



## Chapter Six

Ember

I was watching in the crowd as the new queen was crowned. Mare was off searching for anything that would help me get into the Hybrid Kingdom palace. Ashlyn has placed a protection spell over the grounds. And I wasn't strong enough to break it. I also wasn't strong enough to trick the magic into believing I wasn't going to hurt her or her family. I didn't care what good she did for the people of the mystical world. Her father was the reason my parents were dead, and I wasn't going to let their murder go unpunished.

All week I have been plotting around the magical palace, trying to get as close as possible to the king without being seen. Getting to him was easy. He never had warriors around him. Only his second-in-command, Zayden. And I'm pretty sure I could take him. The King may be more of a challenge, but I'm not above poisoning his food. I want his bloodline washed from this earth.

I watched the king with his family as the ceremony changed to the crowning of the Wolf Kindom. He was standing between the Queen and his twin sister. They were all smiling and wanted nothing more than to wipe that smile off his handsome face. And my god, he was handsome. He had dark blonde hair, with a smile that would make any woman weak in the knees. And those beautiful blue-green eyes. I found myself lost, as I stared at the son of the man that took everything from me. He stole the life I should have had and someone needed to pay.

Mare brushed against my leg and my attention was pulled from the king to my cat. I picked her up and put her on my shoulder as everyone cheered for the King of the Wolf Kingdom. Everyone was just so happy and it made me sick. There is so much evil in this world, but yet we are celebrating people who could care less. We were nothing to them, but people to worship them. And I wanted no part in this. At least in the human world, it's just political bullshit. Thinking about it now, I guess it's no different. People would do anything for their fteen minutes of fame. Even if it meant someone's life.

"Don't be so sad, Ember. Can't we have a little bit of fun? There's free drinks and food after," Ember pouted.

"And who do you think paid for all that food? It sure as hell wasn't them." I exclaimed. I attracted the attention of people around me but I ignored them. This peaceful bliss was about to be short-lived. Mare rubbed her face against my cheek. Her purrs calmed my anger as the Dragon Prince stepped up to take over as Dragon King.

My attention went back to the Magical King. He now had a little girl on his hip. She was in a puffy pink dress and I noticed she looked a lot like his twin sister. Does he have a child no one knows about? I thought, as I watched him. She could be his daughter. The thought had my heart twisting painfully, and I fought the urge to vomit.

"Ember?" Mare, questioned. But I couldn't take my eyes off the king.

When his eyes met mine in the crowd, my heart started pounding in my chest. This can't be possible. This has to be a cruel joke, a spell, something. I looked away and quickly made my way through the crowd, hoping he had lost sight of me.

"What's wrong?" my cat huffed, as she fell off my shoulder and I caught her in my arms.

"Mate," was all I managed to breathe out.

I was thinking about my week in the palace and not once did our eyes meet. I was never worried about nding my mate, only worried about getting the justice my parents deserved. They deserved to have their story heard. But how was I supposed to kill my mate? The one person who was made for me. The other half of my soul. And his father killed my parents.

Tears lled my eyes, as I found a place to hide from the crowd of people hoping to get a glimpse of the royals.

"Mate? Who? where? And why are we running away?" Mare asked as I put her down. My chest felt tight and my breathing was shallow as I tried to come to terms with what just happened. This was never the plan. Finding my mate was never even a thought. And now he was the one person I was hell bent on killing.

"Ember, breathe," I heard Mare. I hadn't noticed I was in the middle of a panic attack.

"Mare, this is too much. I can't deal with this right now." I rushed out, taking short shallow breaths.

"What can't you deal with? You aren't making any sense. Did you nd your mate?" She sat down looking up at me.

"We are going to need a new plan and we need to get out of here. If he sees me, there is no turning back," I exclaimed. I quickly opened a portal. I scooped up Mare and walked through. I didn't care where it led as long as it took me away from the king. The king who is my fated mate. Destiny has a cruel way of f\*\*\*\*\*g you.

"Ember, tell me what the hell is going on," my cat protested as I rushed into the forest that lines the Magical palace. I had portaled back to the magical kingdom but didn't want to go inside. I needed a place where I could think. She jumped out of my arms and rushed beside me. I don't know how long we walked but I knew we were far enough from the palace now.

"Ember?" She questioned again.

"What's going on is that the plan won't work because the king is my mate," I shouted.