

# The Rejected Mate

## chapter 26 : regrets

Its midnight and I couldn't sleep properly, tossing and turning every other minute untill I had enough. I walk down the quiet hallways, careful not to make any noise and wake up the sleeping pack mates.

Suddenly I hear rustling noises, nearly giving me a heart attack. I place a hand on my chest, feeling my heart beat like crazy. My eyebrows scrunch in confusion when I hear the rustling noises again. Deciding to check it out, I follow the noise to a door farthest and secluded from others, staring at the door painted in black, I realise it lead to Damien's room

Slowly twisting the door knob, praying to god that I don't wake him up. I slowly tip-toe into his room. Its completely dark in here, but thank God for my enhanced vision I could navigate around it perfectly. My eyes could make out the king sized bed and the figure under the covers.

Slowly approaching his king sized bed, I watch as he twists and turns on the bed, with his eyebrows scrunched and face twisted into a frown, it takes me a moment to realise that he was having a nightmare. A thin layer of sweat coats his forehead even though the air condition was switched on. My hands slowly reach out towards his form, wanting to move the covers he had laid over him, so I could help a bit and ease him. As soon as I reach out and clutch the blanket in my hands, a hand wraps around my wrist, gasping in shock as the tingles takeover my body.

I look up to find grey eyes looking at me with confusion and tiredness.

"Serenity?" He sounds unsure, not knowing if it's me with his disoriented form.

I clear my throat.

"uh, I heard noises coming from your room so I thought I would come and check if everything is okay. You were having a nightmare" I state making him sigh.

"Yeah" he drags a hand down his face.

Its only now that I notice that it pains under where he had my wrist in a tight hold, my face twists in pain.

"Damien, could you please-..." I point my free hand towards his hand that has mine in a tight hold. His fingers instantly recoils from around mine.

"Sorry" his eyes on my wrist, where I could see a bruise forming.

"Its okay" I smile at him reassurance.

Its silent for a few moments, both of us not knowing what to say.

"Are you okay? Do you need anything?" I ask him.

he shakes his head in reply.

"I think I should get going"

He just stares at me, I could make out uncertainty in his eyes. I knew how it felt to sleep and be woken up by a nightmare, leaving you disoriented and fearing what it would be the next time you go back to sleep. Would it be worse or wake you up screaming?.

"Okay"

Turning around, I only manage to take two steps forward, when a hand wraps around my wrist for a second time tonight, turning around I find his eyes trained on me. This time he was careful not to bruise me or injure my hand, holding my wrist softly.

Clearing his throat he speaks up, his next words managing to render me speechless.

"Can you stay with me, please?" He asks, adding a quiet please at the end leaving me shocked, all these years knowing him, I have never heard him say please or thank you for that matter.

His eyes dart away from mine in uncertainty, fearing if I might reject his offer.

I ponder on it for a few seconds, contemplating my options. I nod my head after a few seconds, I watch as his eyes light up a bit making me bite back my smile at his actions.

He scoots over in his bed, making the covers to slip from covering his body. My mouth drops open when I get a glimpse of his shirtless upper body, he had a toned stomach, sculpted abdomen and arms with bulging muscles and of course, with a six pack. Tattoos cover every inch of his body, no skin in sight. His body like was a canvas laid out for art.

A blush takes over my face, my cheeks reddening in embarrassment. I shake my head lightly praying to God he hadn't caught me checking him out, one look at his face is all it takes me to know to realise that he noticed but says nothing of it, which I was thankful for.

I slowly ease into the firm but surprisingly soft bed, a sigh leaving my lips as all the tensed up muscle in my body let loose. My eyes start drooping as tiredness from the day takes over.

The last thing I remember before sleep completely takes over my form is the feeling of a pair of hands moving wrapping around my waist and scooping me into their arms.

Unconsciously, a smile takes over my features.

Chirping of the birds is the first thing I hear in the morning when I wake up, light hits my face, managing to escape and scatter around the room from the sides of the blinds, placed over the window.

I turn around in the bed, I freeze when I'm stopped mid-turn, my eyes trail down my form and settle onto the tattooed muscular arm that is wrapped around my waist in a firm hold. My eyes trail around the room, taking in the black furnished room with sleepy eyes, the events from last night hit me making me understand my current position.

We were both facing each other, Damien holding me in his arms, holding me as if like I was going to disappear any moment. He had his face stuffed buried in my neck, his soft breaths hitting my neck occasionally making small shivers to run down my spine.

He looked so peaceful in his sleep, with his face relaxed unlike last night, I didn't want to move and wake him up.

Bringing a hand forwards, I trail a finger down his features, my hands trace his defined jaw up towards his cheeks, slowly trailing a hand in an invisible manner through his smooth skin. My hands slowly move towards his pink plump lips, they felt as soft as they looked.

My hands move the hair covering his eyes, brushing it back with my bare fingers.

Lastly my hands settle on the tattoos adorning his body, I trace the tattoo of a rose situated above the left side of his chest right above his heart.

I feel fast puffs of air blow on my neck, making me still in his arms. I look down to find his grey eyes trained on me, making me immediately move my hand away from their earlier position on his chest. My mouth opens to spew some excuse but he stops me from speaking up by placing my hands on its earlier position, right above the rose tattoo I was examining earlier.

His actions made me realise that he wanted me to continue what I was doing before he woke up. Once again I trail a hand on his chest, tracing the outline of the tattoo, it's now my eyes find something different with the tattoo, there is a letter 'S' tattooed in a calligraphical manner instead of the original stem, you wouldn't realise it's a letter

instead of the actual stem of the flower since whoever tattooed this had made a damn good job of concealing it from wandering eyes.

I trail the letter, wondering its meaning. Did the S stand for my name?

I immediately erase that thought from my mind, let's not get that ahead of ourselves.

"Why a rose?" I ask him curiously, I don't get a reply for a few moments, even though I knew he heard me because I felt him stiffen beside me when I asked him the question.

"It was my mother's favourite flower and she used to say that a rose is just not a flower, the main thing that kept people from ruining its beauty was the thorns that it carried, just like a protective wall around itself. She used to say it was how a pack worked, there were the pack mates, infants, elders who represented the flower, meanwhile the Alpha and Luna were the thorns protecting the flower." he replies after a few minutes.

I'm speechless at his words, no one would've thought that deeply about a common flower

like rose. His mom sounded like a great person, I wish I had got to know her atleast once. [SEARCH the website](#) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

"Do you miss her?" Placing my hands flat on his chest.

"Everyday" he replies without missing a beat.

"I'm sorry about what happened to her, I hope-" my next words are immediately cut off when I feel Damien abruptly moving away from my figure, standing up beside the bed, looking tall as ever as he towers over my body.

"How do you know what happened to her?" he sounds tense and his voice has gone up an octave. I immediately realise my mistake, no one other than a number handful people like former Alpha, Beta and Delta knew about the incident.

"I-, I don't" I stand up, feeling nervous and sweaty all of a sudden, my eyes dart away from his in nervousness.

"You're lying" he states, sounding so sure of himself.

"I'm not" I ground out, trying to conceal my nervousness behind a tough facade.

"Oh really?" He moves towards my figure, closing in on me and stopping when he had finally trapped me between the wall and his shirtless body.

"Then care to explain why you there is small beads of sweat coating your forehead, you are nibbling on your lower lip, and twiddling your hands together, which I noticed is what

you do when you're either lying or nervous about something" my mouth drops open at his theory, I never realised myself that I did those things.

"I-" I gulp, not knowing what to say.

"Tell me Serenity, how do you know?" He hisses near my face, his voice sounding as if he could shoot spikes of ice with them.

I shiver hearing the coldness of his voice.

I could feel my heart beat fast in my chest.

"TELL ME" his hands slam on the wall beside my head, making me jump in fear.

"I found y-your diary" I watch as his eyes immediately darken with unleashed fury, scaring me further.

"FUCK" he roars, his eyes switching between grey and black, his grey eyes held more darkness than any black eye I had ever seen.

I didn't realise someone could hold such darkness inside them until now.

"You had no right snooping around my things" he snaps at me.

"I know and I'm sorry" the guilt hitting me in the gut.

I watch as his claws extend, digging into his palms as he fists his hands, drawing blood immediately. The sight of blood nauseated me, but made me concerned for him.

"You're bleeding, you should get it-" I start to say but he cuts me off.

"Get out."

"But your wound might get-"

"I SAID. GET. OUT." he grits out through clenched teeth, his breathing has changed to an irregular manner, his chest heaving up and down in a fast motion, almost on the verge of transforming into his wolf.

I slip through his room almost immediately, not wanting to anger him further. I rest my head on the wall outside his room, realising that I messed up, I knew he'd be angry if he found out about the diary situation, but his reaction scared me.

I knew I was in the wrong, I shouldn't have poked my nose in the business, snooping around his stuff, finding about things which he clearly did not like anyone knowing or

even mentioning about. I hear crashing noises and glass breaking in his room making me vince.

It seems like whenever we took a step forwards in our relationship or whatever this is we had going on, we end up taking two steps back.

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## **chapter 27 : reality**

It has been two whole weeks since I last saw Damien, I had got a glimpse of him here and there in the pack house, but whenever I try to approach him it's like he magically disappears.

I've been feeling guilty ever since that night in his bedroom, I have been wanting to apologize but I could never get a hold of him. I knew he visited Elijah late at night, when I was knocked up by sleep. I could feel it in the morning, and his lingering scent proved me right.

It's late at night, Matthew had dragged me into the living room of the pack, stating that he wanted to have a movie marathon like old times, which I found a bit weird at first but shook that thought off. He was one weird guy after all, hence me finding him grinning at a piece of chocolate cake in the kitchen an hour ago like a creep.

We were sprawled out on the couch, with popcorn and other snacks surrounding us. pausing the movie, I break my gaze from the screen when I feel a nudge on my side, turning towards Matthew I find him looking at me with a puppy eyed look, making me narrow my eyes at him.

I know that look very well, which means he wants me to do something for him. But I'm not going to waver under those eyes, is what I keep telling myself. I keep my narrowed eyes fixed on him that my right eye starts to twitch.

"what is it?" sighing out loud, I ask him in defeat.

Pointing towards the bowl of popcorn, he pouts. I come to the conclusion that he wants more popcorn.

"why do I put up with this man child?!" grumbling under my breath, I stand up. Heading towards the kitchen so I could get the popcorn.

I halt on my footsteps, when I hear a familiar voice, I couldn't make out their words as they were being said too quietly for my ears to pick up, looking up I find Damien kissing

a girl, causing the bowl of popcorn to fall from my hands and onto the floor with a loud thud.

## DAMIEN'S POV

I drag a hand down my face, exhaustion taking over my senses as I close the last file of the night. I've been receiving complaints of constant rogue sitting around the pack and even the neighbouring packs, those mutts are testing my patience. It would only go on so much before I finally snap.

I've been holed up in my office most of the time, going over my duties and tending to my Alpha duties like I usually do. Also using this as an excuse to avoid her, I've never been someone who tells others about my problems. I hated being put under the spotlight, feeling like a charity case. Dad used to say that I was a really energetic and talkative child until mom passed away.

I was closer to my mother more than anyone else. She had always believed that nobody was weak, and that being vulnerable wasn't a weakness but a strength. I had admired her morals, but sadly I couldn't include that in my life ever since she passed away. My weakness had led her six feet under. My head always circulating around the possibility that maybe I could've saved her that day.

I was furious at Serenity, I hated it when people snooped around and tried to pry into my life, granted she was someone I cared about or maybe even loved...it was a touchy subject and a topic I never ever wanted to relive, making me snap at her that night. I regretted my actions but I couldn't find the courage to face her.

Snapping myself out of my thought, I stand up from the office chair. Stretching, letting loose of the sore muscles in my body.

Locking the door to my office, turning around I almost knock someone over, my hand placing itself on their shoulder, to steady them from face planting onto the floor.

I move my hand away, when I realize that they're steady on their feet now.

"Damien" my jaw clenches itself as her nasal voice reaches my ears.

"Melanie" she seems surprised that I remembered her name, ofcourse I remember each and every pack members name. She was wearing a skimpy dress, which barely covered the areas it should've, she had tried tugging her dress down as much as possible, so she could flash me her cleavage, which caused me to feel disgusted at her desperate attempt at seducing me.

Stepping forward, she runs a pointed finger down my chest, trying to seduce me by the occasional fluttering of her eyes and pouty lips, which did nothing but make me cringe inwardly at her approach.

Killian growls in my mind, disliking this female instantly. He never liked when I slept with her that night, clawing and growling at our conscious link giving me a splitting headache.

"First off all, it's Alpha to you. Second, get your dirty claws off me before I do something I won't regret." My hands wrap around her hand that is placed on my chest. Applying pressure to let her know that I wasn't playing around.

I watch as her facial features turn to one that of rage and jealousy.

"Why? Is it because of that bitch Serenity, who acts all innocent?" she sneers in my face.

I let out a growl at her words. Anger taking over my senses

Nearing my face towards her, I watch as fear overtakes her features at my action. Grasping her face in my hands in a firm grip.

"That 'Bitch' you're talking about is my ma-" a crash noise sounds from the right, making me turn towards where the noise came from only to find Serenity standing there with a look of hurt on her face. A bowl laying at her feet.

I realize the compromising position she found us in, with both of us so close that it would appear as if we were kissing from where she was stood.

I take a step towards her, my hands trying to reach hers, "I-1 it's not what-"

She recoils from my touch, a look of hurt crosses my features but I school my features to that of impassiveness as I hear another voice join us.

"Serenity, what's taking you so long-" Matthew halts in his footsteps as he takes in the scene in front of him. I watch as anger takes over his features

"Well. Well. Well, seems like the Alpha couldn't keep it in pants" he sneers, coming forwards and wrapping a hand around Serenity's waist, making me growl lowly.

"It's not what it looks like"

"Oh really? Then what is it? Were you consoling her? Because it sure as hell didn't look like it. Really Damien? Here I was feeling guilty of my actions and you're here canoodling with someone else" She shoots a glare towards Melanie's direction who was smirking smugly making my anger to rise even more.

Turning towards her, my hands wrap around her throat. "Tell her what actually happened or I will not hesitate to throw you out of my pack" I threaten her.



Melanie splutters and wraps her hand around mine to release my hold on her throat, "I wil-I tell t-he tru-th Alpha-a" I release my hold on her throat, waiting for her to speak up.

Clearing her throat she speaks up "Matthew bribed me with money, asking me to seduce the Alpha" She speaks up, making my head to snap towards him.

My eyes darken as I feel rage built up inside me, I storm towards where he stood. Roughly grabbing his collars in my grip, "Was this part of your sick plan when you saw her slip through your fingers, Matthew?" My voice deepens as Killian takes control over my actions

"Stop it, Damien. Leave him" she shouts

Serenity tries to pry my hand off of him, but I don't budge, I've been trying to mend my past mistakes but it felt like its all been in vein.

"What's going on in here?" A new voice joins in. We all turn to find Alex, my beta and Serenity's brother and his Courtney who also happened to be her bestfriend, standing there looking like they just woke up from sleep. Seems like we weren't being too quiet, but I didn't care about that at the moment.

I grip on Matthew's throat tightens more, if that was even possible. Everyone could see him visibly choking under my hold, with his face turning different shades of red due to his oxygen supply being cut off.

"WOULD YOU TWO STOP THIS NONSENSE" I immediately release him, we both turn our heads towards the person who just yelled, Serenity was breathing hard as tears brimmed her eyes.

"Matt would never do something like that" she looks at Matthew who was rubbing his sore neck, but I know her words were pointed at me.

"You can't be serious right now" I say incredulously. I couldn't believe that she was taking his side. Her head snaps towards me when she hears me speaks, looking into her muddy brown eyes, I find so much anger swirling behind them.

"You know what Damien, it seems like whoever you end up loving, either ends up on their death bed or six feet under the ground. Seems like an early plane ticket to their inevitable death. You cause nothing but misery to the ones around you, if it wasn't for you, this pack's former luna, your mother and my bestfriend would've been alive today. I will pray to God that Elijah wouldn't have to face the consequences of your actions and I sure as hell hope that he doesn't take after his FATHER." tears stream down her face, her eyes locked on mine.

Her words felt like she had stabbed me in the heart, twisting it further to make it as painful as possible, in all of my twenty three years of existence, apart from my mother's departure and Emily's passing away nothing had hurt me more.

I could hear everyone in the room visibly gasping at her words, Alex was probably stunned since he didn't know that I was his baby sister's douche bag of a mate. Matthew and Courtney looking at Serenity with their mouth hung open in shock.

At that moment, I didn't try to conceal my hurt, because I was so fucking tired of acting like I didn't care that I drove people away from me, and I feared the day I would drive away my son to the point that he could never call me 'Dad'. It hurt to breathe, my chest heaving up and down, Killian kept whining in my head.

I couldn't bare to stand here anymore, instantly shifting into my wolf I take off through the opened living room window into the cold chilly night.

I ran as fast as I could, letting out a howl filled with sorrow as pain over took my senses.

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## **chapter 28 : deal**

### **MATTHEW'S POV**

I stand before the huge Mahogany colored door, usually I wasn't the nervous kind but after what went down a few weeks ago I wasn't so sure, I mean I have to explain myself to him someday about my actions, don't I?

Knocking on the door once, I wait for him to let me in.

"Come in" a deep voice says

Twisting the door knob, I enter into the Alpha's office. Upon seeing me Damien's face changes to that of rage. I raise my hands in surrender.

"Give me one good reason why I shouldn't rip your throat out right now" he growls out, his eyes switching colors between grey and black.

"Serenity wouldn't [-\*

He growls again making me roll my eyes. I knew I was being an asshole, but It was quite amusing to see me get under his skin so easily. Dom snickers inside my head in amusement.

"Look I'm sorry about what happened, I had to do it -" he raises a hand in the air, asking me to stop talking

"I understand" he says, making me gape at him. I just nod in reply still shocked.

"It's about Roman" I speak up after a few moments, now turning serious

He sits up straight in his office chair, motioning towards the one facing him, he asks me to take a seat.

"What about him?" I take a seat before him.

"He's planning something big" I say.

"What do you mean by something big?"

"I mean that he's making an army of rogues, training them day and night. He plans on attacking during the next full moon, when we least expect it" full moon is when our wolf side is at its strongest, wanting to rip out everything in our path. It's also when everyone would least expect him to attack which was a clever part on his side.

"How do you know about this?" He asks with his brows furrowed.

"I'm working with him"

"YOU WHAT?!" Damien bellows in pure rage, standing up and slamming his fists on the wooden desk separating us, I watch as a crack forms where he had slammed his fist a few seconds ago.

"Let me explain" I say calmly.

Taking his earlier position, he seats himself back again.

"I made a deal with Roman, I couldn't sit and watch him hurt her. So I made a deal."

"And what is this deal, may I ask?"

"I'd help him get his goons inside the pack, not to attack just to scare some pack members. And no, before you go off again, I made sure that they hurt no one from the pack or else they would have to face me" I state.

"Now it makes sense how they were able to enter the pack" He sighs.

"We have to let everyone know about the attack soon"

"NO" he grounds out.

"What do you mean no? Do you want your pack to get killed by their hands? Is that it?" I ask, I receive a glare in reply.

"For the record, I would never put any of the pack members in danger. Also we're having a pack Alliance with River Stone Pack, I was thinking that we could get their help. And as far as for letting the pack know, only the ones that are going to fight are to know about this attack, warriors are allowed to fight, men and woman both. The rest would be taken to safety" I nod my head in reply, liking his plan.

"S0..2" I ask.

"Seems like we're hosting a party" he says.

PS: this chapter is just a filler, this book would be completed tomorrow!!

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## **chapter 29 : party and attacks**

I sigh for the hundredth time, throwing the forest green colored dress onto my bed, I turn towards Courtney with a look of defeat, who was going through my closet.

"It's too short for my taste, Courtney"

"If it was upto you, you'd wear a sweater my grandma would wear with some leggings" rolling her eyes at me.

"I mean what's the problem with wearing a sweater? Its comfortable" I argue back, making her blow air out of her mouth.

"You didn't even argue with the fact that you would wear granny sweaters" she states smugly, picking up a pillow I throw it at her, which she easily dodges, making me grumble under my breath "Why do we have to go to this stupid party?" I whine. If it was upto me I would've been lounging in my sweat pants and baggy t-shirts watching a movie, not getting ready so I could go to a formal party.

"Our pack is forming an alliance with River Stone Pack, and it's mandatory for every pack member to be present there, Alpha orders" she replies and I sigh. Its been three months, and I haven't seen much of him. Matthew had explained that it was indeed him who had asked Melanie to do that.

I had asked him what led him to do that in the first place, but his only reply was that he couldn't tell me now. I was really upset and angry at him at first, and had ignored him for a good two weeks until I caved in and forgave him.

To say I was feeling guilty was an understatement, I felt so bad after I had realised how cruel I had been towards him, even thinking about it made me vibrate, it didn't help that the guilt kept me awake most of the nights, gnawing at my insides.

I've seen Matthew and him together, around the pack house. Making my eyebrows to furrow with confusion, last time I checked Damien wanted to rip Matthew's throat out, then how come they were acting like long lost friends now.

"Bingo" she calls out, breaking me out of my train of thoughts. I watch as she pulls a black dress from the back of my closet.

"Who knew you had this gem hidden behind all your granny sweaters" she teases me making me stick my tongue out at her.

"Now hurry up and wear this, we have to do your hair and makeup next" shooing me into the bathroom and closing the door behind me. I immediately change into the dress.

It was an ankle length bodycon black dress that hugged my waist pretty snugly, and flaring out a bit after it went past my hips.

The dress had a criss cross patterned lace at the back with a square neck line and thin straps holding up the dress. It had a slit starting from the middle of my thighs till my ankles, normally it would've made me self conscious but this dress oddly made me feel comfortable and confident. Courtney whistles at me when I come out of the washroom wearing the dress.

"Damn, you have been hiding that body under all that layers of clothing, you should show off it more babe" she says making me blush.

"but honestly speaking, you look beautiful Serenity" she says with a smile on her face.

"Thankyou Courtney, and so do you" I wink at her. She's wearing a mauve colored knee length dress that hugged her features, I'm sure Alex wouldn't be able to take his eyes off of her the whole night. Courtney makes me sit in front of the vanity, asking me to close my eyes and not to open it until she says so, well more like threatened me to. After a few minutes of poking and prodding at my face and hair, she says that it's done.

Opening my eyes, I'm stunned at the person who stares back at me. My long brunette hair is in curls, perfectly framing my face.

Courtney had done a smoky eye on me, with some nude lipstick to complete the look, and lastly some nude heels, about which I complained to her being death traps.

Right then the door to my room opens and Matthew straws inside, wearing a black suit with a white shirt and some dress shoes to accompany, in which he looked really handsome, with his hair perfectly gelled and styled into a neat quiff.

"Where is Serenity?" He asks Courtney and I gape at him

"I'm right here you Asshole" his mouth gapes open, taking in my figure he gulps.

"You look beautiful" he clears his thought, making me blush at his words.

Moving towards him, I fix his bow tie which was slightly crooked.

"Well so do you, I mean you look handsome" I say, making him chuckle at my words.

I turn towards Courtney, asking when she is going to come, she response was that Alex would be here soon to accompany her down to the party.

"Come on, the party is about to start soon" linking our hands together.

"Woah" I say as I take in the place where the party was taking place, it was the backyard which the pack had turned into a perfect place to hold these sort of outdoor parties. The grass has been trimmed and cut, fairy lights hung around creating a perfect ambiance for the evening.

The sky was gloomy, it has been ever since the last few days, we had been experiencing pouring rain for a few days now. I felt like something was going to happen today, I couldn't shake the thought off.

"Its beautiful right?!" Matthew asks me as he too takes in the place just like me, I nod my head at his question.

I watch as the pack members of both Midnight moon pack and River stone pack mingle with eachother. They seem to get along quite good.

I spot someone put of the corner of my eyes, I watch as a suit claddes figure holds a small baby, while talking to someone, most probably the Alpha of the River stone pack.

Damien is dressed in a black suit similar to Matthew's, it hugged his body and muscles perfectly with his long hair slicked back on top of his head and cut short at the sides. A golden watch sits on one of wrists. He's holding Elijah in his arms, who is dressed in a cute little black suspender accompanied with a white shirt.

Elijah giggles as the Alpha of River stone pack pulls some funny faces infront of him, Damien places a small kiss on his chubby cheeks, making Elijah to kiss him back, a smile graces my face at the beautiful sight.

Guilt churns in the pit of my stomach as

I recall the mean things I said to him at our last encounter regarding him being a bad father to Elijah, it was all a big fat lie.

Damien was a great father, he took time out of his busy schedule so he could spend some time with his son daily.

"Come on, let me introduce you to the Alpha of River stone pack" Matthew drags me across the room, towards where Damien and the Alpha of the other pack was standing, making me squirm with uneasiness.

"Alpha Devon Sanders" Matthew calls out, catching Devon's attention.

"Ahh, if isn't my childhood friend, Matthew McDaniels" Matthew rolls his eyes at Devon.

They both do a manly hug, patting each other on the back. Seems like they both knew each other very well.

"How are you man?" Devon asks Matthew to which he replies that he's been good. My eyes switch over to Damien's, to catch him staring back at me but when he catches my eyes he looks away. "And who might this beautiful lady be?" I hear Alpha Devon ask, taking my attention away from Damien's figure.

I smile at him as I extend my hand to shake his, "Hi, I'm Serenity. A friend of Matthew's and a member of this pack as well" It's true, me and Matthew had come to a mutual decision to just remain friends and just that. I could feel Damien's eyes on me when I said the word "friends".

Devon takes my hand in his, and places a kiss on top of my hands making my cheeks to redden. "It's a pleasure to meet you Serenity"

"Like wise".

Elijah squeals when he sees me, extending his hands and opening and closing his little fists wanting me to pick him up. Moving towards Damien, I clear my throat.

"May 1?" I ask Damien, pointing towards Elijah, who is pouting at me now. He hands Elijah over wordlessly.

Devon looks at us both "I-I didn't know you both were his parents" he speaks up.

I, Damien and Matthew look uncomfortably at each other.

"I'm not his mother" I speak up after a few moments of uncomfortable silence.

"Uh, I'm sorry" Devon sounds apologetic and I just give him a small smile.

"Don't be".

"Well, I'll see you guys again. Matthew, we've to catch up on each others life man" he says to Matthew, making him laugh and pat Devon in the back. They both move across the room, towards the bar. Talking on the way.

"You look Amazing" a deep voice speaks up, my head snaps towards Damien's. He extends his hands, tucking a stray piece of hair behind my ear. Goosebumps arises in my body at his heated touch.

"Thankyou" I turn a cherry red at his compliment.

"You clean up quite well" I compliment his look, he just nods his head in reply.

"Listen, about the things I said last time I didn't mean-" I'm cut off by someone shouting, making my breath to hitch in my throat.

"ROGUES" pack members who had been previously talking and having a fun time together instantly start to panic around, everything turns into chaos as the arrival of rogues is declared, this meant only one thing, Roman is here and it's going to be a bloodshed.

"Go towards the Underground Serenity, and don't come out untill everything is over" he instructs me.

Damien instantly rushes outside immediately, along with Matthew, Devon and all the male and female trained warriors while rest of them are ushered into the Underground, where Elders, mother's and children of the pack are kept in times of attacks like this one.

I panic myself, not knowing what to do. Do I fight with them or be a coward and hide untill everything blows over.

No, I wasn't going to sit around and watch as Roman terrorised my pack. I was going to fight back this time

I hand over Elijah to one of the mother's I have known from his nursery, "please take care of him" I say. She nods her head and hurries inside with Elijah in her arms, who has now started crying when he sees me standing there.

I immediately rush outside, I see all the warriors standing in position, ready to attack any given moment. Calvin (Damien's father), Sean (Courtney's father), Darius (Delta), Alex, Courtney and Devon and his pack warriors stand together, also ready to fight.

I rush to the front, but I'm stopped by Alex. "Serenity, it's not safe out here, just go back. You might get hurt" he speaks making me angry.



"NO, I'm not going back to hide like a coward Alex" I snap at him. He just sighs and nods his head knowing that I wasn't going to listen to him and I can be stubborn if I want to.

I move forwards, and stop when I reach the front, I stand in between Damien and Matthew, both of them had discarded their suit jacket along the way, their shirts have been folded till their elbows. Both of their heads snap towards me

"Go back Serenity"

"I thought I told you not to come out untill everything blows over"

Both of them speaking at the same time, making me agitated.

"I'm staying" I state confidently, Matthew just shakes his head at my words and Damien remains silent.

We hear rustling noises from the forest Ahead, we watch as rogues emerge in their wolf forms from the thick forests, about hundred to hundred and fifty of them are present here, this was a lot since usually rogues tend to kill each other or just get killed more often and they wouldn't travel around in packs. I watch as a figure appears from the back, moving forwards. I take in his scarred face twisted into an ugly frown.

"Well, it's good that I have everyone present here. Wouldn't have to waste my time finding you all myself and ending your pathetic lives" he says with an arrogant smirk planted on his face, with his eyes trained on me.

"If anyone here is pathetic, that might be you Roman" I voice out.

Roman's face scrunches in distaste as he takes me in, "have I told you how much I hate you?!"

"Wait, don't answer that" he says when he realises that I was about to speak up.

"Do you know why I hate you so much?" He asks and I remain silent. I never knew why he hated me so much, I thought it had something to do with mother's death.

"No" I ground out with my jaw clenched.

"You see Serenity" he drawls out, he steps towards my figure and drags a finger down my face, making Damien and Matthew growl out at his actions.

"Take your hands off of her you mutt" Damien growls his eyes a deep black now, Roman raises both of his hands in a surrender acting as if he's scared, his eyes gleaming as he cackles in amusement. "You are not my daughter" he says, my heart

stops when I hear that, I look into his eyes to know whether he's lying or not, and I find nothing suspicious. He looked serious.

Atleast I was glad to find out that this crazy man wasn't my father.

"What do you mean?" I ask him quietly, who was my father if it wasn't him?! Who could it be?

"You see, your mother had met someone before she met me, fell in love with that person and fell pregnant with you, that was around the same time when she met me. And do you want to know who was the father Serenity?" Roman grounds out, his eyes turning dark, his cold voice sending a chill down my spine.

I shake my head, tears brim my eyes. My brain was coming in terms with processing this new piece of information.

"It was my twin brother, River" he spits out my father's name, bringing his face closer to mine, his dark brown eyes, similar to mine looks at me with hatred.

"She was supposed to be mine, MINE" he bellows out in rage. "and what did my dearest brother do? Take away something that was meant to be mine from the start, but every action has its consequences? Doesn't it?!" He speaks out, pacing back and forth.

"You want to know what I did to him?" A sadistic smile present on his face.

"I ripped his heart out, with my own two hands" he states, proud of his declaration, my heart stops at his words. I never got to get to know my father because of my own uncle's selfish actions.

A tear streams down my face.

"You'll pay for everything Roman, for hurting every single innocent soul who's life you ripped away for your own selfish reasons. I hope you rot in hell" I spit at him with fire in my eyes.

"You BITCH" He growls his black eyes turning deadly, he attempts to lung at me. Only to be stopped by Damien's black wolf jumping onto him, Roman instantly shifts into his reddish brown colored wolf.

The fight starts, with rogues attacking the pack members. Everyone shifting into their wolf without a second thought.

Rain starts falling down hard, pelting against my skin. Cool air whipping around.

I shift into my auburn colored wolf, I felt adrenaline run through me and I felt energetic. Just then I see a wolf with grey fur barrel towards me, with its jaw open ready to snap.

Snarling at the wolf, the wolf tries to claw at my sides, seeing an opening I clamp my jaw down on its neck, it tries to break my hold on its neck by squirming around in my hold, but it whimpers one final time before its body goes limp, its still body hitting the floor when I release it.

Turning around, I see a brown colored rogue creeping upon Matthew's wolf, who was fighting with another grey colored rogue. I immediately rush to his side, upon seeing me, the rogue jumps onto my wolf. It manages to slash my sides with its claws, making Kira whimper in pain.

My wolf retaliates by clawing at its chest, effectively pulling out a good chunk of its flesh. Its lets out a loud whimper, Matthew who had killed the rogue he was fighting previously, now bites into the rogues neck, ripping its throat out.

The light from its eyes dim and turn lifeless.

"Thankyou" Matthew's voice sounds through our mindlink and I nod my wolf head at him.

The clearing looked like a battle field, with rain water washing off the blood from dead bodies, the crimson colored water spread all around us like the red sea. Bodies littered almost everywhere, mostly rogues but we'd lost some of our warriors who fought bravely, making me sad.

I didn't know where I was getting this energy to practically rip through these rogues like I did it on a daily basis. I don't remember how much rogues I killed. It would've made me nauseated even thinking about killing someone but it seemed like it didn't matter now, this was a fight for survival

I see Damien's black colored wolf fighting from my peripheral vision, his actions were getting sloppy. Making me worried

A auburn colored wolf bites onto my hind limbs taking advantage of my dazed mind, making me growl in its face, I knock it off its feet. Making it land a few feet away from where I stood. The rogue manages to stand after a few moments, I watch as it limps on its front paws. Lunging forwards, I bite into its injured paw.

I was so immersed in injuring the wolf further that I hadn't seen a reddish brown colored wolf sneaking up on my figure, with my back turned towards Roman's wolf.

I rip the rogues throat, turning around when I hear grunts and whimpers coming behind me. I find a black colored wolf, Killian and Roman's wolf fighting each other, both of them putting up a fight. Roman's wolf had Killian under him, Killian takes advantage and keeps slashing Roman's under belly mercilessly, making Roman roar out in pain. Both of them tumble, rolling in circles, now with Killian on top. I watch as Roman's eye glints evilly.

Bringing forward his claws, he claws at Killians throat. Not before, Killians manages to rip out Roman's heart, which falls onto the muddy and wet ground, just like both of their wolves, that fall to the ground.

My heart stops beating, pain ripping through my chest as I take the scene in.

I can't help the deafening scream that leaves my mouth as the black colored wolves body hits the ground, shifting into his human form.

I immediately shift into my human form, not caring about the fact that I'm completely naked before all this people

I rush towards Damiens curled figure, blood oozing out of his wounds, but one stood out in particular, the claw marks present on his neck.

I panic seeing a lot of blood, tears stream down my face like a waterfall.

"NO NO NO" my hands covering his neck, trying to stop the bleeding.

"DAMIEN" I slap his face gently to help him stay awake, I watch as his eyes droop further.

"HEY, STAY AWAKE. EVERYTHING IS GOING TO BE FINE"

"STAY AWAKE" "DAMIEN"

My cries resonates around the clearing.

"DAMIEN, PLS STAY AWAKE" his grey colored eyes look at me with sadness. A gentle hand clamps around my hands that is placed on his face.

"Serenity" Damien's weak voice speaks up.

"I'm right here, don't speak. Oh god, it would open your wounds further" tears still flowing down my face, I fear that I might lose him too

"I'm sorry for everything" his voice is almost a whisper now, his eyes on the verge of closing. "DAMIEN, PLEASE STAY AWAKE" the rain water washes down the blood from both of our bodies.

"I love you" those were his last words before his eyes close, making my heart to literally drop. My heart beat spikes at his words

"NOOOO" I let out another deafening scream.

"SOMEONE HELP" Matthew rushes over along with all the other pack members. I feel someone place a blanket to cover my naked figure, but I didn't care about that at the moment.

The voices continue but I have no idea what is being said.

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## **chapter 30 : revelation**

Six months, six long agonising months of not knowing when he was going to wake up. He has been in a comatose situation for six months, six months since he said uttered those three words I had waited so long to hear, but he left me, just like others.

Exhaustion and tiredness was a constant thing in my life. These months have been so painful to survive. I couldn't feel his wolf at all, making me more scared than ever. My wolf hasn't talked to me in months. So, I was basically wolfless.

The memory of that day is still vivid in my mind. Damien was immediately rushed into the pack infirmary. I had screamed down the whole place, asking the doctors and nurse to immediately operate on him, scaring everyone since my wolf had been in control, making them worry that I would snap any second

Everyone in the pack practically knows that I and Damien are mates, putting the pieces of the story together.

I haven't left his side once apart from taking showers in the pack house and barely nibbling on any food. I keep waiting for him to wake up.

My heart literally stopped beating when I thought that I had lost him when his heart had stopped beating for a few moments, to say that I was scared shitless would be an understatement. They had to infuse my blood into him, hoping his mates blood would heal him quickly.

I probably looked like a ghost with my cheeks sunken in, pale skin and chapped lips. I didn't feel the sparks anymore when I touched him, I was probably depressed to say the least. Matthew checks in on me occasionally, but I don't talk to anyone much. Occasionally giving one worded replies.

Elijah would ask for his "Dada", to which no one had a reply to, leading him to cry. Sometimes I would walk him around the clearing which Damien's mother had turned into a garden years ago. Calming us both, and providing a few moments of solace and peace.

I was currently sitting beside Damien's hospital bed with my head down and hands clutching onto his, never letting go.

I feel a hand being placed onto my shoulder, making me jump. Turning to my side, I find Matthew looking at me with worry.

"Hey" he says

"Hey" I answer back.

"There is something that I need to tell you" his words make me scrunch my brows in confusion at him.

"About what?" His eyes move towards Damien.

"Him" he answers after a few moments, sighing. "something he never told anyone."

Why would Damien tell anything to Matthew in the first place?! I question myself. As far as I knew they both didn't have that much of a friendship to begin with, maybe one that of mutual understanding, but that was it.

"You remember the first time we met?" He questions me out of the blue. His questions confusing me more.

I remember the first time we met, how he plopped out of the woods, saving me from the rogue. His straight forwardness had creeped me a bit at first.

I nod my head at his question.

He clears his throat.

"Damien was the one to send me" he says, with his hazel eyes trained on mine.

"What? How's that possible?" I shoot questions at him. How could Damien be the one to send him? No one apart from Courtney knew about me leaving, and I was sure she wouldn't rat me out like that, especially to Damien.

"I had been keeping track of you for a few days before you decided to finally leave" that makes sense.

"But how do you both know each other? And why would you help him in the first place?"

"Damien and I met at the Alpha training camp a few years ago. We weren't the best of friends. Kind of like acquaintances. He had once saved my mate from the rogues. Guess I was just returning a favour and plus I got to meet a beautiful girl like you." he winks at me making me let out a small laugh.

"How did he know for sure that I would leave?"

"Do you honestly think that a sane person would stay behind to watch their mate get married to someone else? And this is Damien we're talking about. He's always one step ahead" Matthew answers back and I nod my head in reply. Finally things making sense.

"But why would he reject me in the first place?"

Matthew sighs, pinching two fingers against his forehead.

"Look it's not my place to say, but since you deserve the truth I'm telling you this, but I'm not sure for myself." He again speaks up after a few moments of silence "he doesn't wants you to end up like his mother alright. Being an Alpha's mate isn't easy, and a powerful one at that. I have first hand experience in situations like this" he shrugs his shoulders, his eyes turning sad thinking about his mate.

"You make enemies and they would stop at nothing to destroy you, even if it means killing off one's mate" he continues.

I wasn't happy with his explanation, yeah I know there are enemies waiting for you in the every corner of the way. But him rejecting me didn't stop me from hurting. It wasn't a good thing to dwell on the past when you are not even sure what your future has in store.

"Why wouldn't he tell me that?" I ask myself aloud.

"He didn't want to, I had questioned him once but he said that he didn't want you to know about any of this. He isn't type of guy that would let you know about his good deeds, he'd rather bottle everything up untill everything blows back into his face" that is what exactly Damien would do. "Just don't give up on him."

I nod my head.

"Thankyou for telling me" I was really thankful for having him around.

He just smiles in reply and pulls me into a hug. We pull back after a few moments.

"I'm leaving in two days" at first his words shocked me.

"I thought you were staying?" I ask him dumbfounded.

"Naah, I don't think being in a pack is my scene anymore" he replies back with a small smile playing on his lips.

I feel sparks run throughout my body as I feel hands running on top of my head, smoothening my hair. I was sleeping beside Damien's unconscious figure, but the feeling of someone touching me had woken me up.

My head snaps up, I blink in disbelief as I take in the sight before me.

Damien sitting upright in his hospital bed, with a small smile on his lips.

I blink further, thinking that I'm dreaming.

"Hey" his voice sounds deep, probably because he hasn't used it for months.

"Damien?" Tears cloud my eyes with both happiness and sadness.

I lunges towards him, forgetting about his stitches. "oomph" sound leaves his mouth causing me to apologize.

My hands circle around his neck as I bury my face in his neck, I sob into him.

"I thought that you would never wake up" my voice is muffled because of my face being buried into his neck. I inhale his earthy and musky scent in, calming me.

"It's okay" his hands rub circle around my back.

I pull back with me straddling him, we both stare at each other. Taking in each others face. Staring at his eyes, makes me realise how much I missed those pretty eyes.

"When did you wake up?"

"A few hours ago" he answers back, why did no one wake me up?! I question myself. I was upset that I couldn't be there when he woke up.

As if reading my thoughts he replies "I asked them not to wake you up, you seemed tired and exhausted."

We sit in silence for a few moments, just lost in our own thoughts. My mind flies back to the conversation I had with Matthew a few hours ago...

Clearing my throat I ask him something that had been constantly circling my mind for the past three years but I never had the guts to ask him the question yet.

"Can I ask you something and will you answer me truthfully?"

"what is it?" He asks me with confusion marring his face, his brows furrowed into a frown.



"Why did you reject me?" His looks away when the question leaves my lips, his jaw clenching with unreleased tension.

Finally I hear him heave a sigh after a few moments.

"I was afraid" he speaks up making me perk up at his words.

"Afraid? Afraid of what?" Now it's my turn to be confused.

"I just didn't want to lose another person." He clears his throat, looking extremely uncomfortable. "I was always under Roman's threat. Since the day my mother got killed by his pack of rogues." His voice thick with emotion while speaking about his mother. "He had threatened my mate's life even before I found out who she even was...and that scared me more than I'd like to admit. So rejecting her, you.. felt like the right choice back then." His eyes meet mine, regret swimming in those grey eyes.

"Even though my life was threatened, you didn't have the right to reject me. I didn't even have a say in the matter and I was your mate! Hell, you didn't even know me properly." I shot back at him, infuriated and angered, yet oddly I understood his reason. But that didn't stop me from feeling angered.

He winces at my words.

"I know, and not knowing you made it easier for me to reject you and I'd thought I will finally drive you away if I mated with your bestfriend" and it was true, he did drive me away. I was actually ready to fight back for us when he broke the news of his and Emily's marriage which initially drove my wolf crazy.

"Emily being human kind of helped the situation, since we couldn't be soulmates with humans it was clear to everyone that Emily wasn't my mate. I thought maybe her love would be enough, maybe I could settle with her and let you go." His voice was just a quiet whisper now. Barely audible to human ears.

My mind laughs internally at the messed up situation. A human could never replace one's soulmates place. The pieces just didn't fit together. You don't paint silver a gold color and expect it to be gold. No, things don't work like that. The gold colour will eventually fade away with time and show its true color one day. Just like that you can't expect a human to come in between two soulmates, who were paired by the moon goddess herself. Nature doesn't work like that. Even if the rules were tweaked, nature always finds a way to balance things out. Even if it meant that someone had to die in order to restore the balance.

"I- I'm sorry for everything" a tear escaping his eye, rolling down his cheek. I wipe it off, rubbing circles on his cheek.

"Matthew is leaving tomorrow morning, and I've decided to go with him" I suddenly declare. I didn't want us to play around words anymore, even though I understood his reasoning for rejecting me, I couldn't get over it so quickly. Wounds take time to heal, and the scar takes even more time to fade away or sometimes it just doesn't.

I didn't want to jump to any decision when I was feeling so conflicted with my feelings and emotions.

Damiens face immediately falls at my words. A broken look takes over his features.

"You're leaving?" He asks, his voice a broke whisper with his eyes glistening with tears

This was the most vulnerable I'd seen him and I hated to be the cause of it but this had to be done. Pinching the bridge of my nose, I sigh with exhaustion.

"I just need sometime to think about things, Everything...and I promise you I will come back one day, I don't know when, but I will." I reply and he just stares at me.

I look at him for a few moments to see if he would resist and ask me to stay back. But his actions shocked me initially.

He nods his head in reply, letting me know he understood and I was so grateful for that.

"Goodbye Damien" I say with a sad smile on my face.

I turn around and walk away, heading towards the door. I don't get a reply back but just as I'm about to exit through the door a small voice whispers back. .

"Goodbye".

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