## **Chapter 79 Knox**

We had spent a few more days together at weekends as a group, we'd been up to the lake again, chilled having movie afternoon and went bowling in town too. That was funny as Indie and Lilah were rubbish, I don't think Lilah was trying though and I'm sure Indie was playing at being rubbish so Dan would pay her attention and help her, not that she needed to as she had his attention good and proper..... that guy was hooked.... And rightly so, that was his mate after all....

I knew Lilah would visit Indie to do painting too, I made an effort not to go see her as I didn't want to seem too over friendly, I enjoyed spending time with her but ultimately I didn't want to be too full on as much as I want to see her, she isn't my mate, as much as I seem drawn to her, I have to keep telling myself that is because I am needing to help her. I need to give her her space...plus I got to see her at work each week day.

So we were getting to see Lilah in the week at work where she was doing amazingly, she had picked up everything so quickly and had loads of fresh ideas for the business too. So with us trying to help her it had benefitted us as a business too. I loved seeing her smile, she was so confident in her work but Indie had told me that was because she knew what she was doing and I recall Lilah saying much of the same. Our business associates seem to warm to her which was always a good thing as that meant they were open to business meetings and she was a winner at sweet talking then to signing deals with us when they were uncertain.

I would miss her being around the office now and Jake had said the same, she wouldn't work as often with Gabe and Manuel as she wasn't as confident with the property development side of the business but she had helped with the computer software for it which had improved the website massively. The girl was a lot more intelligent than she gave herself credit for and her pack were missing out by not using her to their full potential. I hoped our plan came to fruition and she moved to our pack in a few weeks or months at the longest as she would be such an asset to us, plus having her round all the time would certainly not be a hardship. And knowing she was happier and safe would be the biggest thing for us all.

I was chilling out after work, I had already had a shower and crashed on the recliner in my lounge ready to play on my games console when I heard my phone ringing on the coffee table. Weird, who'd be calling me at this time? Surely they'd just link?

I grabbed my phone

"Hello?" I say.

I could hear heavy, broken breathing on phone, sobbing. "Knox?" A voice gasps through the sobs.

Lilah?

"Lilah?! Where are you? What's wrong?" I was already up out of my chair before she was answering planning to go to her. I need to make sure she is ok. I don't like to hear her crying.

"I...." she was sobbing harder, her breathing faster. I grabbed my car keys and then slipped on my sneakers.

"Where are you? I'm coming to see you." I tell her.

"No, no don't" she sounds adamant.

What? She called me for help surely?! Why doesn't she want to see me? I felt a little hurt....no Knox be logical.... maybe she's in pack....she knows I can't go there....maybe that's why she's saying no.....

"Are you at pack sweet? Do you want to meet in town instead? We can grab ice cream?" It was still early evening so that was still possible, the ice cream parlour stayed open til late.

"No is ok Knox you..... you...d...d...don't" she was still struggling to speak between sobs bless her "need to do that for me. I wanted to speak to someone" she sighed. I wanted to see her..... hold her.... Stop her crying.... I was glad she thought of me though when needing to talk to someone though....

"Sweet I want to make sure you're ok. You need to get some fresh air, get out for a bit, will you meet me? Please?" I try to encourage her to come meet me as I head for my front door as I plan to go check she is ok even if I have to go to her pack.

"Ok" she mumbled.

"Good girl. Got to make sure you're ok. Besides I fancy ice cream" I add the lie at the end to make it sound as though it's a good reason to go, but in truth I want to make sure she is ok. She isn't my mate, I know that, but she is my friend and I have to protect her.....