

Beauty and The Beta Chapter 101

Chapter 101 – Bailey

My heart was pounding, and my head was swimming with thoughts. Not to mention spinning. Asher had kissed me... f**k... I had kissed him back... Akira was purring loudly in my mind telling me she was more than happy with the situation, while my head was battered...

I had pulled away from him breathless... terrified. Uncertain. I gently rested my head upon his forehead, my hands still resting within his soft hair. "Asher?" I whispered breathlessly, feeling incredibly anxious right now. What had we just done? Surely we had overstepped a mark that we could not undo? One that we shouldn't have crossed...

'Didn't feel wrong though.' Akira said bluntly.

And as much as I hate to admit my wolf is right, she is right. It had shocked me the way he looked at me as I had gone to give him a kiss upon his cheek to say thank you. His eyes were filled with so many emotions, but the moment his hand was upon me pulling me close to him, I was lost. Lost in him. And then as his lips found mine, I think I melted... It wasn't what I had expected him to do or to say in response to my anger, I know that much!

"Hmmm?" Asher murmured in response to me. And I cannot help but hold back a smile. I could see his chest was rising and falling almost as fast as mine. Did that mean I made him as nervous as he made me? No. That still probably didn't make this right...

"What are we doing?" I whispered, desperately needing to know what had come over him... what had made him kiss me so unexpectedly. That was not like him. Not in the slightest. He didn't even like me. He saw me as an inconvenience, didn't he?

I raised my gaze to his, and watched as he chewed his lower lip in what I assume was anxiousness. He looked quite vulnerable doing that... almost adorable... He certainly looked deep in thought. Was he regretting his actions now? I couldn't help but wonder. I honestly did not know what to think, or what to do. It had felt so good. Wrong... but right...

Asher suddenly raised his gaze nervously to meet mine, the way his green eyes were looking at me was giving me butterflies. "I don't know. But it felt good." he whispered back, and I could hear the nerves within his voice.

I smiled, looking down shyly, my cheeks flushing at his words. I was not going to argue with that.

"Bailey?" Asher said, moving back a little more, but suddenly sounding a little less anxious now, and as I turned to meet his gaze, he was offering me his hand. I slipped

my hand into his, and his hand took mine into a tight embrace, softly stroking the top of my hand with his thumb. Such a simple motion, but one that gave me goosebumps. We began to make our way up the stairs to where our rooms were.

“You know Zion is talking to Akira, right?” Asher suddenly asked me out of the blue. Wait... Zion was his wolf... Akira was talking with him? How did I not know that? She had not said a word... what a sly little...

“Really?” I looked at him.

“Hmm, he just said so. I hadn’t realized. Zion seems to get along and I could feel his heart pounding against my own. “Asher, I am just a teacher here.” I whispered.

His handsome features contorted into a frown, before the hand above my head slid down to my face, and softly caressed my cheek. “You are not just a teacher, Bailey.” He uttered. “You are so much more, especially to me. I just don’t think I had realized it. Or maybe I hadn’t allowed myself to...”

His words shocked me. Though, as he spoke, a phone vibrated within his pocket, and it caused him to jump a little, suddenly he chewed his lower lip anxiously once more. I was still in a mess after hearing his words. Was there more feeling from him than he had let on?

He moved himself away from me suddenly, the moment

between us was gone, as he slipped his hand into his trouser pocket. “Your keys and your phone.” He said, nerves so evident within his tone. And as he passed me the phone, the screen lit up. It was filled with missed calls and messages. From him. Miles. My sister had given him my number, and he was back in touch. Something was making him angry, and he felt the need to take it out on me, like he always had. But, what bothered me more, was if these were here now, most of them were there when Asher picked up my phone. That meant he may have seen them.

I looked up at him, but he was avoiding my gaze, only

confirming my worst fears. I needed to deal with this now. Call it damage limitation, I guess. I moved toward him, taking his face within my hand, to move his gaze to meet mine. “You saw all these?” I asked, but I ensured he knew I was not angry. How could I be? He had been trying to help me, he would never have known they were there. And it wasn’t like he could open them and read them...

He momentarily closed his eyes, inhaling deeply, almost like he was preparing himself for what was about to come, but soon his eyes were looking at me, and he nodded. “This is your future. Alpha, isn’t it? Your former fated mate? He bullied you? Treated you so bad?” he asked, his voice so soft, so full of concern.

I know I had done all I could to hide this from people, but right now, with how Asher was speaking to me, I felt a need to be honest. He had opened up to me before. Been honest. Did he not deserve the same from me? And as I nodded in

acknowledgment to his questions, I felt his arms take me in a tight embrace as he took me into his arms, pulling me to his chest, making me feel safe...

Beauty and The Beta Chapter 102

Chapter 102 – Miles

All visits had been called off for the day, and we had traveled to the motel across state that we had booked into. Leaving earlier than planned, since we left immediately after the incident at Silver River Pack. Anyone would think I had gone in and killed half their pack or something the way my Dad was reacting. I was done with the attitude of my Dad. Was I not entitled to an opinion? This was my life after all. My future and, ultimately, my Dad had known from the moment he had begun discussing all this arranged chosen mate c**p, that it was not what I wanted.

Yet, he took control, like he always does. Taking his Alpha role. Dictating to one and all, and giving me no choice. No choice in my own life? That I did not agree with, and was not about to back down. And, I had made that clear on many occasions before we left. Told him why I did not want this, yet he had forced me to come, in spite of that. So why he would think this trip would go well, I truly do not know.

Now, I had spent hours enduring my father lecturing me non- stop about how I should be respecting him. Doing as I am told. Because, apparently, my actions at Silver River Pack were not only disrespecting their Alpha, but a huge disrespect to my own pack and my own father. How he came to that conclusion, I have no clue. I think my Dad came up with his own rhetoric to make himself feel better. Make himself feel more important. Well, it wasn't going to work with me. I was sick of being treated this way. He was basically treating me like I am still a young child, and not the adult I was. He evidently thought there would be a point when I would buckle and back down to him and admit my mistakes, then agree to all he wanted. But, if that was what my Dad was expecting of me, he was wrong. I was as stubborn as he was. I would not, and I did not.

I had continued to stand my ground, and the argument had continued to increase. Building. Worsening over time. The room we were sharing was smashed to pieces. Both our wolves unleashed their fury upon one another and the surroundings, which would no doubt mean we were left with quite a bill for the damage. We were both Alpha wolves and neither one would back down. That would show weakness. It would be surrendering to the other, and neither one of us was ready to do that. If my father wanted this to go down to an Alpha challenge, I would challenge him for his title, for my rightful place within our pack if that is what he truly wanted, but that is not how we did things in our pack.

But, I had never done things as expected, and my family were underestimating me. If they were going to put my brother in my place as Alpha, I would challenge him. I would kill them all before I allowed it. This was for my pack. For the power and control it brought with it, and I would not have it s**d away from me. All over the mess that the b**h Bailey had left behind. Everything was fine until she let our secret slip. I would forever hold her responsible for this mess.

I watched my father stalking me, across the room from me, his eyes dark with anger, though I could see a tiredness within his face. I think he had to be as sick of this as I was. This is not what either of us wanted to be doing right now. "This isn't right Miles!" he roared once more. "You are my son, yet you act more like an enemy than any enemy ever has. Why must you fight me on everything?"

"Because you are trying to take away my rightful place. I am the firstborn, and you know that title is mine. Yes, I made a mistake today, but you know as well as I do, Bailey was never right for me."

I watched now as my father tilted his head at me. "Did you just admit you made a mistake?" he lowered his tone, which surprised me, though I never meant to admit I was wrong. But, if it meant it stopped this s**t show of a night, then maybe it was better. There probably was no need to act like that at the pathetic attempt of a pack... I was just so angry they had offered me a reject. Another version of the girl I didn't want. And it reminded me of her. Of Bailey. The one I hated to my core. The one who pushed me into this mess I found myself...

"Fine, I made a mistake. I know I did not need to act like that. But you pushed me into a corner where I did not want to be Dad!" I told him angrily. "I do not want to be doing this. I told you the girl I wanted."

I saw the expression upon my Dad's face change. It softened slightly, and he looked concerned. "There is a girl you want? A girl you would willingly take as a chosen mate?" My father's tone had completely changed now. If anything, he sounded a little shocked. He sounded calm, almost willing to listen. But his words still angered me. How can he act so clueless about all of this? I had mentioned Kaia so many times to them. To my Dad, and my Mum. Told them I wanted to have her considered for my chosen mate. Yet, my Dad was here acting like he had never heard of her. Like she was a nobody.

"Yes. Kaia. The daughter of the Alpha of the pack I went for treatment at." I told him, and my Dad screwed his nose in confusion.

"Why would you consider her for a mate, son? She was a worker, was she not?" he raised his brows at me, shaking his head. "You are an Alpha, or will be if you stick to the rules we have given you."

I held back the fury I was so tempted to unleash upon him. How can he be so rude? So dismissive? Evidently he had not listened to me at all when I had spoken of Kaia, and it

appeared he paid little attention to the information given when they came to my treatment center, or he would have known she was one of the daughters of the Alpha there.

“No Dad, she was also one of the Alpha’s children.” I informed him, trying hard to hold back the spite within my tone. “He has quite a few from what I heard.” I added, and I saw his face change, like a lightbulb had turned on within his mind.

“Hmmm. An Alpha’s daughter.” He nodded as if understanding now. “And you liked this girl? You would happily want her as a chosen?” he asked, shock more than evident in his voice. Listening to the way in which he spoke, I believe he had thought I would never happily take a chosen mate. They thought I would fight them about this role.

“Without a doubt. She challenged me. Didn’t care about my Wasn’t scared of me. It drove me mad, but I liked it.” I explained, and my Dad smiled, as he nodded.

“I think she sounds perfect, son. That is what you need for a mate. Someone who sees you for you. Doesn’t see your title, and is willing to challenge you. I will look to contact her father. Her pack shall be our next visit. No wonder you have been so reluctant for this trip!” he said enthusiastically. “I just wish you had told me sooner!”

I rolled my eye’s at my Dad. He was unbelievable! Yet I could not hold back the rush of excitement felt racing through me. I may get my girl yet! I had been so determined, but had been beginning to lose hope, as nobody had been willing to listen to me. Now, it seemed they would! Though, I have to say, there was still an anger rippling through me too, that it just went to show just how little my parents actually listened to me.

Me... their son... the one they wanted to take over their pack. The one they were apparently so concerned about that they would do anything to help him get better... yet neither one had listened to me. Listen to what I wanted. Not a clue, either of them. I had spoken of her, and none of them heard me. So much h**le could have been stopped had they just paid attention to me in the beginning. I just hope my Dad could do what was needed now. Fulfill his role and prove himself as the pack Alpha, but more importantly as my father in getting us that meeting. And then, it was winning Kaia over...

Beauty and The Beta Chapter 103

Chapter 103 – Bailey

I looked up at Asher, my heart feeling it was going to race right out of my chest, having admitted to him everything that Miles was doing to me, yet, oddly, he didn’t seem angry, he looked concerned. “I wish you had told me this when I asked you that first time, Bailey.” He said softly.

I sighed. When he asked me that first time, I knew he had feared for his pack, but realistically, I didn’t think Miles would do anything to his pack, and considering the way

Asher had been acting toward me, I was not really willing to open up to him... "I didn't really know you." I admitted, and he sighed, his shoulders sagging, like he was bearing the weight of the world upon them.

"But, you have been suffering alone, beautiful, and that cannot have been easy." He said, reaching for my hand, softly stroking his thumb over the palm.

"Trust me, I have been coping alone with Miles for a long time, Asher, it is nothing I am not used to." I said with a shrug.

I see his face tighten into a frown. "Why are your family oblivious to it, Bailey?!" he growls, taking me by surprise. Was that him getting a little protective?

"He is the upcoming Alpha, everyone thinks the sun shines out of his butt. Why would they believe me over him? I was never considered anything special in the pack, Asher. I was the geeky Beta's daughter. I blended into the background. Always had my head in a book. One to pick on and laugh at. And because the upcoming Alpha liked to pick on me, so did everyone else. Even my own brother and sister. I got used to it." I explained with a shrug.

"Bailey, that may be something when you are at high school, but as grown-ups?" he questioned, and I could tell from the look upon his face he was far from impressed.

I looked down at my feet, unsure how to explain. I know what he is saying is right, but I had just accepted how things were. I was what my life had become, and I focused on what I had wanted. On my studies. "It just kind of continued."

Suddenly, Asher's arms were around me, pulling me close to him. "I hate that you had to tolerate all that. I wish I could smack your brother. He should have been protecting you."

I found myself smiling. "He realizes that now. He is trying to fix his errors. Meeting his mate seems to have made him grow up. Either that or it diluted the effect of Miles."

"Well, you are safe here now, you know that, right?" he softly brushed my hair back from my face, looking down at me, a tenderness within his eyes I don't think I had seen before.

"I hope so." I smiled, so touched right now by the kindness he was showing me. This was definitely an unexpected side to the dark and moody Beta I had first met,

"No. There is nothing to hope, Bailey, we will keep you safe. When you feel ready, we will talk about the things he has done. But, I promise, I won't let him hurt you, Bailey. Caleb wouldn't either if he knew."

"No!" gasped. "Seriously, Asher, you can't be telling him anything."

The look of shock upon Asher's face took me by surprise, as I pushed him away from me, but I would not risk anyone else knowing all of this. Luna Eden knew little pieces, but not full details. Alpha Caleb was the Alpha of the pack, and it could alter his view of my pack if he knew all of this. I could not risk that. Pack image and reputation were such a vital thing to Alphas, and I know Alpha Marshall would never forgive me if I betrayed our pack that way. I would be in so much trouble if that were to happen.

"Bailey, he would not do anything, both him and Eden think highly of you and would want to ensure you were safe." He attempts to reassure me, but I don't think he is seeing this the way I am.

"No!" I snapped. "I do not want him knowing. It brings the name of my pack into disrepute. I cannot have that happening because of me, Asher. The trouble that would cause, all because of me, it would bring my Dad into it all too, I just can't!" I went to unlock the door to my room, desperate now to get away from him, he cannot do this to me.

"Bailey, is that what you think would happen? The information would go no further." He reached for my hand as I pushed my room door open, but I pulled it away, adamant he would not hold me here any longer. He would not convince me this was the right thing to do. I was rushing now to get inside of my room. I needed to get away from him. Away from this conversation. But, as I went to close my room door on him, Asher pushed his shoulder into the door, stopping me.

I glared at him, as he pushed his way into the room. "We have done this before, where we were upset with one another, and we stormed off, Bailey, and do you know how s**t that made me feel?" he muttered, and I faltered at his words. He felt bad then too? I thought he was angry at me. He avoided me afterward...

I moved away and went and sat on the edge of my bed nervously, feeling oddly uncomfortable with Asher suddenly inside of my room. "We need to talk, get this sorted, then I will leave you to sleep, okay. Let us at least clear the air, or I will have even less chance of sleeping than normal, Bailey."

I felt my heart fluttering at his words now. I hate the thought of him not sleeping because of me. He had already said he struggled sleeping, but I didn't want to be a reason that was any worse, so I slowly raised my gaze and nodded. Watching as he turned and closed the door behind him.

"I don't think I will be doing the pack run tomorrow." Asher muttered as he leant against the wall next to my bed. I couldn't help but smile, assuming he felt uncomfortable at the thought of joining me sitting on my bed.

"Pack run?" I questioned, not recalling any mention of it.

He nodded. "All in the information I gave you. Good to know you read it." He grinned, and I smiled bashfully. Okay, he may have got me there. I am not even sure where it went. Thankfully, I assume I am not expected to take part, and tomorrow is my day off...

"Bailey, I think it would be good to tell Caleb all the stuff with this tool of a former mate of yours." He paused, a full on scowl coming over his face. "Wait, he is a former mate, isn't he? You did accept his rejection, didn't you?" his eyes were narrowed, and I am sure there was fear suddenly appearing there.

I rolled my eyes at him. Was he for real? "Oh no, I was hopeful that he may unexpectedly fall madly in love with me, Asher, as you likely saw from the snippets of the messages you saw, or here." I quickly unlocked my phone, finding my messages, and flung the phone at him. "There are more for you to see just how charming he is. He is such a catch, and I think he is just playing hard to get. A man any woman would be lucky to have." I said sarcastically, knowing I was likely being a little too blunt, but it got to me that he would ask such a s**d question.

But, my words fall upon deaf ears now he has my phone, as he stands and looks at the messages. His face contorts again. I think I may have made a mistake

Beauty and The Beta Chapter 104

Chapter 104 – Asher

A sudden thought filled me with fear. She had said numerous times he had rejected her, but the thought had never even occurred to me that she had accepted his rejection and rejected him. too... if she hadn't, then they would still have been bonded in some way. Was that the draw he still felt towards her? Because something seemed to bring him back to her. Something made him want to continue to keep reaching out to her. Or was that purely a lust for causing her pain? "Wait, he is a former mate, isn't he? You did accept his rejection, didn't you?" I could not help but narrow my eyes nor hide the fear that flooded through me. I didn't care anymore if she could read the feelings I was experiencing. She needed to know. I don't know why, but she did.

I noticed her roll her eyes at me in that ever so sarcastic way she so often has, that initially had driven me crazy, but now I had to say I had grown to love. "Oh no, I was hopeful that he may unexpectedly fall madly in love with me Asher, as you likely saw from the snippets of the messages you saw, or here" I find her phone quickly being flung in my direction, after she messed with it, causing me to quickly react in order to catch it. "There are more for you to see just how charming he is. He is such a catch, and I think he is just playing hard to get. A man any woman would be lucky to have."

Her words are irrelevant right now, in this moment, as my eyes fall upon message, upon message from him. These were not from the number earlier. This specifically stated Miles as the name. I moved across the room to her. I had avoided joining her on her bed when we first entered her room, feeling it might be a little presumptuous. A little

inappropriate. But, I needed to hold her right now. Needed to be there for her. Zion too. He was rippling beneath the surface, desperate to be near her.

His behavior regarding her was becoming stranger, but I had stopped trying to analyze it. I knew she wasn't my mate, not a second chance mate, as there were none of those signs there, but my wolf, without a doubt, felt a draw towards the girl... and in truth, I think I may too...

"Sweetheart, these are horrendous." I whispered, sitting awkwardly alongside her on her bed.

"I don't want your sympathy, Asher. I know what they are." She shrugged, like it was nothing.

Zion was whimpering now, both of us unsure how to respond to this reaction from her. I could sense a confusion from my wolf. An unease. He didn't know how to respond to this situation, and I wondered if he could feel something from her wolf that I was unable to sense. Because they were seemingly communicating. But Zion was quiet, other than the whimpering, not sharing a thing with me. Leaving me to deal with all of this, absolutely clueless.

"Why show me then?" I questioned, and her gaze darkened as she glared at me. Okay, that was the wrong thing to ask.

"I don't know. I saved them from my last phone in case I needed them as proof. I was being sarcastic. You irritated me, asking me that. So, I guess it was to shock you." She shrugged, but this time I noticed tears within her eyes.

I awkwardly went to put my arm around her... this felt so much more intimate considering I was sitting upon her bed... "Well it | worked, if that is any help." I muttered, without thinking, and she looked at me in shock, and I realized how s**d I was for saying that out loud.

"Sorry." I muttered, and she chuckled.

"What for?" she shrugged. "For being you?"

I smiled. "There is a lot to be sorry for if I am apologizing for that."

"Don't be silly." She softly pushed me. "And don't worry, I have dealt with all this already, Asher. Why do you think I was so desperate to get away from my pack? Start a new life for myself?"

That did make sense, I guess, and it did explain the urgency to move here. Like she had briefly mentioned when I had pushed her for information upon her arrival. "It makes

sense. But, he doesn't want to let you go. He rejected you, to end the bond, but still sees you as his." I explained how I was seeing the messages.

She nodded in agreement. "Seems that way. But, like I said, I am out of there now. That was the big thing for me, getting away. I made my escape, got my fresh start. I have already dealt with it all, Asher. So, none of this needs to go any further. You asked me to trust you, so please do not give me a reason not to. I am fine. I will be fine."

So, why did the tears she was fighting within her eyes tell me differently?

"It is tough isn't it?" I say softly, as I pull her against me, surprising myself as I inhale the scent of her, Zion now purring as her increasingly familiar scent fills my senses.

Bailey leans back slightly to be able to meet my gaze, a slight confusion in the way she watches me. "I don't think I understand."

I smiled as I laid a tender kiss upon her head. "Being brave all the time. It gets tough, doesn't it?"

I felt her body tense within my arms, like she had suddenly realized what I meant by my words now. I know she has to have been putting on a brave front for so long, much like me. But, I am so desperate for her to know that with me, she does not have to do that. "Sweetheart, there is no shame in admitting you struggle, you know?" I whispered, a strange irony in my words, as this was always something I struggled to admit. "You don't have to be brave for everyone."

"Asher, please, you don't need to do this." She places her hand on my chest, and I can feel my own heart thudding underneath it, so I know she too will feel how fast my heart races for her. How it reacts to her touch. And we have not done anything yet.

"Bailey, I just want you to know that you don't have to be alone anymore." I rested my head gently upon her own. "Not if you don't want to be. And, if you don't want me to say anything to Caleb, then I won't. I would not break your trust, not when trust is precious. I know it is not something you hand out lightly. So, I most certainly would not break it, beautiful. Please know that. But, I do need you to know that I do understand your own struggles. You do not need to battle them alone now. We will find a way to fix this. I want to be here for you."

But, as I looked down to see how she had responded to my words, I found Bailey was asleep contently within my arms. I smiled. Seemed about right, I made a huge declaration like that and she missed it. Though, perhaps it was too much... too soon... I don't even know where it all has come from... so sudden... the changes within me. From pain... darkness... to laughter... and light.

I looked down again at the she-wolf within my arms and chuckled to myself, who would have known the new girl to the pack would be the one to bring about these changes? I

moved slightly to lay her down on the bed, trying to adjust myself to be able to slide myself out from under her. But as I did, Bailey's arm moved across me, and she snuggled in a little, so I was almost pinned to the bed, as I heard a deep sigh. I allowed myself to lay fully onto the bed, with Bailey snuggled within my embrace, completely unawares.

Seems I will be settled here for the night. Her embrace was comforting. Zion felt content. I am sure a little while would not hurt. If I moved I could well disturb her, and I don't want to do that, I tell myself. I would likely wake before her anyway, to sneak back to my room before she even knew...

Beauty and The Beta Chapter 105

Chapter 105 – Asher

I stretched lazily, relishing the warmth of the bed. That had to be the best night's sleep I have had in a long time... When suddenly I was aware of a movement next to me, and before I was able to open my eyes, I felt a hard thud to my chest, like a fist impacting it. Putting me on edge instantly, and causing me to jump suddenly. But, my senses are filled with the scent of Bailey messing with my mind...

"Asher!" Bailey snapped, before I had even opened my eyes.

Oh, **it... the realization hit me as memories of last night flooded my mind.

'Oh who has been a naughty boy!' Zion sniggered.

'Not helpful!' I warned him.

I pried my eyes open, trying to adjust my eyes to the brightness of the sunshine glaring into the room, which meant it was more than likely already well past the time I was due to be starting the pack run. Caleb was going to be annoyed with me! Feigning sickness may be my only option...

As my eyes adjusted, I saw a very angry-looking Bailey glaring back at me. "Why are you in my bed?!"

"Keeping you warm?" I suggested with a playful grin, but, going off the dark stare I received in return, my attempt at being playful had failed. I was definitely out of practice.

"Seriosuly Asher?"

"Bailey, please, this is going to sound so bad, but we were talking, you fell asleep, and as I went to lay you in bed, you kind of pulled me down with you, and was too tired to fight back." I explained, knowing how ridiculous I sounded.

Zion was laughing so hard within my mind. 'Too tired to fight back?! You are a Beta, you sap! Why not say you fancied seeing if she made a good bed buddy? See if she was the big spoon or the little spoon?'

'Piss off Zion.' I snarled. My wolf was seriously p**g me off now.

'Best sleep ever though, right?' he said, and I hate to admit he was right, that probably was one of the best sleeps we had had in a long time. I had expected us to be disturbed by nightmares like we so frequently were during the night. I planned to return to my room when that happened, but instead, nothing came. It seems I slept like a bl**dy baby, and instead I found myself in this awkward predicament. One which is seemingly landing me in a lot of trouble!

"I did not pull you into bed." Bailey rolled her eyes, completely dismissing my suggestion she had h**d her arms around me. I am pretty sure that was exactly what had happened... I felt my ego take a slight hit, and how offended she seemed by the thought...

"Is that such a bad idea?" I teased her, resting my head upon my elbow, so I was facing her, and her cheeks flushed, she looked quite adorable. A shiver of pleasure ran through me... I think I quite enjoy teasing Bailey... her reactions make me smile. I allowed my eyes to drift slowly down her body, wishing she was in a little less now than her pajamas...

"Asher." Her voice held a warning tone.

"Hmm?" I allowed my hand to slide to her waist, pulling her close to me, which, when laid down on the bed, felt somewhat strange, but hell, it felt good. I had been doubting everything between us. I had believed I should be alone, but now I had her next to me like this, had felt her lips upon mine, I think I know what I want.

"Why is Zion telling Akira you didn't want to leave?"

My eyes raised to meet hers. That was not quite the truth. I think my wolf was stirring s**t here. So much for having my back, the little f**ker. "I think he likely means he didn't want to. He enjoys her company." I grasped for explanations, as I allowed my fingers to trace over the hem of her tank top, and I felt her shiver under my touch. I held back a smile, wondering how she would react to my fingers upon her skin, if that was how she reacted to me touching her over her clothes...

"You could easily have got out of my bed. You know that, right?" She was scowling again. Wow, she was not about to go easy on me today...

"Hmm, I guess. And, it isn't like I didn't intend to, because I did." I explained, but her narrowed eyes told me she didn't believe a word I was telling her. "Seriously, stop looking at me like that, Miss Grumpy Pants. I planned to sneak out of the bed once you

were settled. I didn't want to wake you, so I waited a while. But I fell asleep, and only just woke up, I am sorry, okay?" I looked at her pleadingly. "It isn't like we are naked." I added with a cheeky smile.

I saw her cheeks flush once more, and I chuckled, as my heart pounded at her response. "What's wrong, Bailey?" I softly stroked her face. "You getting all hot and flustered at the thought of us naked together?"

Mentioning it was making me think about it now... I felt a hot sensation rush across my own body as the thought crossed my own mind. 'Never mind her getting hot and flustered, I think we are.' Zion chuckled. Thing is, I think he is right.

"Stop it." She pushed me away slightly, and I felt bad now for making her feel uncomfortable.

"Sorry." I looked at her with a smile, apologetically. This was all so new to me. I had girlfriends before Isla, but back then I was a teenage boy. Then there was Isla, and that had been for such a short time. There has been nobody since. I had isolated myself. Put my guards up, thinking it was betraying my mate. I felt a tightness in my heart at the thought of Isla.

'Stop.' Zion said gently. 'You hurt yourself thinking those things.'

Bailey sighed deeply, dragging my attention back to her. "It just seems weird is all." She shrugged. "And I still think you could easily have got away from me last night."

"Maybe a part of me didn't want to." I shrugged, and her face broke into a beautiful smile. Her smile was incredibly beautiful. Lighting up her delicate features.

"So Zion was right?" she questioned and I shrugged again.

"I don't even know if I am coming or going, beautiful."

She giggled a little before speaking. "I would like to think you'd know if you are coming." Bailey said with a wink, and I laughed.

"Oh, is that so?" I found myself asking with a shake of my head, shocked at her forwardness. "Not so sweet and innocent really are you?" I softly placed a kiss upon her forehead, unable to hold back my smile because of her cheeks flushing with embarrassment.

"Okay, we will forget I said that." she whispered, covering her face with her hands.

I gently removed her hands from her face so they were now pinned either side of her face, and I found myself leaning over her, looking down on her. "Oh no, I don't think we

will. I think I quite like the naughty side of you!" I said to her, as I lowered my lips to meet hers.

Beauty and The Beta Chapter 106

Chapter 106 – Kaia

I adjusted my hair, looking at my reflection in the mirror. I liked the new pink tone to my hair. A new me. I think it looked good. I needed a fresh start. Jacob had decided I was not the one for him, and had discarded me for some other she-wolf in the pack, so I was done. Hurting, but I needed to focus. I was stronger than a feeble, pathetic she-wolf who crumbled at the cheating s**m of a boyfriend telling you that he was ending things to be with the bit on the side he had been seeing behind your back for months.

There was a heavy knock at my door. "Kaia, darling, your Dad is still waiting downstairs, don't be keeping him waiting too long." My Mum called, and I rolled my eyes at her. Jeez, they don't give me five minutes to myself. My Dad had literally called half an hour ago to request to see me. He seemed to believe I could magically create myself a portal to appear there in front of him the moment he demanded me there. Fully dressed and ready to see him. I had no clue what this was about, but if he was requesting a talk it had to be important, or otherwise he would just call in to the treatment center and catch me on one of my breaks. That was his usual tactic when he wanted me for something.

It was rare he was ever particularly bothered by me. The joys of having so many children, I suppose. It is difficult to keep up with them all, especially when you were an Alpha and had so many responsibilities.

"Yes Mum, I am coming now." I rushed to the door, adjusting my yoga pants and matching cropped top before I did. I planned to head to the gym once I had seen him. Today was my late start at work, and I planned to take out some of my frustration from the situation with Jacob out on the punchbags. Imagining it was his face would be a good start...

"Oh, is that what you are wearing?" My Mum questioned the moment she saw me, and I looked at her in shock. Forever judgmental my mother. Always having an opinion on everything and everyone. But, I wasn't aware she had suddenly been made the fashion police...

"I planned to go to the gym when I finished talking to him." I told her, with a roll of my eyes.

"Hmm. I do think you should dress a little smarter, Kaia." She said knowingly, which had me suspicious already, but I gave her a dark glare and walked away from her. I was not getting changed to meet my own Dad.

I rushed through the front door of our large family home. Along the garden path, relishing the warmth of the sunshine on my body as I took the short walk from our Alpha home to the large packhouse. The moment I walked through the door, I was almost pounced upon by our pack Beta, Enzo.

“Good Morning Sunshine.” He greeted me, with a smile. “A little causal for a meeting aren’t you?” he questioned, only raising my suspicions even further now, as my Dad had simply asked me to call in to see him. No actual mention of a meeting, so I was beginning to wonder what was going on.

“A meeting? Dad said to come see him. No meeting.” I shoved past the irritatingly cheerful Beta, and my Dad’s best friend.

He nodded, chewing his lips and looking awkward as if he realized his mistake. “Well, your Dad asked me to come and find you, you know he doesn’t like being kept waiting Kaia.” He shook his head at me, like I had made him wait forever or something! I was literally about five minutes over the time he had given me...

“Oh for goodness’ sake.” I stormed ahead toward my Dad’s office. I did not need escorting there by some jumped up Beta who thought he was able to tell me what to do.

‘Kaia, sunshine, don’t go storming in there, all guns blazing. Not today. As much as we love your fieriness, maybe today rein it in.’ Beta Enzo mindinked as he rushed to catch up with me, and I gave him a dirty look. What was so special about today?

I turned down the short corridor where my Dad’s Alpha office sat, and quickly made my way to the door, not even waiting to knock, before I opened the door. My Dad looked up from his seat at the desk, a look of shock upon his face. But, it was me that was filled with shock as two more faces looked back at me too. Miles, one of my former patients, and who I believe was his father, if I remember correctly. Had he failed in his treatment and needed to return?

Was I being disciplined because this fool was unable to follow the treatment plan he was provided? That would not be my fault.

‘Do you not know how to knock?’ My Dad mindlinked with a glare. ‘And what the hell are you wearing?’

I shrugged. I wasn’t to know it was a formal meeting when you didn’t tell me.’

“Sorry about this Alpha Marshall, Miles.” My Dad nodded toward the men within his office. “My daughter seems to have forgotten her manners, and apparently how to dress appropriately for a meeting.”

I could feel the eyes of Miles and his father upon me, and Miles’ s eyes lingered longer than was needed.

“Well, when you are unaware it is a meeting it makes it difficult to know you should be dressing formally, so yes, I apologize for that.” I said sarcastically, a smirk toward my Dad and the men sitting in front of his desk.

“No problem dear.” Alpha Marshall smiled. “Looks like you were off to the gym.”

I nodded. “Good guess. I assumed I was only coming to chat with my father. Had I known you would be here, I would have dressed appropriately.” I explained.

“Well, irrelevant of all that.” My Dad interrupted with a dark glare in my direction. “The reason we wanted you to come to the office, Kaia, is that Miles is a future Alpha of Lotus Shadow Pack, and he has been rejected by his fated mate.”

I shrugged, unsure what the hell this had to do with me. It was not quite the truth, as the truth was discussed in his treatment. From what I recall, he rejected his fated mate because of past issues. Anger. She made him feel inferior. Her being too intelligent. Or something along these lines. But my Dad gave me another sharp stare, and I realized he wanted me to pay attention. But still, I am unsure what this would have to do with me. This was their pack business.

“Well, the thing is dear, while Miles was here, he took quite a liking to you.” Alpha Marshall began, and his words shocked me to the core. Yes, he had flirted a little with me, or attempted to. But most young guys do when around me, it was no big deal. But what the hell did took a liking to me actually mean? Me and him were most definitely not compatible. I looked at the Alpha curiously now as he continued.

“So, when we were discussing potential chosen mates he felt you would make a perfect choice. The reason we are here, is we would like you to consider our offer of becoming his chosen mate. Our pack Luna for the future.”