

Chapter 10

"Thinking about not accepting our mate and smelling her scent... Seeing her face... It's different, and you know it is. We both know this has affected you. It may not be in a big way, but you felt it... you feel it." I instantly feel pissed. Not at the storm, no, I'm pissed at the fact that he's right. Just because I don't want my mate, doesn't mean I don't feel, and if I'm being honest with myself, the moment that I realized that the smell was that of my mate, my heart instantly started pounding and all I wanted to do was find her and worship her with all I have, give her all I have. And that right there, those feelings are exactly why I had to walk away because I can't do that again... I won't.

And so, the moment that I spotted her, I ran with my tail between my legs and didn't look back. "Like you didn't take in every single thing about her!" Strom huffs. Of course, I did. She may have only been in my sight for a few seconds, but I remember every single detail about her.

Her long blonde hair that stopped just above her ass, her perfect face. I couldn't make out what color her eyes were and that irritated me, but what thing I did notice was how her dress hung rather loosely like it wasn't made for her body, like it was the wrong size or maybe someone else, it was strange but none of my business. But most of all... most of all I noticed how she looked like a goddam angel with her angelic face and white dress "Fuck sake!" I grunt hearing my mother calling me so irritated that I once again zoned off into my little world.

"Let's go find Elder stone." I soften my tone for my mother's sake, but inside I feel irritated and pissed. I know that it's going to take all of my



strength to remain calm tonight and to be the alpha I need to be. Thankfully, this isn't the first ball that I haven't wanted to be at, so I have plenty of experience with faking a smile and charming my guests.

Fortunately, she lets it drop, but I know that she'll be back to questioning me soon. I give my brothers a nod of appreciation as we leave grateful that they didn't tell my mother what's going on.

The moment I step back outside, I'm greeted by pack members from the various packs that are attending here tonight, but I struggle to really take in what they say and barely manage to answer when I need to. Thankfully, Shane is by my side and speaks up when it's needed and saves my ass in the process, reminding me of why I'm grateful that he's my brother and beta.

After several handshakes and pointless chats, I see Elder Stone over the other side of the makeshift dance floor and head in his direction. I've never made it a habit to be rude to anyone unless it is called for and certainly not an Elder, and I know that if I told him the truth, that my mate's smell caught my attention and I went to find her, then he would let me off. If anything, he would have loved hearing the news and told me not to worry, but I can't tell him that, so instead I run through possibilities in my head all while hoping that he will be ok with me.

As I approach his back, that smell once again hits my nose as tingles run through my body. My mate is here, and somewhere close by. As I go to step around him, I hear a small gasp and turn just in time to see my mate looking my way from where she stands just a few feet away. Fuck! If I wasn't sure if she had seen me before, then I was sure now. She looks straight at

me, our eyes lock and my heart starts pounding so hard I swear I'm heading for a heart attack. At that moment, I couldn't tell you if she was alone or not, because it's only my mate that my eyes zone in on and I fucking hate it.

"Go to her, you idiot!" Storm growls, trying to force himself to the front of my head while he tries to take control, but thankfully, I manage to stop him just about and quickly turn away from my mate and force my attention onto Elder Stone. I hear a whimper and I know it comes from my mate, but I don't do anything, even as the noise alone physically hurts my heart, I ignore it and start my apology to the elder that I was disrespectful to instead of going to the one person to who I was meant to give my all. Her... Her I let run while Storm goes mental in my head. Fuck!



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