CH 67

Karsyn POV

He was sitting chatting normally with her, their seeming argument over for the moment, or put on the back burner. Realised that he had just Raygan and Grant in this room, he turned and looked at the office door. It was open. Looked at Raygan and raised an eyebrow at her, "Now would be a good time," he commented casually.

Saw her think about it. Heard Grant stated, "Good time for what, son?"

Raygan sighed, "Might as well, I can't guarantee the outcome though."

He nodded, "Grant may Raygan and I have a private word with you about my stepsister."

"Sure, if you think I can help, only happy to." he nodded.

"You won't be happy in a minute." Raygan muttered as he got up and walked over to close the door. He returned to his chair and turned it slightly so he could see both of them at the same time.

"I hear your son Zac has a Mate. But no one has mentioned what she looks like to me and her name?"

Grant chuckled, "She's a pretty little dark-haired omega, Dee is her name."

"Dee, you say, is that short for something? My missing stepsister's name is Demi and she's omega born." he posed to the man, looked right at him though.

Saw Grant frown now. He watched him look at Raygan and she nodded slowly as if confirming what he was thinking, what Karsyn wanted him to think. "You think Dee is short for Demi?" Grant questioned now, though his frown deepened considerably.

"I did ask you where the girl haled from, and more than once," Raygan stated.

"Zac said he'd talked to her family."

"Zac lied to you. Kar, do you have a picture of Demi on your phone?"

"No," he shook his head and he actually didn't, not a proper photo of her. "Grandmother would though."

"I have one." Grant offered and reached for his phone.

"No," Karsyn shook his head, "let's do this the right way. Will you wait a moment?"

Grant nodded, was still frowning deeply though. Already Grant's mind was trying to figure things out if Dee was Demi, his missing stepsister? Karsyn mind-linked to his grandmother to come to the Alpha's office. She did, let herself in after a single brief knock. Looked at them all and closed the door after taking in the room.

"Grandmother, have you got a picture of Renee's daughter on your phone?"

"Yes." she nodded, "Why?"

"Could you show it to Alpha Grant? A family photo would be best."

"You won't be in it, Kar. I haven't gotten a recent one since you got back."

"Don't concern yourself about that." He motioned for her to go ahead, watched her do just that. Find a family photo and then turn it to Alpha Grant, "What is going on?" she asked. He knew he'd asked her not to mention Demi at dinner and was now being asked to show her to Alpha Grant.

Saw that man frowning now, "May I?" he asked and took the offered phone, stared down at the girl for a long moment and then sighed, before handing it back to Mika, "You might want to sit, Mika." Grant stood and offered her his chair.

She sat and looked from one to the other, "What is going on?"

"It seems your missing grandchild is my new daughter." Grant stated flatly.

"What!" she exclaimed, "Demi is here?"

"And unharmed." Karsyn reassured her quickly.

"Of course she's unharmed. Why would you think that she is?" Grant frowned.

He watched his grandmother frown now as well. "What exactly is going on?" she stated firmly, wanting answers. "Why is Demi here?"

"Is according to both of them, Zac's Goddess Gifted Mate named Dee, not Demi." Karsyn informed Mika.

Grant frowned. "How long has she been missing again?"

"She went missing on the full moon twice back." Karsyn commented. He already knew from Raygan that was when she had come here. Karsyn watched on as Grant's jaw started ticking. He knew when that girl had turned up on Zac's arm.

"The day my father brought war to your pack. He'd gotten a photo of her all beaten up. Looked to be brutalised even."

He saw Grant's eyebrows knit together and heard his own grandmother curse out loud. Everyone looked at her more than shocked. "Alpha Grant. She has been here the whole time?"

"Yes, undergoing Luna training." he huffed.

She looked at Karsyn, "All the photos of her, the footage of her, what the hell is that about over the past month then?"

"That is the problem, Raygan and I can't figure it out. Why they would do that? Incite a war between the two packs."

"Wait, what are you talking about?" It was Grant.

"Father," he watched as Raygan stood up and moved him to his own chair, sat him down and then sighed, " It appears Zac and Demi have been sending photos of Demi all beaten and bruised back to Alpha Steffen, even one with a Wintering Moon pack pin. Steffen thinks we took her, are torturing and brutalising the girl."

"The evidence is weak at best," Karsyn sighed, "I would not have started war with you over it. Father, however..." he left it unsaid, they all knew what he was like.

"Why?" his grandmother asked.

"That is the very question we don't know. It's not logical to either Raygan or myself," he answered "we'd like to find out the why, before outing them. I have secured Cold Moon. There will be no war from us. My father's unit has been informed now, so they are in the know. They will not act on it either. I showed them a picture of Demi and Zac happy." He pulled out his phone and showed both his grandmother and Grant the photo, of them together all happy and loved up with the words the future Alpha and Luna of Wintering Moon. He watched his grandmother take his phone. She could see the date on it.

"This was a month after she went missing."

"It was also the day Raygan and I were gifted to each other. The last full moon," Karsyn nodded, "along with the day she was severed from our pack."

"She was initiated into the pack that day. I did that myself. They wanted to wait until Raygan came home, stated it was out of respect to her that they did not Mark and Mate until after Raygan knew, Zac had found his Goddess Gifted."

"Sounds fishy to me now." Mika huffed.

"I don't think they are Goddess Gifted," Raygan nodded, "it's a ploy to get the Alpha chair out from underneath me."

"Nearly bloody worked." she heard her father snap, "If Mika hadn't called me and told me she was suspicious of Karsyn's reactions. Reacting like you were his Mate, to any harsh words said about you. Wanting to put the two of you in a room together along with us so we could figure it out ourselves. Might well have."

He saw her eyes move to him and then she shook her head. "What?" he smiled at her.

"My father had no idea." Raygan smiled at him, knew she was happy she'd been able to keep it from them.

"Hmm, I was too happy I guess."

"No, son, that is not it." Grant told him simply, "You are an Alpha Male and it's natural for you to become aggressive towards those who insult one's mate. I doubt Raygan would have held her tongue if anyone had insulted you." he looked at Raygan for a moment.

"I have a good poker face, you not so much." she shrugged at him.

"Crush and I didn't like that you were unmarked and unprotected."

He saw her just shake her head, "I can take care of myself." his eyes moved to his grandmother. She was looking at Raygan, her head tilted ever so slightly, and he watched her eyes widen a little, and then she stood up and stepped over to reach out to touch Raygan's stomach. The slight distention was hidden by the dress she was wearing, but she was a Luna Ranked wolf, and sitting that close to Raygan, he supposed she'd picked up on the heartbeat.

"Sweet Goddess," she half whispered as Raygan's eyes moved to her.

"Yes, a pup," Grant smiled at the woman, "I'm finally going to be a grandpa."

He watched Raygan look right at Mika, he'd seen them shake hands and chat casually before, but this was an intimate touch from the woman whose Mate had killed her own mother.

Karsyn's whole body tensed up as he realised that might not be welcome at all. Didn't know how Raygan herself was going to take it. Yes, the child was also Mika's kin now, but would her touch be welcome he didn't know.

"When?" she asked softly.

"Before the war," Raygan answered her, didn't seem all that concerned about being touched by Mika. Wondered just what she felt about the woman. He saw his grandmother's eyes move towards him questioningly.

"Raygan and I met 4 days before the war, spent three of those in the same bed, didn't know who we were to each other."

Got hit by his grandmother at full wolfen speed, "You stupid boy. Didn't bother to protect yourself or her. Goddess Kar, very irresponsible."

"Hmm, it was," he nodded, "kind of got carried away, and Raygan didn't bring it up."

"Mate-less," she shrugged it off as though she didn't think it mattered, she hadn't been in heat, so wouldn't have a pup he supposed was her thinking.

"No, you're not," he reminded her, "not ever again." He didn't want her to have to think about that anymore, she was not mate-less. Never had been, just needed to wait for him to be born, he supposed. Might have to tell her that, to get her to stop saying it or thinking it.

"Does Steffen know?"

"No, just my unit. You and well, all of this pack I'm guessing." His eyes moved to Raygan and Grant and they both nodded.

"We're off topic." Raygan commented, "Zac and Demi, let's get back to that."

"Yes, we should do." Grant huffed, "What is the plan? I'm guessing you have one, if you've brought me into it. Mika as well."

"There is, and more than one. Raygan and I have different things we want in place but they will work effectively together. To combine the proof that we need to show father, that, although Demi was here, she'd changed her name and you never knew it was her. That she was never harmed in any way. I want to stay here and not be seen by her when she comes out of that room."

"Why? is she locked up? I haven't seen her, been here a few times now."

"In heat." Grant sighed.

"Oh."

"So, I'll stay here, and hopefully be able to catch those two myself, all happy and loved up, confront them on it. Raygan?"

"I have placed cameras throughout the packhouse to catch them together as proof she is happy here all the time. Yule helped me, he knows, by the way."

"That man is in for a beating, bloody holding out on me. You really think Dee," he huffed and corrected

himself, "Demi and Zac actively incited a war between the two packs?" the man sounded disappointed to his ear.

"Unfortunately, it does look like it. Still are, I've had a few video footages come through while she's in heat, of a man mating her aggressively. One of them actually caught Zac's face. Another stated I knew where she was and didn't care, told them she wasn't my kin to keep her," Karsyn sighed, "so, yes, I believe they are. I have confiscated father's phone, so he doesn't get them. They are being sent directly from Demi's phone to father's."

"Why is what I want to know?" Raygan muttered, "Who wants a war? Actively choose it? No one wants war. There will be losses on both sides. Lots or a whole pack destroyed. It doesn't make sense to me. The why?"

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