

Chapter 47

~KANE~

I felt the girl smell me earlier. I'm sure of it. Her actions both puzzled and did things to my body that I would rather not think about. Why did she trust me as much as she did? What was it about her that continued to draw me in? She was a puzzle to me, a puzzle that I had to keep away from. She kept doing things that surprised me; I was never sure what she was about to say or do. It was easy to say that I would never have a dull moment with her. I've had people hate me from the moment they met me, who judged me. She was probably one of the first women who thought of me as someone they could trust blindly.

Thinking about her while she wasn't even near me was off-limits. From now on, I had to be harsher on myself. I had to do it because I couldn't disappoint the one person that mattered to me.

I look up from where I'm standing.

I don't know why I'm in front of Maya's home; I wouldn't be here if I had another option to find my mate. I knew that the only way I would be able to find Maya's abductors was by finding out the list of her family's enemies. I didn't know how to do that when half of my pack was locked up in a cell while the others were dead. This was the only way; her brothers would have to hand over the names to me. No one else but them would know the answers to this critical question. I knew that her family would freak out when they saw me, but I didn't care. I had to do everything to find out who took Maya from me. She was all that mattered to me; finding who took her was the first stage.

I knew how much her family hated me, and I know that they still think I killed her. They have no reason to trust me; I've been horrible to their sister since the start.

I take a step forward and then another. I was walking towards people that absolutely hated my guts and I had to keep my guard up. I didn't blame them for hating me at all. I hated myself as well. The list of people that despised me kept growing. I never thought that I would also join the list.

I take a look at my surroundings, taking in the environment.

What I didn't expect to see was the massive tents stationed outside the palace. I feel my blood begin to boil at the sight. Did they move on as if nothing happened? How could they be hosting any events when Maya was missing? They should be searching for her; how could they disrespect their sister like that? They tried to kill me, thinking that I was the one that harmed her, but yet they're hosting events while she needed their help? Didn't they see how much of a hypocrite they were being? Did they think Maya would be happy to know that her family wasn't searching for her?

I storm into the court, knocking a guard to the ground. No one would stop me today. Maya's family will be the ones explaining this time. They needed to explain what the f**k was wrong with each of them. She deserved better than this. The people closest to her shouldn't continuously let her down like this.

Maya needed us, damn it. Couldn't they see that? Couldn't they see that she was in trouble? Was I the only one that saw this?

I turn a corner, and it's only then that I notice pictures of Maya stuck to poles and chairs. There was an even bigger one to the front of me. Seeing her picture sends a sharp pain throughout my body. It's hard for me to see anything that looks like her.

I desperately wish that she was in front of me; I wish I could hold her close to me and beg her never to leave me again. She doesn't know how much her disappearance is killing me. She told me that she would make me suffer, and she kept her promise; unlike me, Maya kept her promises. I take a deep breath and fight the tears that threaten to fall. I can't lose it again; I had to be stronger than this. She needed me. She needed me to be strong for her. She deserved a mate that would fight for her. She needed a mate that wouldn't believe that she was dead no matter what anyone else said.

I kept on walking while trying my best to avoid the pictures. If I continued to stare at them, I wouldn't be able to keep going. I would fall to the ground clutching the picture to my chest and begging her to return.

I spot her family crying in a corner, and it's only then that it dawns on me what this entire event was about. I take a moment to process everything. It couldn't be. Her family would not be this stupid. They just couldn't.

I knew they weren't crazy enough to host a funeral for their sister. Why the f**k would they do such a thing? Did they not realize that my mate was alive? Are they f*****g delusional? I told them that she was alive, and I told them that she didn't die. What else did I need to do to prove to them that she was waiting for us to save her?

I'm fuming inside; it will take a lot to keep my emotions in check.

I storm over to Austin and grab him by his shirt, he looks surprised to see me, but I don't wait for him to say anything. Instead, I'm the first to speak, "what the f**k is this?" I demand.

I can hear shouting all around me, I can't tell who's yelling at me, but I don't care. This was not the family Maya always boasted about. According to her, her brothers always find her and protect her. So why weren't they doing that for her now?

James grabs me and tries to shove me off Austin, but I don't loosen my grip. Someone has to explain to me what the hell is happening here. Someone needs to tell me why her family members are the first to accept that she's dead. How can I be the only one unwilling to take that she's left us? How am I the only one to know that Maya wouldn't let someone quickly kill her like that? Did they have no faith in their sister?

"I'm saying my final goodbye to the sister you took from me," Austin growls.

"She's not dead!" I roar. "Maya's alive! My mate is f*****g alive! Do you hear me? She's alive!"

"How can you lie so good?" Austin demands. "You took her from me. She's gone because of you! You killed her!"

I can't stop myself as I punch him hard across the face. There are gasps all around us, and we are now the center of attention. How can he so easily say that I killed her?

"Maya talked highly of you," I shout. "She spoke highly of her brothers constantly. She always said that you protected her. You were always there for her. She was proud of you. Yet you're the first one to accept that she's dead. If she were here today, she would be disappointed in all of you. Instead of searching for her killers, you're here planning her funeral. Instead of finding her, of bringing her home, this is what the family she loved more than anything is doing. I feel sorry that she ever loved people like you. You never deserved her love just like I never did."

Austin's face looks completely torn by my words.

Good. I intended to hurt him. He had to realize the s**t he was doing.

"Lucas!" I hear someone whisper. "Lucas is here!"

I turn around, and they're right.

Lucas is here. Maya's youngest brother. He rushes into the tent shouting her name. Why does it seem like he's only just found out about her death?

"Where is she?" he shouts. "Where is my sister?"

Austin pushes past me to go to his younger brother.

"I'm sorry," Austin tells him as he holds him close.

"No!" Lucas shouts. "She's not gone! Maya is not gone!"

Lucas breaks down in front of everyone while his brothers try to comfort him. I walk up to him, and he raises his tear-streaked face to look at me

"She's not dead," I tell him. "It's what I've been trying to tell your brother. Maya is alive. I can feel it."

"How can you be so sure?" he asks me. It's the first time any of her brothers genuinely tries to have a conversation with me. He's also the first to consider that there is a possibility that she isn't dead.

"Do you have little faith in your sister?" I ask him. "Do you think she will die so easily? Do you think she will leave without saying goodbye to the people she loved? Do you think that she will let anyone harm her unborn baby? She's stronger than that. My mate is stronger than that. She's a fighter. I know in my heart that she's still alive and waiting. She's waiting for the people that love her."

Lucas nods and picks himself off the ground, "you are right. Maya is still alive. We have to find her. We can't let those people take her away from us."

Finally. Someone that I can get along with.

"Why are you here?" Austin asks me.

"I want the list of all your enemies," I tell him. "I want to find the people that took Maya. They have all the answers that we are all looking for. I wasn't the one to kidnap her this time; whoever did it claimed that you also killed their sister. I need to find out a list of all the women you killed and the list of every single enemy related to them."

Maya's brothers look between each other before Lucas nods his head.

"We will give the list to you."

