

Marking and mating ritual

Hunter's POV.

Father announced our marking and mating rituals. I looked at Roseline. She stood there, bowing her head down and ddling with her ngers. I sighed when I remembered last night.

I glanced over the crowd in the hall and found Clara was glaring at me with her eyes red with anger. I was f*****g stuck between father and Clara.

I was supposed to do what my father wanted from me because that's what my pack also wanted from me, to give them their Luna.

Five priests came on the stage and started the ritual. They started chanting some holy words and sprinkling holy water on Roseline and me. I looked at my father. He gave me an encouraging smile and nodded.

I walked near Roseline, taking one step at a time, and reaching closer, I held her hand gently. She was nervous as her hands were trembling. Okay? But, princess, you put yourself on your own into this.

I pulled her closer, and her hands went at on my chest. I encircled my arms around her tiny waist, and my wolf howled in excitement. He wanted to mark her then and there.

Easy, my boy.

She sealed her eyes tightly just when I bent my mouth on her neck. Her hands clenched my shoulders as I trailed the tip of my tongue on the crook of her neck, tasting her soft, silky skin. I sucked at it, nipping on her marking spot. Goddess! Her taste was intoxicating, making me want to have her whole. The surge to claim her was so strong. I never felt this for Clara.

Goddess, her sweet taste was heaven. My teeth elongated and were ready to sink into her soft skin, marking her mine. She shivered as my teeth grazed her neck. A moan escaped her mouth. Her grip tightened on my shoulders, her nails sinking into my skin, causing stinging pain in my shoulder and bringing me back to reality. Was she shivering from fear?

Shit!

I couldn't do that!

I couldn't do this to her. We were married without our will, and I knew she hated me.

Marking her without her will was not right. What if she didn't want this?

I pulled back, staring at her face. My wolf growled in my head and wanted to take over me.

No, we couldn't do this to her. I told him in my mind.

Roseline opened her eyes. Her eyes reected confusion. I moved away to make some distance between us. My hands balled in a st at my sides, dying to touch her again.

"Hunter!" My father growled. "What the hell is wrong with you? You were supposed to mark your bride tonight and announce her your Luna. "

"Father, I can't do this to her. She is not even eighteen. "Phew, I found an excuse, but I knew what was coming next.

"She will be in a month, and in werewolves, the legal age of marking and mating is sixteen after the rst shift. So you can still mark her. "My father was fuming in anger as I didn't go with his plan.

I had to convince him with more explanation.

"But, father, I would like to wait till her eighteenth birthday and, more importantly, until her birthday, we will get some time to be comfortable with each other. I don't want to mark her forcefully." I reasoned, and I knew father would have to agree. Because now it's a matter of Roseline's happiness.

My father glared at me with his fuming red eyes.

My mother came forward to handle the situation. "I think Hunter is right. We should give them some time to get to know each other better, and we can plan this ritual again after Roseline's birthday."

Father took a deep breath and said, "Okay. So I think your mother is right."

He turned to address pack members, "Roseline is new in our pack. I think we should give her some time to adjust to our pack and we'll conduct marking and mating rituals for our new Alpha and Luna after Roseline's eighteenth birthday. I am thankful that you all have come to bless them with your best wishes, and please enjoy the party. "

I took a breath of relief. Now I had a month to plan something to escape from this marriage. I glanced at Roseline and saw her eyes ooding with tears.

Hell! Was she crying?

Roseline's POV.

What the hell just happened?

He rejected me. In front of his whole pack?

Though he didn't say it in words, his expression and action were enough to tell his feelings.

My husband hated me so much that he left me alone and embarrassed in front of his pack.

One second, his lips were on my skin, and his teeth were about to sink into my neck and claim me as his forever, and the next second he pulled away as if he was disgusted by my taste. He left me instantly, as if he couldn't bear to touch me. Why did it happen at that moment?

And I was standing there embarrassed and insulted in front of the whole pack.

Tears started pooling around my eyes, and my vision became blurry. Finally, Evelyn took my hand and climbed down the stage, and she walked us inside the pack house. She took me to her room instead of Hunter's. I also didn't want to see him not stay in the same room.

"That jerk of my brother doesn't deserve you, Roseline." She said in anger, and I looked at her with teary eyes. "You don't have to cry for him. Okay?" She came near me and wiped my wet cheeks. I was never so much insulted. Tears of agony and insult were not ready to stop.

"You just wait and watch. I'll kick his ass so hard that he will remember not to mess with you again. I will make him pay for this. And we will torture him together. Okay. Don't cry."

She kicked in the air so hard, making me giggle. Oh, I liked her.

"Better!" She exclaimed.

"Huh?" I didn't get her.

"Better with your smile. Otherwise, Hunter will be in big trouble, and you are not sleeping in his room. So you are staying here with me," She said.

Oh, she granted my wish.

"Thank you, Evelyn. I actually wanted some peace and space to clear my mind. "I was so overwhelmed by mixed feelings.

"I've always wanted a sister, and now I have you. You can always count on me." And she hugged me like a protective sister.

"Okay, change your dress. Wear something from my closet. We are going to have a girls' night. "She squealed in excitement, making me forget that I had been upset a moment before, and led me to her closet. I took Hello Kitty sleepwear and went to the bathroom to change.

Hunter's POV.

I watched as Evelyn took Roseline with her and disappeared inside the pack house.

I wanted to talk to Roseline. I wanted to know the reason for her crying there on the stage.

Did I make her cry?

Did I do something that made her upset?

I wanted to know.

So I decided to follow them. I stepped off the stage and went behind them. I halted in my steps when someone held my arm. I was raging. I moved my burning gaze on the hands gripping mine, and my eyes trailed up the length of that slender arm to see Clara standing beside me.

"Hunter we....." She began.

"Not now, Clara. I am in a very bad mood. We'll talk later. "And I slipped her hands off my body and continued walking towards the pack house.

I reached my room and searched for Roseline. But she was not there, making me very angry and upset not to nd her there.

Where could she go?

I thought for a moment and got the answer.

Evelyn.

That girl could be a pain in my ass.

I strode towards her room. Reaching there, I found her room was locked. I knocked on the door. Nobody replied.

I banged the door again, and this time Evelyn opened the door. I tried to sneak a peek inside. But she shut the door behind her and stood before me, crossing her arms over her chest.

"Is Roseline with you?" I asked.

"Why do you care?" she raised a brow.

"Give me an answer, Evelyn," I said in an Alpha tone.

She inched. "Yes, she is staying here with me for the night." She said in an annoyed voice.

"No, I am taking her with me. I tried to move towards the door, but she stopped me by stretching her hand horizontally.

"Stop being a child, Evelyn." I was frustrated.

"Exactly. Stop being a jerk. Aren't you happy enough to make Rose cry?" She tapped her feet.

"What did I do?" I narrowed my eyes, and a frown was already on my face.

"Really, Hunter? You made her so embarrassed in front of the whole pack, and now you are asking what you did? How can someone be so selsh? "Her expression was full of disgust.

"Evelyn.... "I wanted to explain that I did it for Roseline because I felt she wasn't comfortable. Hell. She didn't even like me. It would have been like forcing myself on her. Because once I had marked her, I couldn't take it back.

But before I could complete my sentence, Evelyn turned on her heels and went inside her room, and she shut the door on my face.

I was standing there dumbfounded. She was my baby sister, and I couldn't shout at her. So I closed my eyes to keep myself calm.

I would talk to Roseline in the morning.

But this night seemed to be the longest while I waited for the morning.