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Author's POV 1

In the afternoon Meredith met Jason and Lori.

"Happy birthday, Mer!" they say and take her in a group hug, almost suffocating her.

"Did you get the flowers?" James asks, smiling happily.

"According to tradition!" said Meredith. "Every year the same bouquet, only that from year to year you add another rose. I won't be able to carry it soon."

"What do you want to do today?" Lori asked with a happy face.

"I miss mom and dad. I think it's time for them to know that I am back." Meredith said.

She was back for almost a week and her parents had no idea.

"They already know," James said.

"What? Why did you tell them, James!" Meredith asked in a low voice. "I wanted it to be a surprise."

"I didn't tell them. But they already knew. I think

they've been watching you all the time. You know dad, you will always be a daddy girl! " he said laughing.

And as soon as they arrived in the Golden Moon Pack she felt that her tormented soul was finally home.

Her only regret in this life was the fact that she was human. She wanted so much to be a werewolf just like her family, but she is not and she has to deal with that.

Meredith didn't even come down from the car as Landon and Olivia Quinn immediately ran out of the house and took her in their arms.

"I missed you so much!" Landon said while Olivia just cried holding her daughter in her arms.

"I'm mad at you," Landon said.

"I'm sorry, dad! It took me a few days to get used to the idea of being here again. " says Meredith.

"Not about that," he said, looking at her.

"Then about what?"

"MaxLines Design, Mer, really? Of all the design firms? " he asks, looking at her.

"I didn't know who the CEO was. What can I say? It's fate. I can't get rid of him no matter what I do. Max Cruz is like lice" " and she starts laughing.

"Dad, let her be, it's her birthday and she's home. Let Max alone for one day." James said and he took Lori's hand and went together into the house.

"You could work for me, that's all!" Landon said.

"Love, you know Meredith. She always wanted to prove that she deserved her place. " Is he causing you difficulties?" Olivia asks.

"No, mom. He is a jerk but he doesn't know that I am your daughter, so I am safe from Maximillian's Cruz wrath!" and she starts to laugh.

"James!" Landon yelled suddenly. "Keep an eye on Max!"

"I'm already doing it, dad!"

And all evening they talked and laughed like in their good times, and when late in the night James left her home, he got out of the car and opened the door to help Meredith down.

"Are you sure you don't want me to help you upstairs?" he asks her and takes her in his arms, kissing her forehead.

"No, go, Lori is waiting for you," she said and kissed his cheek.

"I love you, you know that?" He asks his sister and looks into her splendid blue eyes.

"Since the first day I found you in that forest, I knew that you will be mine forever. Only Lori equals the love I have for you, Mer. "

"I love you, too James. You were the best thing that ever happened in my life!" and James hugged her again and kissed the top of her head.

"Go, you hyper kid!" he says laughing. "I'm not leaving until I make sure you're home."

She takes her presents from his car and waves her hand to him.

And as soon as she enters the building, James returns to the car but someone punches him in the face.

"What the fuck?!?" He asks looking around but a new fist hits him in the face.

"You fucking jerk!" Max yells at him.

All this time he waited in his car for Meredith to show up and when she came, what did he see?"

His best friend holding his mate in his arms and kissing her face!

"What the fuck is wrong with you?" James asks, wiping the blood from his mouth.

"She is mine!" Max yelled at him. "Why are you holding my mate in your arms? Why are you kissing her face? You stupid jerk!" and he tries

to punch him again but this time it's James's turn to hit him so hard in his eye that he put Max's down in one punch.

"Are you drunk?" he asks, smelling alcohol in the air.

Max tries to get up to hit him again, but James punches him again, slamming him in the ass.

"What are you doing here in this state, Max?" he asks him.

"No, what are you doing here?" Max asks, trying to get up ,straightening his Armani suit which is now dusty.

"I was having dinner with Lori and I met her at the restaurant," James said.

"No, you're lying!" Max yelled again "You sent her flowers in the morning and told her that you love her"

"Are you nuts, Max?" James said. "I have my own mate!"

"And you want mine too!" Max said, pointing with his finger at James.

"You know what Max? Go to hell! " James said and walked in his car, and lowering the car window he says to Max:

"When you are awake, come and apologize and

talk. Until then you and I are history. Fuck you!" and he starts the car and leaves in a hurry, swearing at Max.

Max just stays in front of Meredith's building for a while but the alcohol imposes him and, driven by a foreign reason to a Max who is awake and in all minds, he just goes straight to Meredith's door and starts punching the door alarming all the neighbors.

"What the fuck!" Meredith and Cara said running to the door that has little left and falls over them.

But when they open the door ,Maximillian Cruz appears in all his glory, with his expensive suit, dusty and leafy, with ruffled hair, a bruised eye and a drunken face. Both women are silent.

"Please" Maximilian said, almost shaking "Please don't leave me!" and he takes Meredith in his arms and begins to cry like a child who has lost his favorite toy.

"I am so sorry, Don't leave me for James! I'm sorry. Please choose me! "

"Is he drunk?" Meredith asks, trying to hold Max in her arms, who has actually collapsed on her and doesn't want to let her go.

"Help me carry him," she said, crawling with him to the couch where she was trying to place him, but just as she was about to leave him, Max

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opened his eyes again and, holding her in his arms, placed her on his lap and cuddled with her.

"Don't leave me or I'll die without you!" he cries his drunken heart out.

"Help me!" Meredith whispers as she tries to escape, but the harder she tries to get out of Max's arms, the harder she is cuddled by him.

"Go for help!" Meredith yells and Cara goes and does the only thing that comes to her mind.

She called Sam.

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