

Chapter 125 Manuel

She is beautiful, petite, caramel colour skin, with shoulder length, wavy red hair, big hazel colour eyes, with the longest lashes. Beautiful lips, a beautiful smile. But the scent.... The scent, just isn't there..... Maybe it wasn't this girl I'd scented... Maybe with the bar being this busy I was mistaken. Maybe now I had missed my chance at meeting my mate because I had thought it was this girl.

“Manuel, this is Lola Castillo from Crimson Night Pack, Lola, this is Manuel Gomez” Lilah smiled as she introduced us.

Crimson night pack? That is way down the south of the country! What is she doing all the way up here?!

I smiled softly at the girl in front of me as she smiled shyly at me. I was unsure what Lilah had told her.

Lilah, I don't think it is her. The scent has gone. My heart feels broken as I link her. My heart had dropped as I had thought I had found my mate, and now I was facing the reality that I had not , that I had likely lost the opportunity to find her. That I had missed out. It seems whoever the scent had come from had long gone now....

Speak to her Manny Knox links me, as I feel a slight kick to my foot.

Shit, I was being rude.... I am not good at this.

“Hi, Lola, are you ok, by the way? As I saw what happened at the bar. I was coming to check you were ok, but you'd gone” I say awkwardly. Damn I useless with women.....

De-scenting spray Manny, she put more on... shake her hand.... Touch her... do something..... then you'll know... Lilah suddenly links again, responding to my link to her before Knox had urged me to speak.

What?! Oh, now that would make sense. She probably had some on earlier and the cocktail spilling on her rinsed enough off that I could scent her. She needed to put more on because it isn't really safe to be in a human bar without it..... I can feel my heart pounding..... Could this really be her?

“Yeah I am good thanks” Lola looks at me shyly.

I want to go touch her.... How can I do that and not seem like a creep?.....

“How about we go get a drink?” Knox suggests.

“Sure” Lola agrees. “I never got to the bar in the end”

Guide her to the bar Lilah links.

That could work, it is busy in here. I see Knox has his hand on Lilah's lower back, guiding her through the throng of people in the club, but I don't know if I can do that to Lola.... I don't know her.... But I need to know.... I need to know if she is mine..... be brave Manny..... I tell myself.....

I reach my hand out and place the palm gently on the centre of her back, there is a tingling of almost an electrical pulse rippling through me... it is her..... Lola stops dead in her tracks.... her big hazel eyes are looking up at mine.... Time feels like it has stopped still..... the flurry of people around us in the bar just a distant noise.....

“You're my mate” she whispers.

I nod “ My mate” I whisper in her ear as I lean my head down to her to gently kiss her lightly on the cheek.

She smiles the most beautiful smile at me, as she takes my hand and leads me to the bar where my friends are waiting. The sensation of her touch feeling amazing and new to me.

Lilah is grinning as we approach, two cocktails sit waiting on the bar alongside two whisky glasses.

“ So Crimson Night Pack you say? What you doing all the way over here?” Knox asks, typical Alpha, I smile.

“Visiting my cousin who is at university here, and I'm glad I did now” Lola says, looking at me with a beautiful smile again.

I can't believe I have found my mate!

“So am I!” I smile down to her, I can't take my eyes of her, she is beautiful....she is mine.....

“Shall we go back to the booth? You want to get your cousin to join us Lola? I'm guessing she is around?” I hear Lilah suggest.

Mmm snuggling up with her in the booth sounds good.... Don't think I'd be talking much to my friends though...

“Yeah she had gone out to take a phone call. I'll link her” Lola says, as I take her hand and lead her to the booth where our friends were sat, no doubt dying of thirst seeing as I'd gone for drinks quite a while ago now....

I found her Del.....I link her, she is beautiful.....

She sure is Manny, sooooo happy for you! She's so sweet too! Lilah links me back as we walk toward our booth, I see Knox has his arm confidently around her shoulders, looking down at his mate with sheer love and adoration.... that's what I want to be like.... Comfortable enough and brave enough to be like that with my mate I think....it comes so naturally to him... I worry she won't like it... won't like me....

“Oh about time! Dudes dying of thirst over here!!” Gabe said pretending to choke like he was gasping for air, I couldn't help but laugh.

Time for me to introduce my mate I guess.....

“Well clearly I didn't keep you waiting long enough as you're still able to talk hey Gabe” I grin at him, and hear Knox laugh next to me “but there was something more important I had to see to, well someone....”

I see my friends look at me, then to Lola with raised eyebrows.

“Guys, this is Lola, my mate....” I say with the biggest smile I think imaginable on my face, Gabe's mouth dropping open as I do. “Lola, this is Indie and Dan, Jake our Beta, and the guy with a mouth so wide you could run a train through is my cousin Gabe. Now you want to sit down Mi Amor?” Lola looks to me with those eyes I could get lost looking in, and nods at me with a smile.

So I take her hand and lead her into the booth, pulling her close to me as we sit, treasuring the tingles and shocks her touch from the mate bond was giving me.

She leans forward to rest her elbow on the table, curling her head round so she is facing me, “So my handsome mate....seems like fate finally found a way to get us together...I can't tell you how long I have been waiting for you Mi Amor”

My beautiful angel was perfect..... I lean forward slightly so I was closer to her, whispering in her ear....

“Well I am here sweet girl and I am going no where. All yours if you are wanting me of course?” I say with nerves in my voice.

She pulls back, a frown on her face. Oh.... Have I upset her? I'm no good with ladies....but this is not just any old lady... this is my mate....

“And why would I not want my mate, especially one so handsome and muscly” she squeezes the top of my arms and I can't help but let out a chuckle. “And from what Lilah told me one that is an amazing guy too”

Oh wow Lilah been bigging me up to her? Haha I owe her one I think....

“I'm sorry Mi Amor I'm nervous... I'm not good at this sort of stuff... I'm nothing special... Lilah is my friend she has to say that stuff...I'm so nervous.... You are beautiful.... So beautiful.... Why would you want someone like me? A big ball of nerves?” I blurt out without thinking.

Shit.... I didn't mean to say all that... she'll think I'm an idiot... she'd definitely not want me now....

I see a soft smile on her face.... “You mi amor are the cutest” then she leans in and her lips are suddenly on mine....

My heart is pounding so hard in my chest I think I'm going to have a heart attack... She goes to move away, I assume she was going for a quick peek on the lips, but I don't think I want her to go just yet.... I lift my hand to her cheek, to hold her gently and pull her closer so her lips are back to mine again, and we are kissing again....her tongue parting my lips for access to my mouth....

Mmmm I think I am in heaven.....

“LOLA?!” A voice suddenly yells, interrupting our moment... dammit!!! We pull apart...

“Esme!” Lola says looking sheepish at the girl who has approached the table, another girl who is petite but has shoulder length, dark curly hair, but the same tone of caramel skin Lola has and similar hazel eyes but I have to say I don't think her eyes are as beautiful as my mates. She has multiple piercings in her ears like Indie and also in her nose.

“Guys this is my cousin Esmerelda, or Esme for short. Esme, this is Manuel, my mate, and his friends” she smiles at her cousin “they invited us to join them”

“We'll move so you can sit near your cousin if you like, though how much you will be able to talk to her I don't know” Gabe grins.

I see Esme look to Gabe with a smile “Hmm you're likely right, I'm probably going to need shots if I have to see my sweet cousin having her face eaten, but thank you”

Gabe let's out a deep laugh “No problem Chica, get yourself sat down, we can sort shots, or I'll just slap my cousin upside his head” he says with a twinkle in his eye, and I don't doubt he would, dick...he offers Esme a hand to lead her round the booth. She reaches for his hand, and as she takes it. A look between the two tells me something has happened...

“Erm.... I need to go” suddenly Esme is turning round and walking toward the exit of the bar....

“Esme wait!” Gabe says, getting up to follow her, we're all looking confused....

What the hell happened....

Gabe what's going on? I link him.

Dude she's my mate..... he responds. No way... what are the chances?! My mate's cousin is my cousin's mate?... but why did she run?

“Lola, is she ok?” I ask as I see her eyes finish glazing over having clearly been linking her cousin.

“Yeah she needs some time, she has gone for some air... I think Gabe found her... they need to talk...” she looks to me with a smile.

Oh no... had I found my mate and he found his for her not to want him?....