

Chapter 11

Three days after Phoebe with Carlisle

One morning, Carlisle invited Phoebe to take a walk around the whole pack "Babe," the two were currently having breakfast on the balcony of their bedroom, "would you like to see the whole pack," he said.

Phoebe quickly replied, "yes, I want to see the whole pack!" Excited, she said.

After breakfast, Carlisle took Phoebe to the training ground. "This is where we train from dusk till dawn," he said proudly.

They are in front of training pack members. Phoebe was standing next to Carlisle's wheelchair. She saw her father and brother co-training with others.

"How big is your pack Carlisle?" Phoebe asked, then looked at him.

Carlisle smiled rst "our pack," he corrected her, he took her hand and kissed the back of it, "in terms of number, we're one of the top three biggest packs in the kingdom," he brought her hand on his chest, " and we're the second strongest pack next to the royal pack."

Regarding the royal pack, there was some sadness appearing on Phoebe's face and Carlisle immediately noticed that. He squeezed the girl's hand, "I want to show you something," he suggested, to take her mind off the royal pack.

Phoebe knows that her mate wants to shift her attention to something else so she won't feel sad. She smiled at him and nodded, "okay."

Carlisle took Phoebe to a lake. It's not far from the packhouse. One side has lush vegetation covering the lake, while the other side has large and small rocks. Beyond these stones and wild plants are centuries' old trees.

"It's beautiful!"

Carlisle was happy, and Phoebe liked the place, "this is where I used to play when I was a kid."

A mischievous smile ashed on Phoebe's face "oh really?"

Carlisle laughed, knowing that her mate was teasing him.

The two stayed until it was time to move back to the packhouse. There will be a gathering that will take place later. It is to celebrate Phoebe's family joining the pack.

During the celebration, everyone knew that Phoebe was Carlisle's mate. Some were happy, some raised their eyebrows, and some did not like the arrival of someone like Phoebe as their former alpha's mate. But none of them dared to insult or abuse Phoebe.

After dinner, everyone gathered and surround the bonre. Some were sitting on the prepared chairs and tables, others were sitting on the grass.

While everyone was having fun, someone approached Carlisle and handed over a guitar. Phoebe was shocked and amazed. She didn't know he can play.

Carlisle plays the guitar and serenades his mate. Everyone just listens to him playing and singing. Every mate lay their head on their mate's shoulder.

On the whole, the night is something Phoebe will never forget.

A week had passed, and Phoebe wondered why Carlisle was still not marking her. Although they sleep on the same bed, Carlisle does nothing but hug her every night.

As the days passed, Carlisle became strong again. He was able to stand with the help of a cane. He even took her on a date in town, just the two of them.

"This place is so beautiful, Carl!" Phoebe said cheerfully to her mate. They are in a restaurant run by a wolf. "It has a good ambiance," she said smiling after her eyes broadened to everything around them.

Carlisle held Phoebe's hand that was on the table, "I'm glad you like the place but, I'm sure you will like their food more," he called the waiter without letting go of her hand.

After dinner, they took a stroll in the park. It's almost midnight, so no one was there. They sat on the bench and watched the stars in the sky.

"Let's take a sit," Carlisle suggested, Phoebe nodded back.

Carlisle took Phoebe's hand and kissed it, then placed it on his chest. "Thank you for accepting me as your mate, Phoebe."

Phoebe looked at him in the eyes, she can see how he truly loved her. She could stop her hand from caressing his mate's face. "I'm sorry I was so late."

Carlisle shakes his head "It's okay, the important thing is we met," he raised his hand and caressed her face.

Phoebe looked at her mate's lips as well as Carlisle. Slowly, their face moved closer to each other. When their lips were only an inch away from each other, "may I kiss you, mate," Carlisle asked politely.

Phoebe smiled happily and nodded. Then his lips have touched hers. It was a simple kiss and without lust, purely respect for her.

After that light kiss, Carlisle pressed his forehead on hers, "thank you," he said smiling.

At the palace

There's a commotion in the palace ground. The warriors are moving fast searching every corner of the palace. News reached the king that rogues had entered the palace.

"Search every room, every corner. Do not leave anything unattended!" Matthew ordered. He looked at his beta. "We need to nd a way for us to trace these rogues." Orion nodded at him. Soon he smelled something. He frowned as he tried to smell the scent again. "Did you smell that?" He asked his beta and looked around inside the oce.

Orion sniffed the air but, he didn't smell anything unusual, "I don't smell anything unusual," was his answer

Matthew was not satised and asked the warriors that are present "Did you smell anything strange?"

They looked at each other, they sniffed the air to nd out what their king was saying, but they, too, didn't smell anything strange. They shook their heads to Matthew.

Matthew thought that he's the only one who can smell this strange scent. There is something wrong, he feels bad about it. "Legion, what do you think?" He asks his wolf.

"Something is denitely inside the palace," his wolf also concluded. He nodded back to him.

"I want to talk with the witches." He ordered Orion "there's something about this smell."

A few minutes later, the witches who served in the palace arrived. They gathered in Matthew's oce. He described the scent that he smelled. "There's this scent I smell earlier." He started, "it's not a scent of wolf or a stench of rogues." The witches looked at him.

There was a witch who asked, "What do you smell, your majesty?"

Matthew thought for a moment while closing his eyes, "a mixture of sea breeze, owers, and honey," he described.

Another witch stepped forward "your highness, if these are rogues, then they might have used a potion to cover their stench."

This explanation was even followed by another witch "this is something beyond today's time, and only a powerful witch can make. No witch can make a potion to cover one's scent. The ingredients needed for that were long gone."

The oldest witch, walking wobbly towards the front, said something no witches have ever thought about, "there's one person who can. The Grand Witch."

The witches murmured. The Grand Witch is someone who sits at the top of the coven. And it has long been angry with the royalty. And it won't surprise them that such a grand witch will probably not only do potion to cover the wolf scent. It can also make a potion to make a low wolf stronger but, this is only temporary, like all potions. It also loses its effect afterward.

Matthew's generals, look at each other. This is a problem for them. If they are not able to determine where the rogues are, it will be dicult for them to ght back. It would take a long time if they single out all the wolves in the whole palace.

Orion asks the witches why only Matthew can smell it.

The witches wondered. They thought others could smell it too. "Your highness was the only one who can smell this scent?" The witches looked at the king intently. As they looked into Matthew's eyes, they felt a new aura.

"We think the reason why his Highness was the only one who can smell this scent was probably because of his powers."

Another elder witch, approached the king and stares again. It seems to reect its mood. Then, it smiled after, "more like, more than the Grand Witch," a smirk appeared on its face.

Matthew didn't pay attention to what the old witch said. He stood up "can you make something to counter this potion?"

The witches nodded. "We will try our best to make a counter potion, your highness," they bowed afterward.

After talking to the witches, Matthew was approached by a seer, "your highness, everything that's happening was just the beginning of the change in your power."

Everyone stared at the seer. There was nothing in their history that this ever happened before. The strength of a wolf was determined at an early age, tracing back at the age of eighteen, and in the presence of the elders, his strength is measured and recorded in the book of wolves.

"Can that happen?" Orion, who was already next to his alpha, queried.

One witch replied, "nothing like this has ever happened in wolf history, but that doesn't mean it can never happen, beta."

But an elder spoke up. "This also means that there will be something big that will happen in your life, your highness, and this will trigger the completion of your change."

Matthew thought. He was suddenly nervous and could not explain why.

Laura was in the royal chamber. Matthew was strict with her, and she was not allowed to leave the room. She was sitting on the sofa by the window. She looked outside. Soon there was a knock on the door, "come in!" and a woman came in with her food. Laura just looked at it for a moment then looked back outside again. "I don't want to eat. Take those away." she commanded the woman. Laura was dumbfounded that the woman didn't answer so she looked at her. She was shocked to see it was a witch. Laura stood up, "a witch! What are you doing here!?"

The female witch, in her forties, did not answer, instead, a smile full of evil ashed on her face when she began to speak. "The present king will wield power, more than what I have, and that is because of his mate." Slowly she walked over to her, "I can't let that happen." she tilted her head to the side, "When that happens, the witches will remain servants under wolves! Servant!? No! We won't stoop that low again!" She raised a hand to Laura's face, "I will restore the former glory of our race! Where we are at the top, and everyone is looking upon us!" The witch grabbed Laura by the neck and jumped out of the window.

Laura screamed. This cause the whole palace to be alerted. Everyone went outside and was shocked to nd their Luna strangled by the witch.

Even the witches went out, and they were startled. "The grand witch!" The witches met the woman.

Matthew also rushed out of the palace. His eyes immediately burn in fury upon seeing his mate. "Release her!" He growled at her. He was about to step forward when a lot of wolves who don't belong to the royals surround the witch. Matthew threatened them to let his mate go. "Let her go now before I kill all of you!"

But the witch was not afraid. "Oh, I'm scared of the big bad alpha!" She spites the words. The grand witch is the strongest in the whole covenant, like a king for wolves. She fears nothing but the young king in front of her once his transformation was complete. Therefore, she will cut off the reason to be powerful. "You may be the strongest wolf here, but you don't have enough power to defeat me! And I won't let you overpower me!" She declared. Then she looked at her fellow witches. "I will return the name of witches to its former glory." she turned and brought out a dagger.

Everyone's eyes widened. "No!" Matthew moved quickly, he jumped towards the witch. His eyes landed on her mate "Matthew!" Her last word as tears fell down her cheeks.

The silver dagger that the grand witch hold was used to stab Laura in her stomach. After the grand witch stabbed her, she pushed her towards her mate who caught her while all the wolves rushed them. The battle of the rogues and the royal pack began.

"Laura!" Matthew gently laid Laura on the ground. He looked at the dagger buried in his mate's stomach. He was about to pull it out when a witch stopped him.

"Don't touch it, your highness!" she sat next to the Luna, "this dagger was poisoned," she explained.

"But what about her!" He shouted at the witch.

"M-Matthew," with diculty Laura raises her hand which Matthew quickly reaches out "I'm scared," she is now crying.

Matthew brushed off her tears, "it's okay, everything will be alright!" he turned to Orion "I need the healer!" He ordered.

The dagger was not immediately removed from Laura's body. Also because of the poison it has, Laura is unable to self-heal, until she loses her consciousness.

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