cells. You are to protect her with your life.”

The driver looked at me with wide eyes but nodded.

I looked down at her, but I was met by a pissed mate.

“Mate wants your nuts,” said Blaze with an amused tone. “And not in a good way.”

I don’t care what she wants to do—all I want is for my mate to be safe.

“I will see you in a bit,” I said; I leaned down, but Roxie moved her head away.

I looked at her and sighed.



I turned around and saw Alpha Dean and his pack members staring at us.

Alpha Dean looked amused.

I frowned and ignored him.

Alpha Dean turned his attention to his pack members. “All get into the groups I told you,” he yelled and looked at me. “I’m taking the west, and Beta Kai will take the east. You will go right through the middle.”

I nodded.

All the men dispersed, and I followed but couldn’t help but look over to Roxie, who was glaring at me while leaning on one of the cars.

I knew she would be pissed. I was doing this for her safety; I needed her to be safe.

“Mate will be fine,” said Blaze. “Let’s find out what is happening to the pack.”

I didn’t say anything but turned around and headed further into the forest.

Chapter 74

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LEX

I follow all of Alpha Dean’s men into the forest to find the entrance that Beta Kai was on about earlier.

Everyone dispersed in the direction that Alpha Dean suggested.

I was left with six men.

We walked through the middle, but we moved further as the stench of rogues started to come forward.

As we approached closer, it got worse.

It smelt like there were over a hundred, but the smell was hard to make a reasonable assumption.

We scanned around the forest, but there was no one in sight.

We came upon a house.

It looked run down and even boarded up. It looked old.

I looked over to one of the men. "Go inside and see," I whispered.

He nodded.

The rest of the men and I stayed close as he walked inside. There was no one in there, but I needed to know if there was a family or someone who had lived there before, something to indicate what happened here.

After a few moments, the man came out and held something in his hand. He approached me and handed me what was in his hand. I looked down, and there was a family photograph in my hand.

The frame and glass had blood all over it, all dried blood.

I looked at the man. "There's no one in there," he whispered. "Not for a long time. There is a stench of rogues and loads of blood splattered all over the house. Whoever lived there, I wouldn't be surprised if they never made it."

I could feel my anger build up.

What the hell happened here?

"We need to keep moving," I said, looking at all the men.

I placed the photo on the ground and walked further into the forest.

The middle of the forest was quiet, but we passed a few houses that looked like the first. Each one was the same, blood smeared all over the walls, but the last one had a dead body of an older man. No one buried him. The stench of his decaying body was hard for the men to handle, and one even threw up.

My stomach was twisting, and my anger was getting harder to control. Blaze wanted out and to get to the pack house to kill everyone who was involved in this whole mess.

As we moved further, we could hear something ahead.

I looked at the men and placed my finger over my lips to tell them to be quiet.

They nodded.

We sneaked closer, hiding behind some trees, and looked around them, but my eyes widened.

Rogues were all around the pack grounds, close to the pack house. Bonfires were built in places where some were drinking or even sleeping.

A scream erupts throughout the grounds, making me look toward the pack house. A man stood with a woman; he had his hand in her hair and dragged her into the pack house. The woman struggled against his strength.

I listened in, but I couldn't hear anything. The noise around the pack house was too loud to hear anything.

We looked around and noticed we could move closer. A few bushes would be perfect for sneaking up on them.

I looked at the men and pointed to the bushes.

They looked at where I was pointing and nodded.

Blaze was up and close to the surface, but he knew he couldn't show himself. It would give away who we were and what happened to their alpha.

As we got to the bushes, I pointed to my ears for the men to listen in to what was happening.

I listened in, but I wished I hadn't.

The noises coming from the pack house were of women screaming, and some were being hit, moaning from men, grunting.

I could feel my rage build up inside me.

They were torturing the women, and it sounded like they were raping them.

"We need to go in," growled Blaze.

I couldn't agree more, but someone stepped out through the pack house door and looked around. The person got my attention.

I knew who it was.

It was Alpha Trevor's Gamma, but I couldn't remember his name.

The Gamma looked around and smiled.

He looked over his shoulder as the door to the pack house opened, and another man walked out, holding onto a young girl who looked no more than sixteen.

Her face was bruised, but fear was written all over her face.

The gamma was about to speak when he looked around.

The men and I ducked further down into the bushes, but something was wrong.

“QUIET,” shouted the gamma suddenly.

All the wolves around quieted down, and there was silence.

“I know you are out there,” he yelled. “Show yourself.”

I looked over to the men, who shook their heads.

I was about to look back when a branch behind us snapped. I looked over and noticed nine men staring back, growling.

Well, there goes any ambush, I thought.

“Let me out,” snarled Blaze in my head.

“No,” I hissed back as I stood up. “We need to see where this goes. But I will let you take over as soon as we know.”

Blaze growled.

The men and I moved, walking toward the pack grounds.

All eyes were on us as we walked out. Growls erupted around us as we walked along. I looked at the Gamma, who was stunned to see me. “Alpha Lex,” he said. “You should be dead at the hands of our Alpha.”

I growled.

“Funny that,” I yelled. “I killed him.”

The Gamma’s eyes widened. “You lie,” he said. “Bring him to us.”

What the hell?

Surely, he didn’t believe I would have kept his alpha alive after everything he had done.

“I killed him,” I said, looking around. I made sure I said it loud enough for everyone to hear.

Blaze was close by, staring. He took in everything and growled when he spotted a big building by the side. It looked like a barn of some kind.

I sniffed the air.

I could smell pack members, and they were close.

“They have to be in there,” Blaze whispered as a low growl escaped his lips.

He wanted every single man here, the gamma and rogues. We heard enough.

I looked at the Gamma, who cocked his head to the side, staring at me. A slow grin itched his mouth as he opened his mouth. “I won’t follow you,” he yelled. “I’m in charge now and will follow on after our alpha’s death. I’m the new alpha.”

I growled.

“I don’t think so,” I yelled. “I killed your alpha; I’m in charge now.”

I looked around; rogues were snarling at us.

I noticed movement coming from each side, and out came Alpha Dean with his group of men, and the other side Beta Kai with his, but as I thought we could take them, I noticed the rogues were behind them.

Fuck, we were all caught, and there weren’t many of us.

“I believe alpha,” called out the Gamma. “You are surrounded, and everyone here hates you, Alpha Dean, too much to let me not lead.”

The Gamma moved toward the entrance of the steps of the pack house, but before he could carry on. There was a commotion behind him.

The young girl kicked the guy holding her in the nuts and ran toward the railing. She climbed over it and ran toward the forest entrance.

I watched her, but the Gamma yelled. “YOU THREE,” he shouted, pointing to the three men closer to where she ran off. “GO AND KILL HER NOW.”

I watched as the three rogues shifted into their wolf forms and ran toward the girl.

I looked back at the Gamma, who smiled. “She is good as dead,” he said. “Alpha’s, you are both outnumbered, so how about you surrender to me, and I will make sure Alpha Trevor didn’t die in vain.”

I growled.

“Don’t think so,” I snarled.

The Gamma's smile widened. "Alpha Lex," he said. "I don't think there is enough of you to take on all hundred rogues, that is not including the ones that are on their way back from the attack that happened to you."

I stared at him.

He thinks the rogues will come back here; I don't think so.

Many were killed during the attack, but most ran away. Surely, they won't be dumb enough to come back here.

I didn't find out what happened to most of them; I was too busy concentrating on Roxie.

The thought of Roxie made me want to run to her, but I needed to ensure we sorted out what was in front of us. I just hoped she had listened to me and was staying near the cars.

Blaze growled.

I looked back and stared at the Gamma, but before I could speak.

"Rogues," he shouted. "Kill them."

I looked around. Rogues were moving toward us, men and women circling us.

We were separated, but they moved us to the center of the pack ground.

I growled.

I looked up at the Gamma, who was smirking.

"Let me out," roared Blaze as he came closer to the surface.

I could feel him push me back slightly but join me up front.

We had to fight.

Again, but this time Roxie was safe.

Blaze lets out a roar, and we charged at the rogues, taking out whoever was ready to get killed.

Chapter 75

## Chapter 75 - Welcome Home Mate

ROXIE

What a jackass.

Bex growled in my head in agreement.

I was pissed at Alexander.

I can't believe that he made me stay behind.

I was fit enough to fight.

I wanted to be there for the pack members.

"Are you okay, Luna?" called the driver.

I glanced over at him, and his eyes were on me.

I sighed.

"Fine," I murmured.

I skim the stones with my foot as I look down at the ground.

"Mate wanted to make sure we were rested," said Bex, which made me look back at her.

"You can't be serious," I said. "You agree with what he did. I mean, we both feel better. We are supposed to be Alpha and Luna; we should be there together."

Bex cocked her head to the side but let out a low whine. "I do think it was a good move," she muttered. "But he didn't have to be a jackass about it."

I frowned.

I leaned back on the car as I looked toward the forest, where everyone had left.

Something was off, and I wanted to go in there.

"Luna," called the driver. "Why don't you sit in the car?"

I growled but didn't look at him.

I wasn't going to sit in the car like a princess.

I ignore him.

I stared toward the forest while skimming my foot over the gravel underneath my feet.

I moved off the car that I was leaning on and walked slightly.

“Luna,” called the driver, but I stopped at the end of the forest.

“Please, Luna,” called the driver. I could hear his footsteps walking toward me. “Please, I don’t want the alpha to kill me.”

I looked over my shoulder and stared at him. “He won’t kill you,” I muttered.

I was about to carry on when a loud, piercing scream echoed through the forest.

I could feel the hair on the back of my neck sticking up on the end.

Bex was up on her hind legs, growling. “What the hell was that?” she sneered.

It sounded like someone was in trouble.

My instincts kicked in, and I knew I needed to save them.

Without a glance at the driver, I ran into the forest.

“LUNA,” screamed the driver.

I knew he was following me as I could hear his footsteps behind me, but I didn’t care.

I ran further into the forest.

The stench of rogues fills my nose, and Bex growls loudly, pushing forward to come upfront with me.

“Rogues,” she whispered.

I didn’t say anything but looked around. There must have been hundreds of them around the pack, as the smell was terrible.

I slowed my pace and walked toward what looked like a house.

The stench of blood filled the air, death was here, and it was rotten to the scent.

A branch snapped behind me, which made me look behind to see the driver staring at me.

“Luna,” he whispered, walking toward me. “We need to get back; we need...” he was cut off by the piercing scream which seemed to be coming closer to us.



“Hide,” I murmured, grabbing his arm and pulling him to the side of the house.

The man leaned against the wall with me next to him; a young girl, not at least sixteen, came into view as three rogues came out behind her.

“Please,” she pleaded. “Let me go.”

The three men growled. “Not a chance, sweetheart,” one said. “We will have our way with you first, and then we will kill you.”

I felt sick.

What man would do such a thing to a child?

I was about to step out when the driver’s hand gripped my arm, which made me look at him. His eyes were pleading. “Don’t,” he mouthed.

I was about to say something when one of the rogues spoke. “Come on,” he said. “Let’s kill her. I want to go back and kill that Alpha Lex.”

I felt my stomach drop.

They have Lex.

Like hell am I standing behind while these rogues kill my mate?

Bex was upfront and pushed forward. “We can take them,” she whispered.

I glanced at the driver, who was now staring at me with wide eyes.

I knew he could see Bex, and she ensured everyone knew she was there. She was pissed, and she wanted to kill.

I turned around and stepped out.

“I don’t think you will get to witness that,” we growled.

Three men looked up at me as the girl looked over her shoulder with round eyes.

“How about you leave the child alone?” I said. “How about you pick on someone your own size?”

One rogue came hurtling toward me, but Bex changed one of my hands into her claw and gripped him by the throat. Her nails dug deep into his neck as she yanked his throat out.

Blood sprayed over us as we dropped his corpse to the ground.

The other two rogues looked at each other and started to charge.

The driver came out from behind me and shifted into his wolf, who took one out while I started to use my fists and legs to take the last rogue down.

Bex and I used our combined strength and killed him with fists and legs. Bex placed her hand on his chest and dug her nails deep as she gripped his heart and pulled it out. His lifeless body dropped as a loud whine came from the other rogue as the driver's wolf shredded him apart.

Bex moved back inside my head but stayed close.

I looked around at the dead bodies, but my eyes landed on the girl staring back at me.

I walked over to her, but she stepped back. "Don't kill me," she whispered. I looked at her, stunned. "We won't hurt you," I said. "We are here to claim the pack, as my mate killed Alpha Trevor in the attack on our pack."

The girl's eyes widened.

"You lie," she screamed.

I was about to say something, but the driver beat me.

"My Luna doesn't lie," said the driver. "Alpha Lex killed Alpha Trevor yesterday, and all the rogues at the attack fled away."

The girl looked at him and then at me. "You are a Luna," she asked.

I nodded.

"I am," I said. "We only found each other a few days ago."

I know I lied to her, but I didn't want to go into great details about Lex and me. It wasn't the time.

"We came here to see what happened to Alpha Trevor's pack," I said as I moved closer to her.

I knelt and looked at her. "I won't hurt you," I said. "I promise."

I held my hand to her, but she stared at me.

"I want to help your pack, and so does my mate, Alpha Lex," I said. "We want to know what happened here."

The girl looks at me, but after a short time, she lets out a low sigh. "I guess I can tell you," she whispered.

I smiled at her.

The girl moved closer to me and placed her hand on mine. I moved up and pulled her with me.

I glanced over to the driver, who nodded to me.

I looked back at her. “Can you tell us what happened?” I asked.

The girl stood but bowed her head. “Alpha Mac was horrible,” she said as she looked up at me. “But his son, Alpha Trevor, was worse. It started with taking a few women at a time over the years. No pack member would go against him or his higher-ranked members; we were all scared of them.”

The girl let go of my hand and dropped it at her side.

“Alpha Trevor started to get worse, and over the last few months, rogues started to infiltrate our pack and become a menace. Alpha Trevor didn’t care,” she said. “He wanted what Alpha Lex and Alpha Dean had, even you, Luna.”

I nodded. I heard all this before.

“What happened to the pack members?” I asked. “Did they want any part in what Alpha Trevor wanted?”

The girl shook her head.

“Only the higher-ranked members,” she said. “Everyone else was too scared to do anything.”

Bex growled in my head. “Dead men walking,” she muttered. I had to ignore her as the girl carried on talking.

“Before the attack, Alpha Trevor announced that all pack members would be fighting alongside the rogues,” she said. “Many told him no, but when they did, they were taken away to the cells for disrespecting their alpha. The Alpha told us all that when he returned from his war, they were all going to suffer dearly.”

“How?” asked the driver.

I looked over at him, but I didn’t realize how close he was to us.

The girl looked toward him and sighed. “They took all the females and placed them in the pack house. Many were raped and tortured by the rogues that had been left. While all the men are in the cells. Many can feel everything happening to their mates; that is the worst torture in itself, knowing they can’t save their mates from all the hurt that the men are conflicting on them.”

I growled.

I want their heads when I get there.

Bex agreed but looked toward the girl who was staring at me.

“Luna,” she said. “How are you going to rescue my pack? I mean, they have your alpha and the other one surrounded before I left.”

I stared at her.

Good question, but something came to me. Who the hell was looking after the pack while Alpha Trevor went on his war?

I looked at her. “Whose in charge?” I asked.

The girl looked reluctant to say, but she whispered the next part, only loud enough for both the driver and me to hear. “The Gamma is still here.”

The driver growled.

I looked up at him.

“We need to save the others,” I said. “Would you mind link the others from the pack to send more men and tell them what is going on?”

The driver nodded, and his face went blank.

I looked toward the girl. “What’s your name?” I asked.

The girl smiled. “Lilly,” she said.

I smiled. “Beautiful name,” I said.

The girl smiled but stared. “Luna,” she asked. “How did you learn to fight like that?”

I looked at her and wondered how the hell I was going to answer that.

“I’ve been training for years,” I said, which was technically true, but she didn't need to know what for.

The girl smiled. “Could you teach me?”

I nodded.

I looked over to the driver, who was now smiling at me. “Luna,” he said. “Alpha Frank told me to tell you to stay put; your uncle and some other pack members are on their way.”

I growled, which made the driver look at me.

He smirked.

“I know I can’t tell you what to do,” he said and glanced around, then back at me. “What do you suggest we do?”

I looked around and stared at the house we were hiding against earlier.

“How did the houses get like that?” I asked.

“Rogues were forcing themselves in,” said Lilly. “They took whatever they wanted and did whatever they wanted. Alpha Trevor didn’t care about any of us toward the end.”

I looked at Lilly, who looked sad.

I looked up at the driver, who was giving the same expression.

“We need to get to the pack house,” murmured Bex.

“I know,” I said. “What the hell will I do when we get there?”

I looked back at Bex, who was cocking her head at me. “I think we can take them,” she said. “All we need to do is take care of the gamma, and then all the rogues won’t follow; hopefully, they will run before the others come.”

I agree.

If we take out the gamma, we can give the others a fighting chance.

“We could use the pack members,” I said as an idea started to form in my head.

I went over the idea with Bex, who was nodding.

“It should work,” she said.

I looked back at Lilly and the driver.

“I have a plan,” I said. “But I need both of you to help.”

The driver nodded, but Lilly looked scared. “I don’t know if I can,” she said. “I can’t fight like you.”

I looked at her but smiled. “You won’t be fighting,” I said. “All I want is for both of you to free all the male pack members from the cells. They can help fight.”

Lilly and the driver's eyes widened, but I looked at Lilly. "Lilly," I said, placing my hand into hers. "I will need you to tell them what is going on; tell them that the blue shadow moon pack defeated Alpha Trevor and are here to save them."

I looked at the driver. "You will go with her," I said. "She will need proof that a pack member is here."

He nodded, but his eyebrows furrowed. "What are you going to do?" he asked.

"I'm going to rescue my mate and kill the gamma," I said.

The driver and Lilly stared at me, but my eyes bore into hers. "Lilly," I said. "Can you show us the way to the pack house?"

Lilly bowed her head and stared at our joined hands.

I squeezed her gently to let her know everything would be fine.

Lilly looked up at me and nodded.

Her face held so much emotion, and I could tell she was trying not to cry.

"Brave pup," murmured Bex.

I agree.

After everything that Lilly and these pack members went through, we need to save them.

Lilly pointed to where we had to go, and we all silently walked together.

Bex was up close but not upfront. She wanted to check out the whole situation before deciding whether we would be in her form or mine.

Whatever happens, I need to rescue the people and my mate too.

Chapter 76

## Chapter 76 - Welcome Home Mate

ROXIE

Lilly guides us through the forest.

I looked over to the driver. "I have to ask," I said. His eyes met mine. "What's your name?"

The man smiled at me. "Huw, Luna," he said.

I nodded.

"I'm Roxie," I said. I looked over to Lilly, who was in front of us. "I would rather you call me Roxie. I'm not used to the whole Luna thing."

"I can't do that, Luna," he said.

I frowned.

"Why?" I asked, looking back at him.

Huw stared at me for a few moments and sighed. "Alpha Lex won't like me to do that," he said. "Besides, you are one true Luna. You are powerful and even one that everyone will follow."

I stared at him, slightly stunned.

Huw chuckled. "You don't believe that," he said. "I mean, I heard all the rumors like everyone else, and I have to admit, I didn't know what you were truly like as a person. But after witnessing what you did there, I am honored to call you my Luna."

I smiled.

I felt slightly overwhelmed.

I looked ahead. I knew he was trying to make me feel better, but I wasn't used to someone telling me to my face. Something I had to get used to, I guess.

"We are here," whispered Bex, moving slightly closer to the surface. I looked up and noticed Lilly stop and rushed to a nearby tree.

Huw and I ran over to her and stood on either side of her. I glanced toward Lilly. She placed her fingers in her ears.

I looked around the tree and could feel tears prick the back of my eyes.

Lex and Alpha Dean were with all the men that came with us. They were all in the center of a circle as the rogues surrounded them, growling. A few were taunting them, pushing some of the men, and I noticed Alpha Dean punch one man, but another stepped forward. I glanced at the ground and saw some dead bodies on the floor, lifeless. They had to be rogues; the men with us were all in the center.

"We need to save, mate," whined Bex.

I agreed, but how the hell would I get to them?

They were going to kill them.

I needed to do something fast.

I looked back at Huw, and he had the same worry. I glanced at Lilly, who was scared. I knelt before her. "Lilly," I murmured, pulling her fingers from her ears and placing my thumb and finger on her chin. Her eyes were full of tears.

I gave her a small smile. "I need your help," I whispered. I glanced at Huw, who nodded, placed a hand on Lilly's shoulder, and gave her a gentle squeeze.

"We need your help," I said. "I need you to take Huw to where all the men from the pack are being held. Can you do that for me?"

Lilly unshed tears came and flowed. "I can't," she whispered.

"You can," I whispered. "I won't let anything happen to you; same with Huw."

I glanced at him, which made Lilly pull back from my hand and look at him. He smiled. "I won't," he said. "Show me where they are, and I will protect you."

Lilly looked at me and gave me a slight nod, which made me feel proud. "Thank you," I said.

I moved and stood before them.

Huw looked at me. "What are you going to do, Luna?" he asked.

"Well," I said. "I think I had best introduce myself to the crowd."

Huw's eyes widened, and he shook his head.

"Luna, you can't..." he started to say, but I placed my hand on his arm. "I have to," I said, searching his eyes. "I know my uncle and some men are coming here, but we must give them time. I need you to free all the men from this pack and show them that there is help coming and here to rescue them. They need hope, and they need it as much as Lilly does."

Huw looked at me and looked around the tree. "Alpha Lex needs help," he murmured and looked at me.

I could feel my stomach drop.

I needed to help them, and I needed to help my mate.



“I know, and I will,” I said. “I know how, but the pack needs people to fight for them, and that has to be us.”

Huw looked at me for a few moments and sighed. “Ok,” he said. “If we get out of this alive, you had better tell Alpha Lex that I tried to stop you.”

I smiled at him. “Oh, I will,” I said. “I will make something up to get you a new position within the pack.”

Huw stared at me but frowned. “Not that I like being a driver,” he said, but a slow grin itched the corner of his mouth. “We will see what happens after this.”

I nodded.

Huw looked at Lilly, who was now staring between us. “Are you ready?” he murmured. Lilly looked at me and nodded.

I watched as Lilly stepped in front of Huw and looked around. Her eyes scanned the grounds, and she looked back toward us. “We need to go around the back of the pack house,” she murmured. “We can get to the cells on the other side, but guards are always posted on the doors...” Huw cut her off before she could finish her sentence. “I can deal with them,” he said.

Lilly’s mouth stayed open, but she closed it and nodded.

Lilly and Huw crouched down and moved slowly through the bushes, leaving me alone.

I looked around the tree and spotted Lex, his lip was busted open, and a rogue was trying to rip out his throat.

“We need to save, mate,” growled Bex.

I moved back and closed my eyes.

Bex stared back at me and sighed. “You got this,” she said. “You are the Luna of the pack, and we can fight them.”

I looked at her but didn’t say anything. “That wolf told us that uncle was coming,” she said. “We need to keep them busy till they get here.”

I sighed.

“I know,” I said. “I just need to compose myself.”

Bex grinned.

“I got you,” she said. “We are in this together, Rox. I have your back, and trust me, and we will save them all.” I stared at her, and her eyes were holding the truth. Bex has always had my back, but now we need to be the Luna, and I need to fight for what is mine. The new pack members, but more importantly, my mate.

I opened my eyes and sighed.

“Let’s do this,” I murmured as I stepped out from behind the tree and walked toward the pack. I stared ahead but noticed a man standing to the side as I moved closer to the pack house. His eyes met mine, and they widened.

I glanced toward the rogues, who were still circling the men.

My eyes met Lex, and he growled.

“NO,” he shouted.

I glanced at the man, who smirked.

“WELL, WELL, WELL,” he shouted. “WHAT DO WE HAVE HERE?”

All the rogues stopped and turned to face me.

I kept my head up and stared at the man.

I could tell he wasn’t more than a gamma. He was weak; he stared back at me.

“Who are you, sweetheart?” he shouted.

A low growl escaped my lips. “I’m not your sweetheart,” I shouted. “How about you let my mate and friends go?”

The gamma looked at me and started to laugh. “Mate,” he shouted, and stepped down the steps toward me. I stood rooted to the spot.

“And who the hell would that be?” he called, slightly amused.

Bex was close, but she never came to the surface.

“Wait,” I murmured to her. “Wait till I say.”

Bex knew what I was planning as I went over everything in my head with her. We knew we needed to give Huw and Lilly a chance, even Uncle Keith.

The gamma walked down the steps and stood just a few steps before me.

I could hear movement behind me and noticed a few rogues looking at me like I was their next meal.

“Tell me,” he said. “Why would you risk your life for a pathetic alpha?”

I stared at him, and I couldn't help the smirk that itched the corners of my mouth.

“And why not?” I shouted. “He's an alpha, not a gamma.”

The gamma's face hardened.

“Bitch,” he said, pissed. “I would make you pay for that.”

He looked over to the rogues. “Grab the alpha,” he shouted.

I looked over my shoulder and noticed eight men grabbing both Alpha Dean and Lex.

Lex's eyes were on me.

I could see his eyes flicker from his to Blaze and back to his again.

I knew this was a long shot, but I needed to give them more time.

I looked back at the gamma. “How about we make this interesting?” I shouted.

The gamma looked at me and cocked his head to the side. “What do you mean?” he asked. “How interesting?”

I stepped toward him, which earned a growl from Lex.

I ignored him.

“I mean, every gamma or alpha likes to make a deal,” I said.

I looked at the building behind him and noticed movement.

“Pack members,” murmured Bex.

Thank goddess for that, I thought.

I stared at the gamma and carried on. “How about if I win, all the rogues will leave this pack alone and never step foot near any of the packs again,” I said.

The gamma looked at me and laughed. “What if I win?” he shouted.

I stared at him, and I knew what every man wanted. Power.

“If you win,” I said. “You get this pack and the other two packs.”

The gamma looked at me as his eyebrows shot up.

I knew I peaked his interest.

“What about the alphas?” he said. “They won’t let me take their packs.”

I looked over to Alpha Dean and Lex, pleading with them to make this sound legit. “They will bow to you,” I said. “They will become rogues.”

Praying my plan will work.

I stared at Alpha Dean, who looked like he wanted to laugh, but I used my eyes to motion toward the building.

I could feel eyes on us, not just from the building but behind me.

I knew who was there.

They never waste any time.

I smiled.

“Uncle Keith is here,” murmured Bex, wagging her tail. “Now, can we stop playing games and kill him?”

I smirked.

I looked at Lex, who was staring back at me. His eyes were on me, but I could tell they were somewhere else. He had a mind link; after a few seconds, he returned and stared at me, smirking.

I looked back at the gamma, who had no idea what would happen next.

“I think,” I said as I stocked toward him. “You should surrender now before I kill you.”

The gamma laughed.

I knew he couldn’t sniff out anyone; the stench of the rogues was pungent, and even I wanted to throw up.

The gamma looked at me, but something caught his attention. “ATTACK,” he growled toward the rogues.

I let Bex come up with me, and we charged right at him.

Bex came up to the front with me, and we pounced onto the gamma. My hand changed into her paw, and her nails came out as we swiped at him. The gamma moved back, but we kept the attack going.

The gamma lunged at me as his wolf came close, but I clenched my other hand back and punched him in the face. The gamma stumbles back but growls. "Stupid bitch," he shouted and lunged at me, but we ducked out of the way and used my legs to trip him up, turning him around to face me and pounce on him again, with our hands wrapped around his throat.

I leaned closer to him and plunged my hand into his chest.

His eyes rounded as he gasped.

I placed my hand around his heart and moved closer to his ear, "say hello to the devil," I murmured and pulled out his heart.

I moved back as Bex came closer to the surface. We threw the heart on the ground and stared out.

All I could see was fighting.

I noticed my uncle fighting alongside Lex and Alpha Dean. Someone caught my eye; it was my father; he was here too.

There needed to be no more fighting now; everyone who caused all this was dead.

Bex stared out and let out a roar.

People who were fighting were stopping and looking at us. I looked at everyone but shouted, "ENOUGH."

All the wolves and humans stopped, looking at me.

Many wolves' eyes were wide.

I glanced around and stared at everyone, but I landed on Lex, who was smiling.

"I think any rogue that wants to live best will make a run for it now!" I shouted. "Or you will find that you will be like the alpha and his followers, dead."

Rogues didn't have to decide as they began to run away from the pack.

I looked at my uncle and father, who were staring at me. "Kill whoever gets caught," I shouted, and all the men that came to help us ran after all the rogues. I knew I had to thank them later, but I also knew they would probably have my ass like Lex would when he gets to me.

I cleared my throat and stepped away from the gamma's lifeless body.

I looked up and noticed Lex running over to me.

I smiled as he ran up and wrapped his arms around me.

"Rox," he murmured into my ear. "I don't know whether I want to kiss or spank you."

I could feel my insides ignite, and in a good way, but this wasn't the place to get frisky with my mate.

I pulled back and stared at him.

"I'm..." I said, but I looked to the side and noticed faces.

Many faces stared back at us. Many were frightened, but some were confused, and others were angry.

I looked at Lex, who was now looking over his shoulder as he stared back at his new pack members.

We needed to help them.

Chapter 77

## Chapter 77 - Welcome Home Mate

LEX

My mind was racing.

What happened in the last few moments was racing through my mind.

Roxie came here, and even though I told her not to, she came and saved us.

I didn't know whether I wanted to kiss her or spank her.

I could feel Blaze move in my head and growl in agreement with me.

I knew when I told her that she was turned on that she was going to say something, but I stopped her.

I had to look over my shoulder. Many faces were staring back, and they were all pack members.

I turned around to face them and walked toward them.

Many stepped back, scared out of their minds, but others stared, their faces stern and even harder to read.

What the hell happened to these people?

“They are scared,” murmured Blaze, looking through my eyes.

I didn’t say anything but looked around and noticed my driver, Huw, holding a girl’s hand.

Where the hell was he? He was supposed to be looking after Roxie. I needed to talk to him, but it would have to wait, I thought.

I was about to say something, but someone placed a hand in mine, which sent tingles rippling through me like a hurricane that could clearly have knocked me off my feet.

I looked down and looked straight into Roxie’s eyes. Her eyes were full of emotion, but she leaned up and placed her lips on my cheek.

She pulled back and smiled. “We need to help them,” she said as she looked back at their faces.

I looked at them but back at Roxie. “I know,” I said.

I looked at everyone and stepped closer to them, making sure Roxie was with me.

One thing she was right about: she was supposed to be with me for all of this. I knew I wanted to keep her safe, but I needed to start listening to her more.

Roxie stood next to me. I could feel her hand squeeze mine.

Blaze was up close but staring.

“They suffered,” he murmured. “Mate can tell that.”

I knew he was right.

“I’m Alpha Lex,” I shouted. “I’m from the Blue Shadow Moon Pack. I am here as your new alpha.”

I looked around, but no one said a word.

I turned to look at Roxie. “And this here is my Luna, Luna Roxie,” I said and looked back at all the pack members.

I was about to say something when there was movement from the pack house, which made me look up and notice that there were women and children, children clinging to their mother's legs, scared.

"I want to help you all," I shouted. "I want you all to be safe."

"Safe," someone shouted, which made me look back at the ground, and a man stepped out. "Safe is not a word for this pack. Where were you when this was all going on? You are our new alpha, but where were you when we needed help? When our old alpha was delusional and threatened each one of us and even took our mates for his own."

I stared.

Alpha Trevor did a number on these people, and you could tell. I wouldn't be surprised if they didn't want anything to do with us.

I cleared my throat, but Roxie spoke. "We didn't know what was going on," she shouted. "If we did, we would have come sooner."

"Bullshit," shouted another voice. "We sent people out to help, but no one came."

I looked at the face before me.

"Alpha Trevor is dead," shouted Rox, and she stepped forward and let go of my hand.

I moved toward her and placed my hand on her waist, gripping her hard. I needed her close to me.

Roxie looked up at me and smiled. "It's okay," she whispered as she placed her hand on mine. "I won't go anywhere."

I nodded and let her go.

Blaze whined from the loss of touch but came forward to see what was happening.

Roxie stepped forward and stopped.

"We didn't have any acknowledgment of what was happening here," she said. "If we did, we would have come sooner, but no one came."

Murmurs could be heard throughout the pack members.

Roxie looked around but carried on talking. "You all suffered due to Alpha Mac and Alpha Trevor," she shouted. "Alpha Lex is not like them; he is fair and loyal; he would die to protect his pack and even make sure everyone was safe. He wants everyone to be safe and also to feel free."



I stared at the pack members.

There were a few murmurs around.

I stepped closer and stared at the pack members. “My Luna is right,” I shouted.

I closed my eyes and let Blaze come up with me.

I opened my eyes, and the pack members stepped back; some growled in fear.

“We are your alpha,” we shouted. “We will protect you. We will give you a new meaning in life. But we also understand that you may want to leave after everything you have been through and more. We will allow you to make whatever decision you want, and we won’t hold it against you.”

Blaze moves back and gives me control.

“Alpha Lex is the alpha,” shouted Alpha Dean. “I will stand by him, and if any of you want to leave, you are more than welcome to join my pack.”

I was met with silence throughout the grounds; a few murmurs were heard, but nothing was said.

“What will happen to our homes?” someone shouted.

“An elder will be summoned here and will make the final decision about the grounds,” I shouted. “This place is not fit enough for living, not since rogues have been here. They will find a way to come here if you stay. There would be more fighting and death, and I don’t want that for you, not any of you.”

“Alpha Lex and I will open our pack to you,” Roxie shouted. “We will give you all shelter, a new home for everyone. You will all be safe, and I promise you this, we are nothing like your old alphas. We believe in everyone’s freedom, and everyone will have a voice. We have rules, and we expect you all to abide by them, but we will show you all leniency until you get your bearings.”

I couldn’t help but feel the warmth spread through me, knowing that Roxie would be standing beside me.

“I don’t expect everyone to agree straight away,” I said. “I would like you all to go to your homes and pack. Take what you need and want, but we will provide you with everything. I will ensure you are safe, and no one will be left behind, not until we know what you all want to do.”

“You would let us leave,” a woman shouted. “You would let us be free from a pack.”

I looked toward the women. There were so many frightened faces, and many were teenagers. The rogues took everything for them. I couldn't let them suffer anymore, even if they didn't want to be part of my pack.

I heard what went on in that pack house when we came here. I know what some of the men did to them. They were afraid, but I didn't want them to think they would be subjected to anything that horrible again.

"I would," I said. "I would let you become rogues, but before you decide, I want you all to know this. I want you all to be safe, and I will make that promise. You will have a home for your families; we will build new homes for everyone. You will learn to fight; all members are trained within my pack, and my Luna can train even some."

I looked at Roxie, who was giving me a questioning look.

Blaze and I thought about letting her train the women of the pack, a job I know she will take.

It wasn't the time to talk about it.

I looked back at the pack members.

"I will let you all go home now and spend some time with your families," I said. "I will want an answer from you all within three hours."

All pack members talked at once and slowly disbursed around the pack grounds.

I watched all the men run to the women who were walking down the steps of the pack house.

Many kiss and cry, hugging their loved ones.

I wanted to take all their pain away.

"Do you think they will come with us?" asked Roxie.

I looked at her and shrugged. "I don't know," I said as I held my hand to her, which she took. I pulled her to me, and she slammed into my side.

I gazed down and stared into her eyes as I wrapped my arm around her waist and felt her warmth surround me.

She was meant to be in my arms.

Roxie placed her hand on my chest and pulled back slightly.

"I'm sorry I didn't listen," she said and went on her tippy toes and placed a kiss on my cheek.

She moved back, but my grip on her waist tightened.

Her eyes widened, but I couldn't hold back anymore and moved toward her lips, placing a hard kiss.

Tingles erupted through me as I licked her lips.

Roxie opened her mouth, and I slid my tongue into her mouth and kissed her deeply.

I didn't want the kiss to end.

## Chapter 78

# Chapter 78 - Welcome Home Mate

ROXIE

The kiss was hot.

Bex was panting hard in my head and horny as hell.

I needed to break away; this wasn't the place for us to be like this. We haven't even mated and marked each other yet.

I pulled back from the kiss and stared back at Lex, who opened his eyes to me.

I smiled.

"That was..." I started to say, but stopped myself.

I looked to the side and noticed my father running toward me.

I let go of Lex, even though I didn't want to, and ran toward my father. I ran into his arms, and I wrapped my arms around his neck. I inhaled his scent and let it calm my nerves.

"My baby girl," he murmured into my ear as I pulled back.

I removed my arms from his neck and stepped back.

Uncle Keith walked up to me and pulled me into a hug. He moved back and placed his hands on my cheeks. "Don't ever do that again," he said with a smile itching the corners of his mouth.

I looked at both men and frowned. “You know I’m Luna now, right,” I said.

They both smirked but didn’t say anything.

“You might be my Luna,” said Lex, as his hand wrapped around my waist, pulling me back into his hard chest and leaning closer to my ear. His scent engulfs me, and I feel slightly overwhelmed. “I will have to bend you over my knee so you listen to me,” he whispered.

I felt a blush spread over my cheeks.

My father and Uncle Keith laughed.

I cleared my throat. “I would like to see you try, Alpha,” I murmured. “If I remember rightly, I saved you.”

Lex’s arm on my waist tightened slightly. “Well, I guess I have to thank you,” he said.

I looked up at him and was met with a knowing look.

Why do men always think sex is the answer to making up with someone? I never understood that.

“Mate can make up to us all night long,” murmured Bex in my head.

Damn, horny dog. Not the time, I thought.

I looked to the side and noticed Lilly looking around; Huw was with her.

I looked at Lex and smiled. “I want you to meet someone,” I said, changing the subject and looking over to my father and uncle.

I pulled away from Lex but placed my hand in his, leading him to Huw and Lilly. “Alpha Lex,” I said as I approached them. “This is Lilly. She helped the men free from the cells and was very brave.”

I smiled at her.

Lilly looked shocked, her eyes rounded as she took in Lex.

She bowed. “Alpha,” she whispered.

“Nice to meet you, Lilly,” Lex said. “Thank you for freeing your pack members.”

Lilly blushed and smiled.

I glanced at Huw, who looked worried.

I knew why he was looking at Lex like he was. Lex told him he would kill me if he let me into the pack grounds.

I turned to face Lex. “Before you decide what to do with Huw,” I said before he could open his mouth. “I ran into the forest, Huw did try to stop me, but I heard Lilly scream. I knew I had to save her. Also, Huw helped too and even killed a few rogues in the process.”

Lex stared at me for a moment with an amused look.

His eyes left mine and went straight to Huw. “I know I told you I would kill you if you let her in her,” he said. He stared at him and let out a low sigh. “But I am grateful you followed her and even stayed with her throughout all this. I know she’s not easy to control.”

“Hey!” I growled.

I could hear Bex laugh in my head, but I placed a block up on her. I didn’t need my wolf making fun of me.

Lex smirked.

“Huw, I won’t kill you,” he muttered. “But I will make you the right-hand man for our Luna. I mean, she seems to trust you.”

I stared at him, stunned, but I scrunched up my eyebrows. “What do you mean right-hand man?” I asked.

Lex chuckled. “He will be going everywhere with you,” he said. “Well, when I’m not with you, at least.”

I looked over to Huw, who was smiling. “I would be honored to protect my Luna,” he said and bowed. When he got up, he looked at me. “But Alpha, I must admit, Luna seems to know how to look after herself.”

“I know she can,” Lex said. “But I need someone to be with her always, and you will be perfect.”

Huw nodded.

I smiled.

I looked toward Lilly, who was staring around the pack. “Where are your family?” I asked.

Lilly didn’t answer me, but tears flowed down her face. “I don’t know,” she whispered.

I felt her pain.

After everything she has been through, she needs her family.

I looked at Huw. “Huw,” I said, “Could you help Lilly find her family?”

Huw nodded and smiled.

He looked at Lilly. “I would be honored to help her look for them,” he said.

I watched them leave.

“You will be one amazing Luna,” Uncle Keith said.

I looked over at him and smiled. “Thank you,” I said. “I was trained by the best.”

Uncle Keith smiled and looked around the pack.

I glanced toward Alpha Dean, who was talking with his Beta.

“Do you think we should let some pack members go with Alpha Dean?” I asked Lex, my eyes staying on Alpha Dean, who was now looking at me. He smiled and walked over to us.

Lex didn’t say anything until Alpha Dean stopped in front of us. “Alpha Lex, Luna Roxie,” he said with a smile. “My men are leaving now and heading back to my pack. I have sent a mind link to my other members of your pack to leave in a few hours.”

I stared at him, confused. “Why are you leaving?” I asked.

Alpha Dean looked at me and smiled. “I will be back to your pack,” he said. “But I am missing my pack and need to ensure everything is okay there.”

I nodded.

Alpha Dean smiled and looked at Lex. “I will come to the pack once your new members have settled into their new homes, but if you need me to take some, I will. We can arrange something in a few days; I may be able to house a few.”

I looked up at Lex, who was nodding.

“That would be great,” he said and looked down at me. “I think we will stay here for a few hours. I have already sent word to my father about everything that has happened here. He will be arriving in the next few minutes. He has an elder coming. Hopefully, an elder will help with the situation among this pack, maybe even convince them to move to the pack with us.”

I stared at him, but I looked toward the pack grounds.

It was all destroyed by the rogues.

There were dead bodies everywhere, not including searching the pack house. I didn't even want to go in there, there was a foul stench, but I couldn't place it.

I could feel Lex's arms wrap around my waist, pulling me from my thoughts.

I looked up and smiled.

"What do we do now?" I asked.

I looked around and noticed my father walking toward the pack house with Uncle Keith.

"You're not going in there," murmured Lex to me. "I know what went on there, and it's not for your eyes."

I stared at him; his eyes were searching mine.

He looked like he wanted to say something, but I knew not to ask any more questions. Whatever went on in that pack house was something that he needed to deal with by the look of it.

I sighed.

"I'm going to walk around and see if I can help any pack members," I said.

Lex's arms tighten.

I frowned and stared at him.

"You need to go there and see what Alpha Trevor did there," I said. "I don't want to know what is in there, and to be honest, I would be afraid to know."

Lex stared and sighed as he turned his head toward the pack house. "I heard some things that went on there when I came here," he whispered and looked back at me with sad eyes. "I need to find out what the hell was going on in there before the elder and my father come."

I nodded.

I looked to the side and spotted Huw walking toward me with sadness in his eyes.

"What's wrong?" I asked as he approached us.

Huw looked at me as a lone tear fell down his cheek. "Lilly found her family," he murmured. "Her mother and father are dead, but there is a little sister. They have no one else."

I felt sadness wash over me.

I needed to see her.

I looked at Lex, who must have read my mind. “Go to her,” he said, looking at Huw. “Stay with your Luna.”

Huw nodded.

I looked at Lex as his eyes went back to the pack house.

My eyes went to where he was looking, and there was my father, who looked green, holding onto the railing, trying not to be sick.

That’s not a good sign.

I looked at Huw, who had concern written on his face as he looked toward the pack house.

“Take me to Lilly and her sister,” I said.

Huw looked at me and nodded.

I looked at Lex and walked up to him, and kissed his cheek. “See you in a bit,” I said. “I will meet you back here in a half-hour.”

Lex stared at me and nodded.

I moved away from him and removed the block from Bex. She came forward and stared at the pack house.

“I feel for them,” she whispered as I walked away with Huw.

I felt for them too.

We needed to give everyone a second chance; they deserved it.

Chapter 79

## Chapter 79 - Welcome Home Mate

**\*\*TRIGGER WARNINGS\*\***

LEX

I watched as Huw and Roxie walked away.



Blaze was up close, watching them.

“He will protect her,” Blaze murmured.

I knew Huw would; I suggested he would be her right-hand man.

I sighed.

“Let’s go and search this pack house,” I whispered to him.

I turned and looked.

Tim had told me that it was sickening what Alpha Trevor had done in there. It had even turned him sick.

Many members of the pack were tortured in the pack house.

As I stepped closer, the stench of blood and other body fluids filled my nose.

Blaze growled in my head, but I ignored him.

I walked up the steps and headed to the door.

Tim came toward me and placed his hand on my shoulder. “You don’t need to go in there,” he said. “We can manage.”

I shook my head and looked at him. “I need to,” I said. “These people went through hell, and I need to know what to offer them.

Besides, we need to know if there is anything else that we should know about.”

Tim stared at me for a moment but sighed. “I’m coming with you,” he said but looked to where Roxie had left. “Thank god she’s not going in there. She would freak out.”

I didn’t say anything; I was thankful that she listened.

I opened the door, and the stench hit my nose hard.

I felt my stomach drop as I walked inside.

There was blood everywhere.

This place was once a grand hall with chandeliers, but now it looked like no one kept up with the house’s upkeep.

I walked through as some men walked around. A few had emptied their stomachs onto the ground.

I didn't know what I would find.

I walked through the house.

I walked toward the first door on my right and opened the door; the stench of death filled me, which made vile surface to my mouth.

I swallowed it down as I looked inside, and my stomach dropped.

There were four bodies, all women.

There was blood everywhere. I couldn't tell where the blood had come from, and I didn't want to know.

I walked back out as Tim closed the door behind me.

I walked through the corridor and searched each room.

Alpha Trevor didn't care about his pack members. He lost control and believed that everything that his father wanted was the right way.

I couldn't believe someone could have a hold over their child to make them think this was right.

I searched and went up every floor.

I wanted to see if there was any sign of life or information.

Blaze was quiet the whole time we were walking around. He was close by and taking in everything, but he felt everything like me. We needed to help everyone from the pack.

Tim and I came to the alpha's quarters on the top floor.

My stomach was in my mouth as I didn't know what to expect as I opened his Alpha Trevor's door.

There was a stench of some kind, but I couldn't make it out.

I pushed open the door, and there was a woman in chains whose eyes were closed. I couldn't tell if she was alive. I walked over to her, but her eyes flew open, and she screamed.

The chains burned her arms, but the fear in her eyes was hard to witness.

"Shh," I said. "I'm not here to hurt you. I am here to help."

The girl moves back as I try to remove her chains, but she shakes her head. “He will come back,” she whispered. “He will kill me.”

I stared at her, sadness filling me.

“He won’t come back,” I said. “Alpha Trevor will never come back, I killed him, and I am now the new alpha of this pack.”

The fear in the girl’s eyes was still there, but her eyes widened at what I said. “Please,” she pleaded. “Don’t touch me.”

I stared at her.

I looked over to the door; Tim was staring at the girl with wide eyes. “Do you know her?” I asked through a mind link.

Tim looked at me. “I believe she is the daughter of one of the alphas your father talked about before the war,” he said. “The alpha mentioned that some rogues came into the pack and were searching for someone. He told your father that he was trying to get hold of his daughter, but she was away in college.”

I looked at the girl, her eyes were on the two of us, but she didn’t move.

“You think she is this alpha’s daughter,” I said to him.

I looked back at Tim, who nodded.

Fuck.

“Send a mind link to my father and tell him about her,” I murmured. “I will try and get you to let me help her.”

Tim nodded and left the room.

I looked at the girl and sat on the ground in front of her.

Roxie would be able to get through to her, but I needed to get her from this pack house first and away from here.

I looked at the girl, and she looked about nineteen.

“What’s your name?” I asked her.

Her eyes were on me the whole time, and she leaned on her back till her head rested on the wall. “Malia,” she whispered as a lone tear slid down her cheek.

“Well, Malia,” I said. “I’m Alpha Lex.”

Her eyes widened, and she looked behind me, then back to my eyes.

I looked over my shoulder and noticed a door.

What the hell was in there? I pondered.

I looked back at Malia, who was crying.

“Malia,” I said. “What pack are you from?”

“South Moon,” she whispered.

My eyes widened.

Alpha Otto.

Malia was his daughter.

I looked at her and gave her a small smile. “Well, Malia, my father will be contacting your father and telling him that you are safe.”

Malia let out a sob and closed her eyes.

I looked around and spotted a blanket on the bed.

I moved up, which startled Malia. I grabbed the blanket from the bed and placed it over her legs.

Malia watched me and pulled the blanket up to her waist.

I sat back down before her. “Malia,” I said. “I will free you now, and my Luna will watch over you.”

Malia looked at me and nodded.

“Her name is Luna Roxie,” I said with a smile.

Malia looked at me, but her eyes went behind me again to the door.

I stared at her.

“Is there something I need to look at,” I said. Malia looked at me and stared at me. Her eyes searched mine for a bit, but she nodded.

She moved her arm up and pointed to the door behind me.

I placed my hand in hers and placed it down.

Malia froze at my touch, but I gave her a gentle squeeze.

“Tim, I need you to come back here and help with Malia. Malia is from the South Moon pack; her father is Alpha Otto; tell my father to contact him. Also, mind link Huw to bring Roxie back; I think she may need to stay with her. I don’t know what he did to her, but she flinches whenever I go near her.”

“Okay, Lex,” Tim said. “I will be there soon.”

I looked back at Malia, who was now back to leaning against the wall.

“Malia,” I said. “I am going to look through that door. I have a pack member, Tim, and he is my Luna’s dad; he will take you down and outside the pack house. Will you let him?”

Malia stared back and gave a slight nod.

I stood up and turned around. I headed toward the door and stood in front of it.

I opened the door and pulled it open.

My eyes widened as I stared at the big closet.

There were papers everywhere—even photographs of everyone, but mainly Roxie and me.

I walked into the closet and looked at everything.

My stomach was in knots.

Blaze stepped closer and growled.

“He was spying on everyone,” she murmured. “He wanted everything, not just what we had but what every alpha and elder wanted.”

I stared around.

There were names written all over the place.

“He went in there a lot,” Malia shouted. “He kept telling me that he wanted four lunas, and he wanted everything else too, power and money.”

I didn’t say anything but stepped backward and backed out of the closet.

I looked to the door as Tim walked into the room. “Is my father and the elder here,” I asked.

Tim looked at me and nodded. “They just arrived,” he said.

I looked at Malia, who had fear written all over her face. “Malia,” I said, stepping closer to her and kneeling for her to look at me. “This is Tim, Luna Roxie’s Dad.”

Malia looked between us and stared at me.

I smiled. “Let me get those chains off you,” I said.

Malia held up her arms, and I snapped the chain from her. Silver was on the chains as they burned my hands. I didn’t care, and I needed to get them off her.

Once her chains were gone, I stood up and held my hand to Malia.

Malia placed her hand in mine and stood up but nearly fell due to feeling weak, and the blanket dropped to the ground. Tim walked over to her and picked her up bridal style. Malia shook, but her arms went around his neck. I walked over, placed the blanket over her, and ensured her face was covered.

“Keep her face covered,” I said to Tim.

Tim looked at me and nodded.

“Send my father and the elder in here as soon as you can,” I said. “They need to see something.”

Tim looked at me, and I knew he wanted to know, but I shook my head. “Take her downstairs,” I said. “Make sure Roxie is with her.”

Tim looked at me but nodded.

I watched as Tim carried Malia out of the room and away from this place.

I looked around, but my eyes darted to the closet.

We needed to contact alphas and ensure they knew what was happening here.

I turned around and looked around the room but noticed something on the chest of drawers.

There was a photo of Alpha Trevor and his father, nothing else.

As I picked up the photograph, I couldn’t help the growl that escaped my lips.

How could these two do so much damage to a pack and others?

## Chapter 80 - Welcome Home Mate

LEX

I placed the photograph down and looked around.

My mind was everywhere.

I looked back at Blaze, lying down in my head, but his eyes were on me.

“How could this have happened?” I asked. “How could Alpha Trevor do something like this? He didn’t care what he did and who he hurt?”

Blaze growled.

“He was no alpha,” he said. “An alpha would be there for his pack members. We need to make sure they are all safe.”

I nodded and looked back at the room.

My eyes went back to the closet.

I walked over but stopped in front of the door, looking at everything that was out. My eyes scanned the room but landed on a makeshift desk at the back.

I walked inside and walked over to the desk.

I looked around and noticed a book.

I picked it up and looked through it.

I stared and started to read. Alpha Trevor planned everything by the look of it. He wrote down who was in what pack and what information they gave him.

Blaze moved forward and stared.

A low growl erupted from him.

“He had more spies,” he snarled.

As I kept reading, I discovered more about what he had planned.

Alpha Trevor had a spy or mistress in packs, but not only in packs; he even had one among the elders. The information he had was from a meeting that he had.

Who the hell did he have in there?

I glanced at the names, and one stood out.

An elder was on his payroll.

I growled.

Why would an elder follow a delusional man's beliefs?

I could hear footsteps coming up the steps.

I turned around and headed out of the closet as my father and a man walked in. It had to be the elder that my father knew.

I looked at him.

My father looked at me, his face full of concern. "I can't believe it," he murmured as he looked around the room. "How can someone keep their pack like this? It is so disheartening to see."

My father scanned the room and looked back at me. His eyes searched mine, but I looked over to the elder.

The elder looked around, and his eyes landed on me.

Blaze came forward and came up to the surface. "State your name," we called out, which startled the elder, who looked back at me with round eyes. "Issac," he murmured. "Elder Issac."

It wasn't him.

Blaze and I stared at him for a few moments, but I could feel my father's eyes on me. I knew he would want answers.

I looked over at him and handed him the book.

My father took the book and started to go through it. Elder Issac walked over and looked in the book.

"I think you will understand why I am a little pissed," I seethed as I looked at both men.

My father looked at me, and a low growl erupted through his chest. "He has more," he snarled. "Even within the elders."



I nodded but didn't say anything.

"He got photos and documents, too," I said as I stepped out of the closet entrance. My father and Elder Issac stepped forward; their eyes scanned around, and they were shocked.

"It seems Alpha Trevor has been planning all this for many years," I said. "Alpha Otto's daughter, Malia, was being held here. I didn't know who she was till she mentioned his pack."

My father looked over his shoulder at me and nodded.

"Poor child," he said as his eyes returned to whatever he was reading.

I stepped toward the doorway of the closet. Blaze was close by, but he didn't say anything.

"We need to take all the pack members back with us to our pack," I said. "We can place them in the grand hall for now and get them settled over the next few weeks."

My father nodded but looked toward me. I carried as I looked away from him and toward Elder Issac, who looked at me. "I think this place needs to be condemned," I said. "Too much has happened here, and what I heard when I came here, I don't want any of my pack members, old or new, to feel like they don't trust me."

Elder Issac nodded, but I stepped closer to him and stared. "We need therapists and help sent to the pack for everyone," I said.

Elder Issac gulped and looked around.

"We need to go through all this first and decide on..." he said, but I growled, cutting him off. "No," I said. "We will take all this back to my pack and go through it there. I will want Luna Roxie to look through it, and I also suggested you read who he has in the Elder pack as his spy and get him in a cell."

Elder Issac's eyes widened.

My father walked over to him and handed him the book, but he pointed to the name on the page.

Elder Issac stared and anger formed on his face. He looked up at me and growled. "I need to make a phone call," he said and walked out of the closet.

I waited till he was out of earshot as he walked out of the room and into the corridor. I could hear him talk to whoever was on the phone.

I shook my head and looked toward my father, who was scanning over everything. "We need to help everyone," I said. "Do you think we get the contractors who did the houses for us to come back and make some new ones for the new pack members?" I said.

My father looked at me and smiled. "I believe we can," he said and stared at me. After a few seconds, and started to speak again. "We could make a new home for families and place some single wolves in the pack house."

I nodded.

That sounded like a plan.

Our pack house was big enough to hold many members, but many have had homes since they found their mates.

Judging by some of the bodies, some lost their mates here.

I let out a low sigh and leaned against the wall behind me. "Dad," I said. "The gamma was left in charge of the pack. Alpha Trevor thought he was coming back here to do whatever he had planned."

My father stared at me, but I carried on. "I know I killed him," I said. "I believe we can help everyone here, but that's only if they want the help. I can't force them to stay in our pack. I need to think of what to do next."

I stared ahead as my mind ran through every scenario I could imagine.

I felt a hand on my shoulder, which pulled me out of my thoughts, and I looked up at my father, who was grinning. "Now that's what an alpha does," he said as he searched my face. "You have your Luna. How about we get all this," he said, motioning to the closet with his finger and looking at me. "Back to the pack, and we can go through everything."

I nodded.

Someone cleared their throat, making my father and I look over to the door and notice Elder Issac standing at the door. "I think we should take it all back to your pack," he said, looking between us. "I spoke to the lead Elder and gave him the name; he wasn't surprised as we suspected that we had a mole as we had a few rogue problems over the last four months, but nothing as bad as the attack on your pack."

Elder Issac stepped inside and looked at me. He sighed. "I believe we have some work to do," he said. "The lead Elder will be at your pack by tomorrow. He has to torture someone first."

I stared at him, but I couldn't help my eyebrows shoot up. Elder Issac looked at me and smirked. "The man that gave our secrets away wanted his position," he said. "He only needed one excuse to throw him in jail, and you gave it to him."

I nodded.

I looked at both men and sighed. “Dad,” I said. “Have a few men to help you box everything up, and you don’t leave here till everything is boxed up. Have Keith help you, and I think Alpha Gareth and Nathan will want answers too, and even Alpha Dean.”

My father nodded.

I looked to Elder Issac. “Can your leader come here soon? I will need help with the new pack members,” I said. “We may need doctors, and many of them.”

Elder Issac nodded. “I will notify him,” he said. “What are you going to do now?”

I looked at him and let out a long sigh.

“I am going to get out of this place and find my Luna,” I said. “I gave the pack members three hours to decide what they wanted to do. I won’t force any of them to be pack members of my pack, and I am letting them decide what they want to do. It is only fair to them.”

Elder Issac nodded, but his eyebrows furrowed. “What if they decide to become rogues,” he said.

I shrugged.

“I don’t know,” I said. “It takes one person to change people’s minds, and I believe they will decide what is right for themselves.”

Elder Issac stared; he opened his mouth but stopped saying something.

I glanced at my father, who was glaring at him.

Strange, I thought.

“Papa wolf thinks you are right in letting the pack members decide on what they want to do with their lives,” said Blaze as he stepped closer. “That Elder might want to back off the way he is questioning your alpha abilities, or I will use him as my next plaything.”

I looked back at Blaze, slightly amused at what he said.

Blaze smirked.

“Or we could let mate hurt him,” he said.

I chuckled.

Knowing Roxie, if she had heard how this elder was acting, she would have a few choice words to tell him.

I looked back at Elder Issac. "I'm going outside," I said. "I will leave the two of you to go through this all. I need to find out what the hell will happen next to my new members."

I moved off the wall, leaving my father with Elder Issac.

I didn't bother looking around the room.

I had seen enough.

I needed to get out of here.

I walked out of the alpha suite and didn't look back.

I kept my head straight ahead and headed toward the pack house front door.

I looked to the side and stopped as I spotted a massive door.

Some men placed all the dead pack member's bodies in the hall.

I walked over and looked around the hall.

The hall seemed to be the only thing with no blood on the ground, but knowing my father, he probably had some to clear up the mess.

I watched the men place bodies in a line, not even covering them up.

I looked around and stared ahead; a few pack members were coming in. Some fell to the ground as they found their loved one's body.

My heart broke for them.

I stood rooted to the spot; I couldn't help but watch everything unfold before my eyes.