

The Millennium Wolves

Book 5 - Chapter 27

Jocelyn

Nobody was listening to me.

The whole leadership of the East Coast Pack had assembled to discuss our invitation from the Alpha of the Millennium himself. To Lumen. The werewolf capital.

But Aiden and Josh were so busy making plans upon plans they weren't listening to the objections of anyone else.

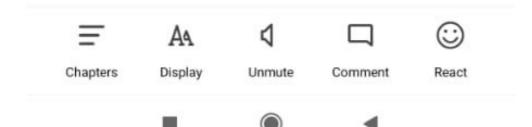
"The fact is," Aiden said, "we can't have everyone come. We need leaders here to guard our home. And it would bring too much attention if everyone came together."

"My Alpha," I began, "may I suggest-"



But Josh interrupted me, standing up.

"Respectfully, Aiden, Raphael's letter makes it very clear that he wants *all* of us to attend. If the Alpha to end all Alphas is afraid of this vampyre, we should be too. He needs all the help he can get."



"There is an alternative—" I tried to say again.

But again, Aiden jumped in first. "No, Josh. That invitation can be interpreted in multiple ways. I am *choosing* to interpret it as an invitation, not a demand. Is that understood?"

"But, Aiden-"

"My Alpha, you mean," Aiden said sternly.

Sometimes he would have to remind us if we grew too personal that we were talking business. Josh nodded his head, subservient.

"My Alpha, we've both faced Konstantin for ourselves. We know what he's capable of. Especially if he's trying to amass power by targeting Raphael. The threat has never been so extreme."

Aiden was about to respond, but I'd had enough of sitting by the sidelines.

For so many years I'd been the sweet, quiet one on our council.

I was always happy to give and help and heal everyone.

But after what I'd been through, a part of me

felt more liberated to just be my honest self. No overly nice front necessary.

"Aiden, Josh, listen to me," I demanded, standing up. And this time, they did. Everyone went quiet.

"If this vampyre is as brilliant as you say, he will know you're coming one way or another," I said. "Bring all your warriors. You're going to need them. Leave the diplomats here to keep control."

It was a good plan, and Aiden knew it.

Because he wasn't fighting it.



He just stared at me hard.

"It's hard to believe I'm talking to the same healer," he said. "Since when do you have so many tactical ideas?"

"I always have, Aiden," I said. "I was just too polite to say them."

"Well," he said, raising his eyebrows, "I'm glad you're correcting that now. Because that's the best plan I've heard. I can only hope our strongest will be enough."

Nina



I was eavesdropping outside the boardroom when I heard Jocelyn finally stand up and show the two boys how it was done.

I smiled. I loved when Jocelyn showed a bit more of her tough side. It was beyond sexy.

But I knew there was a hitch in her plan, one that Aiden had just brought up, with only one potential solution: me.

"I can only hope our strongest will be enough," I heard Aiden say.



I took a deep breath. I knew Aiden and Josh still hated me for what I'd done, for my betrayal of the pack, but if ever there was a moment to win back their loyalty, it was now.

I threw open the door and stepped inside, watching as Jocelyn's eyes widened.

I shot her a wink that said, Don't worry, I got this.

"What the hell are you—" Josh began. But I held up a hand. "Can it, Beta. I'm here to talk to the Alpha."

"You don't belong in this room, Nina,"
Aiden growled. "You're lucky to be alive,
let alone allowed a presence among our pack
after what you did."



"You're right," I said with a shrug. "Which is why I'd like to make it up to you. No knock to your warriors intended, but I've seen them train and they're a bunch of wusses. More like sheep than wolves."

"Excuse me?" Josh said, his hair raising.

"I said no knock, buddy. Take it down a notch."



"What are you suggesting?" Aiden asked. "I am running out of patience."

"Here's this for an idea," I said. "I'm the only rogue you've got. My kind of skill? My fight? It'll go a long way. Bring me along and I swear to protect you, the Alpha of the Millennium, and Sienna with my life. Personally."

"You once threatened to kill Sienna. Now you want to protect her?" Aiden asked, disbelieving.

"Technically, I was being blackmailed, but I get your point," I said. "You need a real soldier? So let me fight. It'll be, y'know, like a nice redemption story or something."

Everyone in the room looked at Aiden, considering my offer in silence. Everyone except Jocelyn, who only had eyes for me. I gave her a look that said, It's okay.

I'll be okay. I'll be back soon.

Then I turned to Aiden. "So, what do you say?"

Michelle

si!



Michelle

i desperately need your help



Sienna

What's going on???

Sienna

Are you okay???

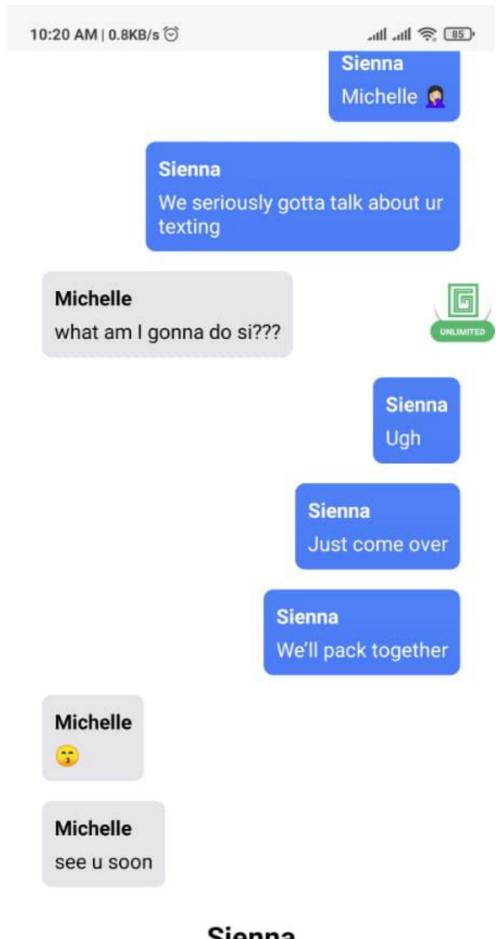
Michelle

i cant fit all my clothes in two bags

Michelle







Sienna

Michelle and I packed and unpacked five





times in a row before we finally settled on the perfect arrangement for our upcoming trip to Lumen.

"I am so excited to finally see it," Michelle said, zipping up her second bag. "The werewolf capital is supposed to be beautiful. Surrounded by trees! And waterfalls! And close to the ocean!"

"You do remember why we're going, right?" I asked, smiling. "Don't get me wrong, I'm excited too. Just saying...there's sort of a big bad vampyre we're supposed to face."

"Oh yeah. Him. Eh."

Michelle shrugged, and I was shocked how easily she could let go of the past. This vampyre had done horrid things to both of us.

"The truth is," she said, "I mostly just want it to be over so Josh'll be himself again. I mean I'm prazing, girl. And that's not gonna be the case forever."

We both laughed at this. I was beyond grateful that Michelle would be coming with us. It made the trip really feel like a *vacation*, not just some undercover operation.

Plus, to see a Summer Banquet in Lumen of

all places? The idea alone made my heart race.

"Okay," Michelle said, looking at her two packed bags, so stuffed they looked like they were about to burst. "Now where do I put my toiletries?"



"Goodbye, sweetie! Take care, all right?"

I hugged my mom and dad. We were standing on the edge of the pack property. The cars were packed, and we were headed to the airport shortly.

"I won't be gone long," I told them. "You really didn't need to send me off."

"We wanted to," my dad said, smiling. "And, uh, it gives me a chance to apologize to you."

I frowned. I hadn't thought about the luncheon in a while, so I was surprised my dad was bringing it up.

"Dad, it's really okay," I started, but he shook his head.

"It's not. That's why I asked Rowan to be here too."

He nodded over my shoulder, and there, to my surprise, was my biological father of all people. His beard as glorious as ever. His eyes, mysterious and unknowable.

But his smile, recognizable. Almost akin to my own.

"Hey there," he said. "Thanks, Robert."



"Don't mention it."

"You mean you two are...cool?"

"We had a long talk," Rowan said. "And I think we've come to an understanding."

"Which is?"

"We're all here for you. You are what matters."

I was so moved that I threw my arms around Rowan and hugged him.

He looked beyond shocked by the physical embrace, like he hadn't known love in decades.

And if his story was true and he'd been imprisoned by a deity for all these years, that would be the case.

"Thanks for coming," I said. "I'll see you all when I get back."

I turned for the car where Aiden and Josh were talking quietly. "...when Konstantin shows himself, you leave him to me this time," Josh insisted. "I want to be the one to end him."

"I'll do my best, Josh, but no promises. We don't know what he's capable of."

I turned to see Rowan beside me, also listening. "You do know that neither of them will be able to stop Konstantin, right?"

"What do you mean?"

"Sienna, at some point, you will have to reveal your true nature. When the time comes, don't hesitate. You alone can end the monster."

"How?" I asked, more confused than ever.

But, without answering, Rowan gave me an awkward smile and turned to leave.

I didn't know what he meant.

The idea that I, of all people, might be the answer to stopping the vampyre seemed crazy. I was just tagging along because Raphael had asked me too

Raphael had asked me too.

Right?

"C'mon, let's go!" Aiden shouted out to me.

I waved once more to my parents then ran into the car, excited to finally be on our way. But as we left the pack property, all I could think about were Rowan's words.

When the times comes, don't hesitate.

I didn't know what my biological father meant, but I'd do my best.

Rowan



I waited until every pack vehicle had left the property before I turned on my car and followed them.

There was no way they could handle Konstantin alone.

They needed me. Sienna needed me.

If she proved unable to harness the power within her, I vowed that I would be there.

Konstantin killed my mate. He killed Sienna's mother. As long as I breathed, When the times comes, don't hesitate.

I didn't know what my biological father meant, but I'd do my best.

Rowan

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Konstantin killed my mate. He killed Sienna's mother. As long as I breathed, I would make sure he would never hurt anyone in my family again.

"I'll be there, Sienna," I promised. "I'll be there."

Next Chapter

