

Chapter 51

Audrey laughs, perched on the arm of my chair with one hand resting against my shoulder. "Nothing special, it's just a little something I threw together."

Jax leans forward, "Threw together? No, this is mixology sorcery, princess. I need more."

"Thankfully, I made a lot," she says with a smile, proud of herself. "Tina, keep them coming." She tells her assistant who is now serving Rowan the last one.

Theo whistles, "This is strong, I like it." He nods, of course we all love it. We used to drink straight liquor harder than these drinks. "Marry her twice, Vale. Once for the love, second time for the bar skills."

"No, Audrey isn't—"

Maddox leans back, smirking. "I agree, you hit the jackpot."

"Miss, you are the whole damn package," Theo smirk, evidently flirting. "Beautiful, talented, and clearly patient enough to put up with this grumpy bastard. Is he paying you?"

I roll my eyes at this foolery. Audrey is eating up the compliments, giggling and blushing.

"How did he land a wife like you?" Jax asks, his question directed at Audrey but he stares at me. "Danielle tells me she's the best, I need a wife that crazy girl likes."

"Audrey isn't my wife," I tell them.

"I'm confused," Tristan frowns, staring around. "Isn't this your girlfriend of what...like four years?"

"Six," Audrey corrects him. "But there was a change of plans. You see, what happened was that—"

"Wow," Jax hisses, interrupting her explanation. I follow his eyes, somewhere behind me. My neck nearly breaks when I see who it is that he is staring at.

Aeliana.

It's not her presence that shocks me, but her choice of clothing. She is wearing nothing but shades and a two-piece bikini. The shades seem to be the only solid piece of clothing on her right now, her bikini appears to be made of strings so thin that they look like they'd snap under the slightest pressure. "Mine," my wolf growls, instantly territorial.

She walks past us, hips swaying effortlessly and not once does she glance at us, or me. Not even when Theo lets out the words loudest "goddamn." Danielle waves her over to the edge of the pool where she is lounging with her feet dangling in the water.

Aeliana bends over to talk to Dani, the movement making her bikini bottom tighten across her ass, the top dips too, just enough to show the soft curve of her breasts.

The word mine repeatedly echoes so loudly in my head that I almost say it. I want to.

Maddox lets out a low, appreciative whistle before he can stop himself. He knows who she is, and he is getting on my shit-list right now.

For the longest time, no one breathes a word. My heart tightens like a fist



is wrapped around it, squeezing. They're all looking at her.

All of them.

My friends, the men I consider my brothers are staring at my wife like she's someone they could touch. Someone they could want. And it's not just them, it's the pack boys too. The half-grown pups pretending to have lost something are staring too, eyes wide and their mouths just as open.

Theo seems to find his tongue quicker than the rest of us. "Fuck me."

"Wow, beautiful. Who is that?" Tristan almost whispers.

"You're engaged, get in line." Theo clicks his tongue, leaning in closer to me. "Kingston, do you think you can pull some strings for me here? I mean that girl is so hot." 1

Rowan laughs, the sound pure and raw. "I wouldn't say that if I were you."

"Why?" Theo counter, staring at my wife, my mate. "She's freaking delicious, look at her, those curves, that—"

Maddox throws a towel at him, "Okay, that's enough out of you."

"I need to meet her," Tristan watches, his head tilting to look at her ass from a different angle. "I think I might die if I don't," he dramatically groans. "Who is she?" 1

