CH 51

Raygan POV

She'd strolled on down to the cells to inform her pip squeak that he would be heading home that evening if nothing went wrong with the Alpha's Oath between his mother and her father. Had leaned on the bars and stared right at him for a long moment, then sighed.

"You, young man, will be off to Alpha College once more, I imagine the moment you get home. Your father will think it is a safer place for you. But what you need to know is the oath that will be being made today will see your mother die, if your father breaks it."

"What?" He'd asked more than concerned.

"It has to be this way. Unfortunately, your father is dead set on Demi being in this pack, being held hostage and being tortured and brutalised daily by someone here. This is not the case, I give you my word."

"She'd be here next to me if she was." He nodded.

"You are correct, and I'd let you see her be taken to. To make you talk."

"That is just plain cruel," he muttered.

"It is, but that is the best way to get what you want from someone. No one will stand for their family being harmed like that. All talk to stop it. You would have been no different." She sighed softly, "when you go home later today pip squeak, you might want to have a word with that father of yours. His vendetta against me and my pack is well ingrained."

"He won't risk mother's life."

"You can say that all you like. But you have no idea what he will do in a fit of rage. It is that, that concerns me to be honest. If your father loses his temper, you could well feel your mother sever from you while you're away. I don't want this. Your mother doesn't want this. Please remember if it happens, it was your own father's doing. The Oath will be broken by your father, our side of the agreement is to simply return you to them. Your mother will swear her life to the safety of this pack, from yours."

He was just standing there staring at her now. She could see that he understood just how much this oath was going to cost him and their pack. Saw him nod.

"You, pip squeak, will not have time to come home and say goodbye to your mother, and it is likely I will destroy your pack completely as well."

"But you and Karsyn?"

"That is a different matter altogether and nothing has been agreed upon," She told him.

Saw him looking right at her now, he was quiet for a long moment. "I don't think it's that simple anymore." He stated, and walked across the cell to look at her, stood right before her slid his eyes over her, stopped on her abdomen and tilted his head "not if that is his pup I'm hearing."

She frowned, just great if the pip squeak could hear it, then it was not going to get past Karsyn, she was

going to have to keep her distance now, would have to test that one out. Have Yule or her father tell her from how far away they could pick it up. Had that meeting to attend and she knew Karsyn was going to be right there.

"I saw the way Kar looked at you, heard my grandmother's tone...you're Mate's aren't you?, actually Goddess Gifted to each other"

"Very perceptive." She nodded, but thought about those words, 'heard my grandmother's tone', did Luna Mika suspect or know and if so, how had she found out? Or was Karsyn unable to keep that hidden? Was his attitude about her on display as a Mate's would be. "You will also keep that to yourself. We are not at a point where we can state that out loud."

"Father would push for a rejection." Danny sighed, "because he considers you the enemy?"

"Yes." She nodded.

"You're going to accept him?"

"Do you and I need to make an oath that you'll say nothing?"

"No." he shook his head "I know how to keep my mouth closed."

"That I have seen. You'll make for a great leader one day."

She'd left him after that. He was a good kid, likely a good brother who was much more like his mother than his father, it seemed, had a level head on his shoulders. A few years in the king's military would be good for him. Come back capable of running that pack of his.

Her father had parked the car a good 50 feet from those waiting and told her via the mind-link, 'Now, sweetheart, don't get any closer or his wolf is going to pick up that heartbeat.' Had smiled right at her, 'I wish you luck in keeping it from him, my hearing is good, but I don't know how good his is, likely better than mine.'

She'd not moved any closer to them, had stood and leaned on the truck to watch things go down. Though his unit were more interested in her than the goings on of the oath making. She knew which one was the Gamma by the way he was staring right at her.

Raised an eyebrow at that man, and saw him smile right at her, wink even. Shook her head ever so slightly. Already knew they all knew what she was. They also all knew she and Karsyn had spent those days holed up in that Inn. Knew the two of them had already slept together, many times.

Likely had gone into that very destroyed room and seen the damage the two of them had wrought. Knew they'd enjoyed each other's company a lot. That the only thing keeping them apart was that their packs were enemy's. She kept herself in check of her emotions as he watched her.

Knew he would be trying to sense her out, even from way over there, he wouldn't be able to help himself. Watched his Beta's eyes widen a little at her comment about killing him and his entire bloodline if his father did anything stupid. Also, saw Karsyn frown right at her for it as well.

The problem was, she would do it and it was likely they all knew it. Her father was all she had left, other than her deceitful half-brother, and no one was taking her father from her, certainly not this pack.

She stood and watched that oath being made. Luna Renee didn't hesitate to accept it, no mother would. She'd told her father to word it a specific way. He'd not much liked it himself, to put another Luna's life at risk if any harm came to any of their own pack members. She'd told him it was just gaining full insurance.

To her surprise, the Luna herself had added a clause all by herself to state that if she did die, no blame could be laid upon the Wintering Moon, but landed solely upon her own Mate. Wondered if Renee knew exactly what that would mean. It would be seen as treason against the Luna, by the pack's own Alpha, and Karsyn would have the right to kill his own father and take over the pack.

That not even the current Alpha Unit could stop him or help their own Alpha, treason against the Luna or Alpha was a death sentence in any pack. So, if Alpha Steffen was seen to even be plotting against the Wintering Moon, it would be considered treasonous as it would bring harm to the Cold Moon's Luna. She was either very smart or very stupid. Didn't know the woman well enough to know which it was.

Though, by the look of horror on Beta Rickford's face, he understood what it meant. The looks on Karsyn and his unit also told her they all knew what it meant, but that didn't really surprise her. They'd been off at war for a decade and would likely have seen this before.

She also knew that this oath would be recorded in both packs oath binding books, that it was also likely that Luna Renee would record it word for word in one of her Luna Library books. So it was recorded for all other Luna's to read of her dealings, and why she did it.

Alpha Steffen was going to be utterly furious when he heard what she'd said. Sighed internally, at least she had warned young Danny of the consequences. Hoped Steffen was not as stupid as she thought he was. That he could rein in his temper, or he was going to lose his Luna very quickly and at his own hands.

At least it was the Luna's own words that had brought that about and not her father's. Steffen could not blame them for it in anyway. That particular oath was something that would have to be relayed to the entire pack, so that none of their pack members so much as struck one of the Wintering Moon, any of them causing harm to any of hers would see their Luna die. They all had to be informed.

The moment the oath was made she stated, "Father, we need to go," and pushed off the truck, to walk to the door to get in.

"Raygan, can we speak please?"

"I'm busy Karsyn, we can talk when I bring Danny to you," she stated and got in the truck. Saw him frowning right at her, he was unhappy with her, and she knew it. He'd asked her more than once what was wrong now and though she had told him there was nothing wrong and there actually wasn't. He didn't believe her.

Watched her father put a hand on him and stay him. "Just give it a day, she's still mad about the Mating Alliance that was put forward. Has a hell of a temper son. Just needs time to let it go."

She'd seen Karsyn sigh and nod, realised right there in that moment, it was no wonder the man's grandmother knew he was not that good at hiding their Mate Bond. If he was not careful, her own father would pick it up. He'd not asked her about the man being her Mate.

Likely had just figured they'd gotten into it and being unmated Alpha's, they'd ended up going at it, their

anger and dominant ways had set about some sort of Alpha attraction, and they'd gone from arguing to s*x. Though the way her father had smiled at her when he'd driven them away from that oath making, it wasn't going to take him long to figure it out. "I was right, the boy likes you."

"He wouldn't be the first, father." She stated dismissively.

"No, he would not. But he is the first I've seen huff and puff at your unwillingness. He's not about to go anywhere, certainly not when he finds out the two of you have a pup together."

"Let it go father." She sighed, "I know what you want."

"Yes, a full alliance between our two packs. That child you're carrying will do that. You understand that right. Not even Steffen would dare to harm that pup. It is his own kin as well."

"That's what worries me," she muttered.

"Don't, your bloodline will overrule his. That pup in there will also grow up like you, well-educated and learn how to be considerate and thoughtful. Think logically and seeing as the pup's father is more than reasonable. I see no issue; my grandson will be perfect."

She snort, "Grandson? Where do you get that from?"

"Just hopeful." he smiled at her, "so when can I tell young Kar the good news?"

"After we find his stepsister, I want that resolved first."

"Ah, finally she agrees to my plans." She could hear the smile and happiness in her father right this minute. "I get it also, to stop Steffen blaming us."

"Yes, it will end the war." She nodded.

"You know where she is. Why haven't you and Kar gone in and gotten her?"

"Extenuating circumstances. More information is needed, it's not just a simple matter, father," she sighed heavily. "not even you are going to like it, when you hear what is going on."

"So, you'll tell me then?"

"Yes, when the information is clear. The evidence shows the truth of the situation."

"Are we allied to who has her?" he frowned.

"Yes," she nodded. Allied was an understatement. "It's not a good situation father, and the ramifications are going to be bad for all those involved."

"Karsyn knows all this?"

"He does, doesn't understand any more than I do what is truly going on. But I get the feeling as does he, they, who set it all off into motion, wanted our two packs to go to war and one to wipe the other out. Though why? is the concern."

"You want to know why, before grabbing the girl. That could bring her to more harm."

"It won't," she sighed, "there is more going on than you could possibly know." and there was and she had no

+5 Points

idea how he was going to take his own son and Heir plotting against his own pack. A pack that was nearly being handed over to him at that. Did not relish being the one to have to tell her own father that his son was a traitor to the pack and had and is still plotting against it.

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