## **Chapter 6**

Cleo Yates' POV

It was lunchtime, all morning the future alpha and beta from the Hunt pack had been bullying the rest of us and Grant had done nothing to stop them. There wasn't anything the rest of us could do to stand up for ourselves for fear of being called traitors so we became friends with each other instead.

We were all walking together into the eld at the back of the training academy.

"Hope Blackwood." I turned around to see we were being followed by Kane and Max hunt.

They were brothers as well as being future alpha and beta of the Hunt pack. I didn't know that was allowed but I guess when you were related to the king you could do whatever you wanted.

"I can't believe that anyone would think a woman could be strong enough to be an alpha." Max said.

"I wouldn't worry about it too much. My uncle will put an end to it." Kane said.

Caleb growled. I gave him a look, one that told him not to give them what they wanted. Not to mention that if he let his emotions get the better of him then his eyes would change colour. Our purple eye colour was more than a little bit conspicuous. There wasn't a werewolf in the country who wouldn't know the connection between purple eyes and

royalty.

"The king has no authority to dictate pack leaders, you should know this." I said.

The king did have nal sign off over alpha's and beta's. I didn't know of a single instance in the last few hundred years where the king had gone against the pack's decision though.

"We will see about that." Kane said. We watched Kane and Max walk away from us to the other end of the eld.

"Don't let them get to you, they are all talk." Dan said.

"I have worked out that much but lets stay at this end of the eld. If I am too close to them it might put me off my lunch." I said and I was only half joking.

We sat down on the grass at the edge of the eld, this was a quiet area of the town. This meant there were hardly any people passing through, just a few small groups eating lunch in the autumn sun. I glanced over to where Max and Kane were sitting and I noticed four people walking towards them from the direction of the palace.

I recognised Mars and his friend from the forest but I didn't know either of the girls they were with. One of them was clearly in a relationship with Mars' friend and judging from the way she was looking at him, I think they could even be mates.

The other girl seemed to be really into Mars. She kept trying to take his hand or touch him in some way as they walked but he didn't seem interested. He kept moving away from her every time she got close. His reaction to her made my wolf happy.

They sat down with Max and Kane. The girl sat down so close to Mars that they were almost touching and inclined her whole body towards him. Mars looked at her angrily, his eyes glowed red and he pushed her away from him so roughly that ended up sprawled

across the grass a couple of metres away from him. The girl ran away crying while the rest of them laughed at her.

I looked away. I felt horribly conicted. Part of me was happy that my mate didn't give in to her advances but there was no escaping the fact that his actions were cruel. Any lingering doubt I had about rejecting my mate was melted away in an instant.

"Mars is your mate isn't he?" Natalie said, pulling me out of my thoughts.

"How did you know?" I asked.

"From the way you are looking at him it is pretty obvious. What are you going to do?" She asked.

"I am going to make sure he doesn't get close enough to recognise me as his mate before I complete training." I said.

It was a simple plan in theory although in practice it was starting to look a lot more complicated. Why did Max and Kane have to attend training this year?

"Why don't you just reject him?" Dan asked.

"I have thought about that but I am not sure it is a good idea. I would have to give my real name as part of the rejection and I am not sure how they would react. He might not accept my rejection if he knows who I am and if he does accept my rejection then he might try to kill me." I said.

Caleb didn't say anything but he took hold of my hand and squeezed it gentilly.