



Series

The Millennium Wolves



Book 5 - Chapter 28

Sienna

Lumen was unlike any city I'd ever seen in my life. The majesty of its old cobbled streets combined with modern quirky Oregon touches made every moment spent here fascinating.

When Aiden and I and everyone from the pack first arrived, we'd done a little tour.

Aiden said it was a scouting mission, but for Michelle and I, it was really just a chance to see what the werewolf capital was made of.

And, my oh my, it did not disappoint. Every kind of werewolf was here. Everyone was preparing for the Summer Banquet. And everyone, of course, was hazing like crazy

Michelle had giggled and pointed out multiple couples getting in on in the middle of public parks and in subway stations and even along the riverbank.

I guess the wolves here were more liberated in that regard.



Chapters



Display



Unmute



Comment



React



Even I was impressed by some of the combinations. Boy-on-boy-on-girl and vice versa and cuddle-puddles turned to orgies and...

Anyway. It was a lot.

So when the night of the Banquet finally arrived, I was beyond excited to see a classier side of the city. I put on Selene's midi-designed summer dress and twirled for Aiden.

"You look ravishing," he said with a smirk. "It's a shame we have to leave the room."

I so wished we could stay and make the most of the haze. Seeing all those wild young couples had given me a couple of ideas.

But I knew, right now, that pack business had to come first.

Too many lives were at stake.

Including my own.

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of the Millennium's pack house at the center of Lumen, my jaw dropped in disbelief.

I had never seen an event more beautifully decorated in my life. There were no lights or electricity anywhere, from what I could tell. Only candelabras and chandeliers adorned with flickering candlelight.

It gave the entire majestic assembly hall an old-fashioned glow.

At the center of the hall was a massive summer altar, a towering statue shaped to look like two hands reaching upwards to the sky.

I'd heard that ceremonious displays were common at events in Lumen but never seen one for myself.

Aiden grabbed my arm when he saw a wolf approach who we both recognized immediately. We bowed our heads.



"Alpha of the Millennium," Aiden said. "It is an honor to be your guest."

"Please, Aiden," Raphael said, flashing a dazzling grin. "We're all friends here. Tonight's a celebration. You can use my name."

"Raphael," Aiden said, shaking his hand.

“It’s good to see you.”

“And you. I believe you’ve met my mate, Eve?”

Eve, the purple-eyed vampire who I’d met a few times before, nodded at Aiden and then in my direction. But I was surprised to see a shy-looking child by her side.

“...and this is our daughter, Snow,” Raphael continued. “Care to say hello, Snow?”

But Snow said nothing, looking a bit intimidated by our large entourage.

“She’s a bit shy,” Raphael said with a shrug, and then he looked at Aiden. “Come, we have much to discuss before the night begins.”

Aiden nodded and turned to Josh. “Set up perimeter, and keep your eyes peeled for sign of him, okay?”



“What about the infant he’s stolen?” Josh asked.

“We’ll cross the bridge when the time comes. I trust you to handle this, Josh.”

Josh nodded and left with Nina and a few other of our pack’s warriors while Aiden



took off with Raphael.

That left me, Michelle, and Eve. And her child, of course.

Eve smiled. “So. Shall we ladies get an appetizer?”

Aiden

“So what’s the plan?”

I joined Raphael in his nearby office as he poured two stiff drinks.

“I’m surprised by how few wolves you brought, Aiden,” he said. “Was my letter not clear?”

Shit. So Josh had been right after all about the hidden message.

“I apologize, Raphael,” I said. “I thought if our numbers were lean and mean, we might stand a better chance against the vampyre.”

“From what I understand, he has an artifact now that allows him to make many selves. Let us hope we are enough.”

He handed over a glass to me, and we both took a long silent sip.



“I heard about what he did to your mate,” Raphael said. “And to Josh’s. I hope tonight we will be able to avenge them.”

“Here’s to that,” I said, holding up my glass.

As our glasses clinked, I looked around the study. It was covered in promotional materials for the Summer Banquet, reminding me of my tireless work on past Yule Balls.

“You know how we know Konstantin is coming, Aiden?” Raphael asked.

“To be honest,” I said, shaking my head, “I’ve been trying to figure it out ever since I arrived.”

Raphael pointed to the posters. “It’s simple really. We invited every kind of creature to this ball for the first time in our history. Not just wolves. Vampyres. What have you. For one day, all are welcome in Lumen.”



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“So you’re setting a trap?”

“Yes, but Konstantin will know it’s a trap, of course. Which is why I need so many soldiers. In case he tries to play it against us.”

I took a sip, shaking my head. “Do you understand what he’s after? Why he’s after



you now?"

"From what I understand and from what your Beta has told me, he's trying to gain as much power as possible. As the Alpha of the Millennium, my powers would make an excellent addition, I suppose."

"How are you so sure he'll show up?" I asked.

"You should know, Aiden," Raphael said. "From what I've heard about your experiences with him, along with Sienna's, Konstantin is a notorious showboat. Given the chance to provoke, he will. This is his chance."

"And if we are not enough to face him?" I asked.

Raphael took a long gulp of his drink, almost finishing it, then looked at me solemnly.



"Then the world as we know it, the world ruled by werewolves, will end."

Sienna

Every time I saw Eve, I was reminded of how those purple eyes had once made me feel. Like I was losing my mind. Like I was the only one who could see her.

But now as she handed hors d'oeuvres to her quiet child, a beautiful daughter with a strange sparkle to her eyes, I found it strange that I'd ever considered her intimidating.

She looked like a mother now.

Something I could never be.

Michelle was already stuffing her face with as many appetizers as she could grab from the passing waiters. A side effect of being pregnant, no doubt.

Eve noticed, giving Michelle a smile. "You're expecting?"

"How did you..." Michelle said, looking mortified. "I'm not even showing yet!"

"Oh, it's just a sense of mine," Eve said. "Nothing to worry about. You're going to love being a mother. I know I have."



She pinched Snow's cheek, and I was surprised by how warm this vampire could be. I'd always thought of her kind as cold-blooded, especially after my experiences with Konstantin.

"He's a vampyre," she said. "There's a bit of a difference."

Whoa. Did she just read my mind?



Whoa. Did she just read my mind?

She nodded once again. “Apologies, bad habit.”

I looked at Snow, and I wondered why I’d never seen her before. I had, after all, met the Alpha of the Millennium and his mate a few times before.

Where had Snow been?

“May I ask you something, Eve? Your daughter, why is it we’ve never...”

“Snow,” Eve said to her daughter. “Would you like to tell them?”

Snow took a bite of a cracker, and then her big eyes met mine. “Rescued me. From bad deity. Mommy and Daddy.”

“That’s the abridged version, but yes, exactly,” Eve said with a smile. “I don’t know what I would do without you, Snow.”

Snow smiled and pressed her head against her mother’s arm. While it was an awkward motion, the affection was pure and real and made my heart cry out.

Eve took my hand a second later, realizing, reading my mind again. “I am so sorry,



Sienna. I didn't..."

"It's okay," I said. "Seeing what it could be like is enough."

"That doesn't have to be it, you know," Eve said. "There are other ways."

I'd thought about that. I was adopted, after all, myself. But the idea of raising a child that didn't share any part of me...a stranger?

Yes, I'd been raised that way, I guess. But, still, something about it felt wrong.

"One day, you'll be a mother," Eve said. "Of that, I have no doubt."

She took my hand, and I was so moved I didn't notice Michelle dropping her plate. Even as it crashed to the ground, I didn't turn.



I assumed my friend must've just been clumsy. But then she showed me.

"Sienna, look..."

The strange mark on Michelle's arm from where Konstantin's tar had burned her seemed to be...glowing. And I realized, panicking, that we weren't alone in the assembly hall.



“He’s here,” I said.

Eve instinctively grabbed Snow’s hand and took her to a secret door. “Come, we have to get you out of here, my love.”

Before she fled, Eve gave me one last glance, and I heard her voice in my head.

Don't be afraid of him. The vampyre isn't as powerful as he thinks he is.

Then the doors flew open to the assembly hall, and the entire room went silent. Standing there, in the sleekest suit, his black hair slicked back, was the man who had entered my mind and violated my memories.

The vampyre who had killed my mother.

The evil creature who had tortured Aiden and me ever since.



“Well, well, well,” Konstantin bellowed. “Now, *this* is what I call a party!”



Did you know that we have ANOTHER story that is set in The Millennium Wolves world?!

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Devil Vs. Alpha



Eve's very powerful, and she'll stop at nothing to complete her newest mission protecting the lives of two teenage girls. there are distractions...



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See you there!



Next Chapter

