Chapter 16 Lilah

No there may be no cure for heartbreak, but it will be nice to see Aunty T any way, she always makes me feel welcome I think to myself as I nod at Indie. We quickly clear up our things, leaving them in the dining room off her lounge, before locking the front door behind us and making our way back through pack to the opposite outer edges where Indie's Auntie lived. The sun wasn't quite as warm now, as it was lower in the sky as the day was heading toward evening.

Pack was busy as people were arriving home from work, kids were playing out making the most of the last of the sun before it went in for the day; as Indie and I strolled through the pack we laughed and joked like we always did, I really didn't know what I would do without her.

I nod in agreement, my Mum would be annoyed at me if I didn't, and Indie had known her long

"Think Aunty T is cooking for us so you want to let your Mom know?" Indie looked to me

enough to know that too. Plus I wouldn't say no to Aunty T's cooking, she was a genius in the kitchen, shame that wasn't something Indie had learnt from her.... You were lucky if Indie ever had any food in her little cottage, and if there was it was junk foods or snacks... so it was take out or nothing when staying with Indie, so I was definitely not going to say no to home made cooking from her Aunty. Mama I quickly linked we popped in to see Indie's Aunty as she wanted to show her some paintings, and her Aunty offered us some dinner so don't worry about cooking for me....

Ok sweetheart, thanks for letting me know. Don't be too late though. Don't like you being that far out near the forest when its dark...I quickly cut her off before she starts making a fuss

By the time we had reached Indie's Aunt's house the sun was lower in the sky, the house was smaller than most of the houses on pack, not unlike Indie's cottage really, as it was just her that lived here alone. She had no mate and no children. She was our pack seer so preferred the space

and peace of a house out in the quieter woodland areas of the pack land. As Indie knocked lightly on the door as she entered I heard her call to us "come in darlings". She may have had no children of her own, but she treated Indie like her own, and was like another member of my family too. Walking in through the front door of her house, which opened straight into her small living room I was met with a mixture of scents, a strong aroma of incense I know

she loved to burn, a smell I would forever affectionally associate with her, and also the smell of something cooking too, and I had to say whatever it was smelt beautiful! I felt my stomach growling in response already..... I heard Aunty T chuckle "Oooh is someone hungry?" she smiled as she came toward us to pull us toward her in an embrace. That faint smell of sandalwood and jasmine from the incense lingering on her as she held us close was a comforting scent to me now.

"Hey my angels" she smiled "you girls want a drink?" we followed her into her larger kitchen/ dining room with a large, long breakfast type bar along the wall with shelves above and drawers underneath too which she used for her herbal stuff.

"Mmm please Aunty T" I said, I had called her that myself from being small, despite her not

wanted to talk about anyway.

arm around me.

would have to her own child.

"Hey Aunty T" Indie said

being my Aunt. When I first met her and heard Indie call her that I thought that was her actual name, not realising she was Indie's Aunt, I was only young at the time, so I called her the same thing. She had never corrected me, it was only as I got older I realised and apologised and she told me I was family too and it would hurt her now if she was anything other than Aunty T to me, so that is what she had stayed, and to be honest it wouldn't feel right calling her anything else either.

"Let me guess girlies, diet coke?" she smiled, she knew us well, and I knew she only bought in diet coke for us too as she only drank herbal teas or water, so the fact she was sweet enough to go out of her way to make sure she had diet coke in for us made her extra sweet I had to say. "How did you know?!" Indie feigned surprise then grinned. Aunty T grabbed two cans from her fridge and walked over to us again, motioning for us to sit

I sat down opposite her at the table, not sure what to say, I began fidgeting with my nails, then with my hair.... "If you don't want to speak angel you know you don't have to... I know I'm out on the edges of

pack here but I did hear about what happened, and I am so so sorry sweetheart. I know you must

be hurting right now" Aunty T reached for my hand with hers, like she had knew what I had

down at the table in the dining area of the large kitchen. "Indie says you wanted to ask me

something darling?" she looked to me. Wow straight to the point.....

tears already beginning in my eyes, and Indie obviously senses that as her arm is already around me in a hug. We sit around the old oak table in Aunty T's dimly lit kitchen as I spill out all my feelings to her, as I cry, explain how I feel, she look on with a softness and caring in her eyes, not once a look of

judgement or criticism crosses her face and her hand never leaving mine. She frequently uses her

other hand to wipe away the tears flowing down my face, while Indie has continued to keep her

I feel able to tell her exactly how I am feeling, everything that has happened and just how much

I look up to her and smile sadly, "It's hard Aunty T, I thought he would be my mate..." I feel the

pain I am feeling without the fear of being judged. I know I am safe with these two, and know they care. "It just hurts so much" I finish. "I know my angel, I do" Aunty T looks to me, her big brown eyes filled with care and compassion "matters of the heart like this always do hurt the most, but our moon goddess knows what she is doing, you must know that my love, she must have known that while you and Logan were meant

to have a close bond it wasn't to be a mate bond....." she paused as if to think "he wasn't meant

cannot be received in the way it should and reciprocated as such, it will take time, but you are

I can promise you that..." she lifts my hand to her lips and kisses it with an affection a mother

I knew everything I had told her had been listened to, and I knew she understood the pain I was

for you in that way my angel. I know you love him, and love can hurt, so very very much when it

young my love, you have a wonderful life ahead of you, this pain will one day be forgotten about

feeling....maybe I could ask... "Aunty T" I begin, she looks to be with a soft smile, making the lines around her eyes tighten "is there anything you can make me with your herbs to help with the pain in my heart?" I look to her in hope. I see a look of surprise on her face, then I see her look to her worksurface type breakfast bar to the side of the dining area, which she has set up for herbal medicine work area. I can see her thinking,

became like my own child once her mother had her, and when you became so close you were like another daughter to me my lovely and I would do all that I could in my powers to make sure you are both happy and both safe, but on this occasion my sweet sweet girl I think that this is out of my powers... my herbal medicinal knowledge is basic I think and certainly wouldn't cover

something like this....." she paused as if to think "although...." I could see her thinking again

"Aunty T it is fine, I guessed it would be unlikely. I just need to find a way to stop loving him,

She looks back to me, a sadness in her eyes "My angel, as much as I wish I could help, and I hope

you know just how much I wish I could help you my sweet Lilah, seeing you in pain hurts me as

much it would as if my own family are hurting, I never gave birth to my own children, Indie

and I am hoping, almost desperately for her to say there could be.

"no I don't think so my love, I am so sorry".

Ah well I guessed it had been a long shot.

that way I might not feel the pain so bad" I smile at her. She squeezes my hand again. "Time is a great healer my love, and you will heal. You have your family, and you have Indie and myself, I sense you will go on to greater things, things the moon goddess thought Logan was not a suitable mate for perhaps my angel" she spoke, all the while looking into my eyes, I felt almost mesmerised by her intense gaze, though I am sure she was doing all she could to be kind and think of ways to make me feel better. For that I was grateful. I knew many people in our pack considered her creepy and weird with her being a seer, and the fact she lived on her own and didn't mix so much with the rest of the pack, but through being friends with Indie and getting to know her I had got to see what a kind and caring woman she

was, and what an amazing mother she would have been had she gone on to have children. I loved

happy for me to spend time here with Indie when we were younger, she had easily become part of

"Thanks Aunty T" I said and as I spoke Indie's stomach growled, she uncomfortably pushed her

"Sounds like I best get to feeding my hungry girls" she stood from the table and walked to the

Indie smiled at me "You ok?" she asked, probably fully aware that I was likely a little

the time I got to spend with her, my Mum and Dad trusted her greatly with me too, and were

my extended family, Indie and I were blessed to have her care so much about us.

hand to her belly and awkwardly smiled and Aunty T began to chuckle.

Aga.

male genetalia" she winked at us

I totally get why Aunty T liked to live up here.

senses.

have to walk back through pack to get to our houses, I nod.

disappointed that Aunty T couldn't help. "One of them things Ind, I knew it was unlikely. Not really a medical condition is it, heartbreak... or how to cut off love, not like chopping off an arm now is it?" Indie giggled "Maybe we could chop something of his off, he'd be no use to her as a mate then" she winked at me with a grin. I knew exactly what she meant and began to giggle too, she was crazy. "I'd rather no castration attempts please Indie my love, they already think I'm a bad influence on

you, don't make it any worse" Aunty T spoke up, we forget sometimes just how enhanced our

hearing can be with being werewolves, and Aunty had clearly heard our conversation from the

kitchen. Indie and I both whipped out heads round to look at her but saw she had a massive grin

Indie stuck her tongue out at her Aunty "was just a potential idea Aunty T" she smiled sweetly

"Hmm, very messy though, lots of blood too..." Aunty T grinned at the looks of shock on both of

our faces, Indie and I both now wondering if she had actually done it....or was she teasing us? I

searched her face to try to work it out and couldn't tell, she was good at keeping a poker face....

Then she smiled again "Anyway, dinner is served, and don't worry I haven't been hacking at any

on her face, she had a wicked sense of humour too, something else I think Indie had inherited......

Indie and I laughed again as Aunty T set our plates down in front of us. She had cooked us homemade Lasagne, and it smelt divine..... I swear this woman could open her own café... I'd eat there every day given a chance! Aunty T brought herself a plateful of lasgane to the table, then went back to the fridge to bring over some drinks too.

"So you girls been painting more?" she asked, full of enthusiasm, it was her who had first got

"Oh yeah Aunty T, so much..." the conversation easily flowed over dinner, about our artwork, her

wanting a detailed description of each painting we'd done, adding suggestions for potential future

work, she had an amazing eye for artwork so we loved to hear her ideas, we spoke about the

after my parents, and asked me to tell them she passed on her best wishes and good thoughts.

herbal medicines Aunty T was working on, and the spiritual things she was studying, she asked

We happily sat chatting for a good couple of hours, like the old friends and family we were, this is

now a deep purply black, speckled with silver stars, from up here it was beautiful and so peaceful,

one of the places I felt truly comfortable and at home. The sky outside the kitchen window was

Indie into painting, and she did nothing but encourage us both within out artwork.

"We best get going Del" Indie said "Your Mama be wanting you back soon" As much as I have enjoyed my night I can see by the shade of the sky it is getting late, and we still

"Thanks for tonight Aunty T, it really helped" I went to hug her as she stood from the table.

"Anytime my angel, you know I am always here for you as I am for my Indie. I am just sorry I

couldn't help more" she embraced me again the scent of sandalwood and jasmine filling my

As I walked to the door she gave Indie a big hug "take care of her Indie, she will need her friend at the moment" Indie nodded in response.

We were waved off at the door by Aunty T, she stood there at the doorway until we were well out

of her view, like she always did. Indie and I walked through the now dark and quiet pack toward

my house, it was getting late, near eleven I guessed looking at the sky. Though I knew my Mum

and Dad would have expected me home late when I had told Mum we were staying for dinner

The pack streets were a lot quieter now than we had walked through them earlier in the day,

everyone no doubt settled at home, the kids definitely in bed, where I'd be headed once I got in, I

was shattered! And that generous portion of delicious lasagne Aunty T had served me had finished

with Aunty T, whenever we were there we always lost track of time.

me off for sure! A full belly when I was tired made me even more sleepy.

think" I smile. "like she said, I just need time right"

up there on here own this late please? I link her back

pack.

a blanket over her.

"Just talking to you helped Aunty T, it really did" I smiled as I pulled away from her embrace to

say goodbye. She smiled in return, like she was somewhat reassured she had helped in someway.

eat with her, but I am not complaining it was goooood!" Indie smiled. I was not going to disagree! "I'm sorry she couldn't help you Del" Indie looked at me with regret in her eyes. "Honestly its fine Indie, I didn't think she would be able to, was just me and wishful thinking I

Indie nodded as we continued the walk toward my house in silence. Time, yeah time is going to

help.... I got to keep telling myself that right..... I reassure myself just stay away from him for a

while, I don't need him, he certainly doesn't need me..... he doesn't need me....the pain in

my chest, my heart was back......How can he not need me? He had needed me since we were

small? How can I so easily be replaced? I am not so sure time will help this.....

"Aww tell me about it! Always makes me feel like I don't need to eat for about a month when I

Looking to Indie I could see she was the same, as she let out a massive yawn. I grinned at her

"Yep was just thinking how tired I was and how Aunty T's lasagne finished me off"

You nearly home Lilah? My Mum linked me, quickly interrupting my thoughts, as we were just down the street from our house. Its really late now, heading toward midnight.

Really? Sorry mum, just on the street now. Can Dad drive Indie home so she doesn't have to walk

Already planned to sweetheart, had no intention of having her walk up there alone, and figured

as close as we were Indie liked to go back to her own house, she didn't like sleeping here. She

was a lot like her auntie in that she liked the peacefulness of the pack borders, probably from

staying with her so much as a child, and where we lived was busy with it being so central to the

she would be unlikely to want to stay here, though the offer is here if she wanted. Mum was right,

"Dad is waiting to drive you home Indie" I smile to her.

"He really doesn't need to you know" she looks at me shaking her head as we approach my house.

"You know he wouldn't be happy you walking up there at this time on your own" I explain "No I wouldn't" my Dad's voice interrupted our conversation "You ready for home Indie love?" "Yeah thanks Beta Trent" she smiled at him. He shook his head, giving her a hug, "You know when its just us lot its Trent, Uncle Trent, or if

you want to be formal Mr Patterson would do" he teased her. I had to smile as she was always

"See you later Indie, has been fun today" I give her a hug as my Dad gets into the car. She climbs

calling him by his official name, despite him being like family to her.

into the passenger seat, and I head into the house, knowing I will be going straight to bed. "Hey sweetheart, you have fun?" my mum asked, she was curled up on the sofa in some pjs with

"Yeah we painted, then went to Aunty T's, she made some gorgeous Lasagne, then we lost track

of time chatting like always" I smile. "I'm going to go bed though, sooo tired"

"Ok love, night night" my mum calls as I walk up the stairs. I have a quick shower, throw on some cosy pjs, and climb into my cosy bed, the softness of my blankets so inviting to me when I was as tired as I felt right now. I heard my phone buzz on my bedside table, I reached for it from where I had laid down, it was a message of Aunty T, I didn't bother opening it, guessing it was the usual message to check we got home ok. I'd read it tomorrow, right now I needed sleep.....