

Chapter 13

Alpha Nicholas

After two hours of playing nice and actively avoiding my mate, it's time for the sit-down meal part of the night and of course, I have to make a speech and I'm not looking forward to it. Don't get me wrong I love being Alpha and I love all of my pack members even more, and it's always an honor to have other packs go out of their way to come here but I just hate all the mindless conversations that I have to endure, and the times that I have to play nice with someone that I do not want to.

I get on with most of the people that I come across in life but now and again I get a strange feeling towards someone, a feeling that they are bad and the worst part of it is that in the past, when it has happened, I have ended up being right about them. Tonight I have had the same feeling with two wolves that I have met, one of them being the Beta to a fucking pack.

I got talking to him and another guy, a warrior in the same pack and I swear that they made my skin crawl. Don't get me wrong, they were polite as can be but there was something about them that made me feel tense and instantly, I wanted to kick them off my pack lands but I couldn't... not without good reason anyway.

As soon as everyone is seated, I take my place at the centre of the stage and take a moment to enjoy the view . I may be a grumpy bastard at times but I do like to see everyone happy. I love seeing the mates that have been found and the hope that it holds for their future.

"Good evening everyone, first of I want to apologize for not personally being able to welcome you all today. We had several packs arriving at the same time and it was simply impossible, but I appreciate every single of you for making the effort to come here this evening and I hope to speak with many of you while you are here. Now, I am aware that several mates have already been found this evening and I want to congratulate you all and send my best wishes to those of you still searching. The night is young and I'm sure that many more mates will be found before the night is over."

I take a breath while loud cheers and howls burst the air, the excitement enough to make the air sizzle around us. "She should be up here with us!"

Storm growls. I know he's struggling but the fucker won't shut up. I haven't seen her since that awkward moment with Elder Stone and I don't have any plans to change that. "But she's right there!" He growls as he tries to push his way forward and take control. It can't happen here. I won't let it. "Storm, I swear to the Moon Goddess, if you don't behave I'm going to block you out for the rest of the night!"

He lets out a whimper that tugs at my heart before going to the back of my mind and sulking while I quickly finish my speech before taking my seat in preparation for the meal. I swallow a sigh as the storm continues to whimper. Am I being too hard on him? Yes, properly but this is hard for me too. I've always been so adamant that I didn't want my mate that I thought that if or when I did meet her it would be easy for me to reject her or, at least, I convinced myself that's how it would go. The Moon Goddess clearly isn't happy with me, because she's making sure that it's not as easy as I thought it would be... Fuck, it isn't easy.

Somehow I manage to keep calm and hold conversations with my family

while we eat which is surprising considering the fact that halfway through the main course, Storm found our mate sitting close by and made sure that I saw her too. It took just seconds to notice that she seemed off. She looked sad and wasn't even eating and it pissed me off. Why wasn't she eating? And on top of that I noticed that Beta and Warrior that I dislike at the same table as her and I wasn't happy about it.



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