

Chapter 14

Another thing that has pissed me off yet again is the Moon Goddesses and her sense of humor. Not only has she thrown my mate in my face but she has given me a mate who doesn't look much older than my own daughter. She can't be any more than 20. Granted it explains why I hadn't met her yet, but it's also just another reason not to accept her, it's just not right!

"How are you holding up?" I jump at the sound of James' voice as he comes to sit beside me. Since food finished I have remained seated because I know the moment I get up one of two things will happen. One, Storm will drag me to see our mate, or two, Elder Stone will find me and start the meetings between me and the wanna-be future Luna's. None of which sound appealing to me.

"I don't know." He gives me a sympathetic look just as Shane comes over and nudges me as he takes the empty seat on the other side of me. "Have you seen her again?" I shake my head not wanting to talk about it but knowing that I won't be that lucky. My brothers like to gossip more than the old ladies in the pack. "I don't know how you can do it." James grunts sounding pissed. Why the fuck is he pissed? I shrug. "It's not as easy as I imagined it would be, but I only need to keep going until tomorrow."

"I'd give anything to meet my mate and yet... Fuck, you're throwing your mate away like she's nothing. How could you see her and yet, not feel a thing?" Shane grunts. "If only that was the case, brother. Trust me, I felt it all, the tingles that ran through my entire body. The way my heart was pounding. I felt the pull to her wolf and I felt the urge to pull her into my

arms and never let her go but none of that matters, it doesn't change a goddam thing! I don't want a mate."

"Look bro, I love you and respect the shit out of you but fuck, you're an idiot!" James practically shouts. "It's his choice, brother. We may not agree with what he's doing but it's our job to still look out for his ass, even when he's being an idiot." Shane's words anger me but I do my best to keep my anger in check. "I saw her again during dinner and fuck... If already having to see her again wasn't bad enough, I realised that she's also insanely younger than me. I'm not kidding when I say that she's not much older than Lottie. I reckon 20 at the very most. How didn't I notice it before?"

My brothers shrug at the same time and if this was any other situation I would laugh at their coordination. "Age is just numbers. It doesn't mean anything once a wolf is 18 and you know it. Hell, look at Mom and Dad." My mom is 9 years younger than my dad and granted I've always thought the same as Shane but now... not so much. "More like you're just using it as another excuse!" Storm growls.

"I think someone is just using the age gap as another excuse, for all you know she could be older but just not look it," Shane grunts making me laugh. "What part of that was funny?" He snaps. "None. I'm laughing because Storm said the same thing just seconds before you. "Smart wolf."

"You need to think this through brother before it's too la-" James gets cut off by a loud growl that makes us all stand and look around the room. "There's trouble by the bar." Storm shouts sounding pissed as fuck. I take off in that direction with my brothers right behind me and quickly find the

source of the growls and I'm instantly pissed.

Sophie is standing on her own looking down at the ground while she wraps her arms around her waist. "What the hell is going on here?" I know I should act more professional but this is Sophie and I'm incredibly protective of her as are my brothers who have placed themselves behind her ready to protect her.

"It's nothing, Alpha Nicholas. We had a small issue but it's been dealt with now." Some guy says as he comes to stand beside me. I don't know who he is but I instantly dislike him. What is it with all these pricks here tonight? I don't like him and I don't want to hear his shit so ignoring him I go to stand in front of Soph and lift her chin so she has no choice but to look at me. A crowd is gathered around us now but I pay no attention to them.

"Soph, sweetheart. What's wrong?" She looks at me then at the guy who spoke to me just seconds ago before shaking her head and looking back down at the ground. "Sophie, talk to me." Her eyes fill with tears and the sight makes my heart hurt and anger simmer below my skin. "I can explain the situation if you would like, Alpha?" I'd rather hear it from her but I have a feeling that she's already shut down on me so instead, I nod in his direction while keeping my eyes on her.

"I discovered that this girl here is my mate and I rejected her. I'm sure she expected it so I'm not sure what this show of tears is for." He sounds cocky and shows no remorse and I want to knock him the fuck out. "You rejected her... Why? Shane asks and I swear even before the prick answers, I know I'm gonna hate his answer.

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"Have you seen her face? You'd reject her too and you know it!" Yep, he's dead!



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