CH 43

Raygan POV

It was good to have someone else here in the pack to aid her in her investigation and help her to gather proof that Demi was not being forced to be there. Brutalised or abused by her so-called Goddess Gifted Mate. She'd sat and told Yule her plan to get photos of the two of them together happy and loved up, laughing even, wanted photos of Demi actively being with Zac.

Karsyn thought it would be better to get a video of it, so that was also now the plan, trying to film them together, with Demi specifically laughing, and being loving towards Zac, to prove that she wasn't being forced to be here. Wanted it to be more about Demi than Zac. Yule had nodded and understood why that was, agreed that it was a good plan.

She even showed him the messages and footage that had been sent to her from Karsyn, which was being sent to Alpha Steffen from Demi's own phone, to incite war between the two packs. Between father and son even.

He'd been more than shocked by what he'd seen, how Demi had looked, voiced he'd not seen one bruise on the girl. Then he had sat and gone through it all, actually looked at the photos of her, and watched all the videos, read the messages, left nothing out at all. Then he had looked right at her. "I know." She nodded "I don't understand it either. I get Zac wanting the Alpha Seat. But the war I don't understand that." And she didn't.

"I don't get them trying to pit Karsyn against Steffen? If they want to rule here, you'd think they would just leave it alone. We're enemies. She'd not likely be seen here for a long time. If she never left, she would never be seen at all."

"I know. That's one of the reasons I've not said anything. It doesn't make sense, so they can at this moment easily defend themselves, against my accusations. State why would we or something along those lines." She sighed.

"Not anymore." He waved the phone at her.

"Yes, they can, they came to me, from Karsyn's phone, not Demi or Zac directly, so it could be seen as Karsyn is playing a game, not them. Do you think father would believe me, if they stated they knew nothing about those photos? Hell, all bar the one that actually shows Zac, could be seen as Karsyn torturing his own sister at some point in her own pack after he got back from war, and then she claims she ran away from him because of it. Hence, why she was missing in the first place, she came across Zac on the full moon, found out he was her Goddess Gifted Mate. And then came here without telling anyone in her family, to hide from Karsyn."

"That's a lot of thought."

"Yes, you have no idea how I'm trained to think about investigating something. As the Kings Eyes, you have to think up every possible tiny little reason, think it through, investigate each one, weed them out, so to speak, until you get to the actual truth."

"Goddess Ray, you put yourself through a lot, didn't you?"

"I was bored mostly, gave me a new challenge was all." She shrugged. "Do you think she's his Goddess Gifted or they made a deal with each other?"

Yule was silent for a long time as he thought about it. He'd seen more of them than she had. Weeks of it, the way they were together before she'd been called home to war. Heard him sigh in the end. "With all this, Ray, I'm going to side with you, they are not Goddess Gifted. Have a plan to get the title of Alpha and Luna, to a pack. Whether it be here or there I am uncertain."

"There?" she questioned.

"Yes, they tried to pit Karsyn and Steffen against each other, which denotes they want one of them dead. Which one? I don't know. Perhaps they have more than one plan. Perhaps if this one backfires, they will run to the Cold Moon and plead you terrorised both of them when you found out they were Mate's."

"Great, just what I need, more of Steffen's anger directed at me."

Yule smiled "Don't worry about Steffen, Karsyn is not going to let that man come at you. You are his Mate, not allied but Goddess Gifted Ray. He'll defend you against his own father, step right between the two of you and put his father squarely in his place."

"It will out us."

"It will." Yule nodded "Which will tell your father you found your Goddess Gifted. He's not going to give the pack to Zac and Demi if you have a Goddess Gifted pure-blooded Alpha Mate. The strength the two of you would bring, Zac will be relegated back to the second Heir. Well, with that pup you're carrying, he will be nothing. If something happened to you and Karsyn. Your father would retake the seat as Alpha and raise your son or daughter till they were old enough to take over."

She sighed "I'm not about to let that happen."

"Neither am I." he nodded "you might want to pull your old Alpha Unit back to you."

"I don't need that." She shook her head.

"They'd enjoy it, Ray, never got to lead."

"Still won't at this rate. Father is trying to send me to the Cold Moon, where I will be a Luna."

"Not bloody likely, he's always wanted you to take over."

"Karsyn will also expect me to go to Cold Moon, I now also realise."

"Hmm, we can work on that. I don't see you being in a pack with Steffen, and I don't think Karsyn can make you do that, now can he?"

"Not likely. It will make things more difficult, Yule."

"Hmm, wait and see. He seems reasonable and if he doesn't want to lose you, you never know. He also comes from a pack where Alpha's move to their Mate's Pack after being mated off to the Alpha's daughter, so it's something he might consider. Let's just work on Zac and Demi for now, deal with you and Karsyn when it comes time to." He was quiet for a moment. "Ah, I see something Ray, why they are pitting Karsyn

and Steffen against each other, if Karsyn loses or gets banished for whatever reason, Alpha Males are mated into that pack. Zac could become the Alpha over there, if Mated to the Alpha's daughter, that's their back-up plan."

She nodded, "I can see how that might work, but again, if Steffen thinks it's us torturing his daughter," she huffed. "Only they know the real reason at this time, dealing with them first is the wise choice, Karsyn and I have to wait it out, he knows that."

"Once that heartbeat is detectable to him, s**t is going to hit the fan, Ray. You need to be prepared for that, Karsyn and his wolf. They are not going to be happy you withheld it from them."

"He can deal with it," she muttered.

"Likely possessively so. Just warning you is all."

"I get it, why I layer up."

Yule snorted, sounded fully amused to her ear, as he stood up. "That will not help you for more than a day or so after it's detectable, maybe not even then. You'll also smell different to him, likely already do. He's just not figured it out is all. I wouldn't get too close, might get yourself bit." He chuckled, before strolling out of her office. Looked at her from the doorway 'That will be interesting, when you come home Marked and Mated.' He mind-linked to her and then was gone, a merry smile on his face.

She was well aware of the fact that she was going to be fighting off getting bitten by their Mate at some point. When and where, how long before that came about was another matter, had managed to avoid him the past few days. Could still do so until those two traitors upstairs came out of their room and strolled around like they were happy little love birds, and she got her evidence to show Steffen his so-called missing daughter, was not actually missing at all.

Felt a little on the hungry side and wondered if she could stomach anything, sighed and got up, headed for her suite to make something herself, best eat on her own from now on. Lest she get nauseated and throw up in front of her father or anyone, that wasn't Yule.

She managed to actually keep food down. That was nice, managed to eat eggs on toast, though she was sporting a headache from lack of caffeine, that wasn't going to be good. Liked her double shot coffees, and if she was going cold turkey that was not going to be fun at all.

She had tried to give up caffeine more than once before. Became a surly, angry woman and even her own father had been glad when she'd started drinking coffee again. The body was so used to it that it did not like having none in it at all. Perhaps decaf was the better option, or a half strength.

She was sitting in her room when her phone chimed, looked at it. No surprise it was Handsome. 'Hey Gorgeous, Renee was happy to have those pics of Danny and my grandmother, thanks for letting that happen. Father was ticked off about me and his mother being inside your pack.'

She shook her head and, what else is new, she thought absently 'no worries.' She sent back.

'What was wrong with you today?'

She stared at that message for a long moment and then typed 'nothing.'

'I don't believe that, neither does Crush. Just so you know. Something was off with you.'

Yeah, she thought our pup is making me have morning sickness. Though she did not type that, couldn't, it would likely see him come right back to the pack to claim what was his. Left it alone altogether.

'What happened with your father?' she changed the subject.

'Argument. Don't change the subject. What is going on?'

'How bad is it over there?' she ignored that and continued with her line of questioning.

Saw her phone ring a moment later and Handsome popped up, closed her eyes and muttered 'come on man, give me a break.' Dismissed it.

'Are you kidding me?' he texted right away.

'Karsyn, I've got things to deal with right now, I can't hold a verbal conversation, texting is fine.'

'We need to meet.' He typed right back.

'No, we don't, and you saw me just a few hours ago.'

'Raygan...' he typed right back.

She wasn't going to be able to ignore him for long and she didn't really want to lie to him, it wasn't likely going to go down so well. 'They are still in their suite, nothing has changed here. Just waiting on them to come out. I have one other person here now who knows and is going to help me gather evidence. Please just be patient.'

'I am patient, Crush said something is off with you or Avalon...We're concerned.'

'I am fine, safe and well. There is nothing wrong with me, I assure you.'

It was a long moment before he replied, 'Would you tell me if there was something wrong with you?'

'Yes.' She answered simply. 'What happened with your father? How bad?'

'It got physical...he insults you all the time and...'

'It more than bugs you.' she wrote back '"Try and ignore it.'

'I am your Mate, and I don't want to hear it, the names he calls you.'

'I can well imagine Karsyn. Please just take a breath, I've been called everything under the Goddess. Don't concern yourself with it. Please.'

'You wouldn't like it if someone called me horrible names.'

'No, I'd likely just punch them in the face, but around here that would be my usual response to something I don't take kindly to. No one would think anything of it. On your end? They might.'

'I need to call you. Tell me when your free for a chat.'

She technically was free for a chat, was sitting in her suite which was soundproof, it couldn't be good over there if he still wanted to talk with her. 'Now is fine, I guess.' She texted back.