

## **Chapter 41 - Returning to my rejected mate**

Zane's Point of view

I stare after Shay with a frown.

I know we still need to talk, but it bothers me her asking them not to call her Luna.

I hear someone snicker behind me and I turn around and frown at Ryan.

"What's so funny?"

"Shay putting you in your place. You still need to apologize and grovel."

I sigh and run my hand through my hair.

"Yes.. I know.. I just don't like her telling them she might not be the luna."

Ryan shrugs.

"It could have been worse. At least she hasn't rejected you yet."

"True.. Maybe there's still hope."

Ryan opens his mouth to reply but closes it and frowns.

"2 o'clock. Good luck he looks pissed."

He says motioning with his head and I turn to see my father marching over to us.

"I'll see you later?"

I nod at him and Ryan rushes off before my father reaches me.

"What the hell have you done?"

"Hello dad. I'm not sure I know what you mean?"

I say crossing my arms over my chest and raising an eyebrow questioningly.

He frowns at me.

"Don't act stupid. You allowed Shay to attack Lisa? She attacked a pack member and you just let it happen. She isn't even part of our pack."

"Who told you about what happened?"

I hold up my hand to stop him before he can answer, shaking my head.

"Nevermind, stupid question. Of course Lisa ran to you."

He frowns again crossing his arms over his chest.

"It doesn't matter who told me. But yes. Lisa mindlinked me about the attack. It still doesn't change the fact that you allowed a none pack member to attack one of our own. She had no right to do that."

"Shay is the future Luna of this pack. She has every right to deal with Lisa the way she seems fit. Did you even bother to find out what happened before you came storming over?"

"Well Lisa said.."

"I don't care what she said. I asked if you bothered to find out what happened? From anyone else?"

He frowns again but shakes his head.

"Then please, let me enlighten you. Lisa and Zayde had an encounter this morning at breakfast. She waited until he was alone, bumped into him and told him to watch where he's going, that he's just like his mother, always getting in her way. Then she told him he's just a little bastard and there's no place for him here. She told him that I didn't really want him and Shay here and told him they should just leave. And then she pushed him. Now explain to me why Shay had no right to go after Lisa?"

My father frowns.

"Lisa didn't say anything about that. How sure are you this really happened? Who told you about it?"

"100%, there is no doubt in my mind that this happened. Zayde told me.."

"Well maybe Shay.."

I stop him, shaking my head.

"Shay had absolutely nothing to do with it. Jason and two omegas corroborated what Zayde said. Jake spoke to both omegas. Lisa went after our son. I did my due diligenceto find out what really happened before I acted. "

My father frowns shaking his head.

"I'll talk to Lisa about Zayde, maybe yhey just misunderstood. But nonetheless why did Shay have to attack her? Why didn't you handle it? Why did you let Shay, who has it out for Lisa, go after her?"

"Again. You should really find out what happened before you try to start a fight. Shay didn't attack Lisa. She joined the training and whooped Lisa's ass. You can ask the warriors. She didn't do anything wrong. And even if she did attack her, Lisa deserved it."

"I know Lisa shouldn't have gone after Zayde, but to have her publicly humiliated by Shay.. What were you thinking? You could have handled it better."

"Stop! She went after your grandson! And you are still taking her side. She is the one that is in the wrong. Shay defended herself and our son. Honestly I don't know why you can't see what a snake Lisa is. Do you seriously hate Shay that much that you can justify Lisa attacking your grandson? What the hell is wrong with you?"

"I'm not justify it. I'm just saying that you should have handled this on your own. In private."

"I'm not going to apologize for what happened. Lisa deserved what Shay did. Now everyone else knows not to mess with my family, and they have been informed about Lisa's rumors. You can tell Lisa I expect a formal, public apology as soon as possible to both Shay and my son."

I say and turn to walk away, but I turn back to my father.

"Oh, and by the way.. I expect your apology as well."

"Excuse me?"

My father says with a scowl on his face.

"You heard me. I expect you to apologize to Shay as well."

"I don't have to apologize to her for anything."

"Actually, yes, you do."

"I'm not humiliating myself by publicly apologizing to her."

"It wasn't a request dad. You will apologize to my mate for the way you've been acting."

I don't wait for his answer as I turn around and walk to the packhouse.

As I enter the packhouse my mother approached me.

"Is everything okay?"

She asks with a frown while hugging me.

I sigh and hug her back.

"Just a run in with dad."

She pulls away.

"Oh no, what happened now?"

I sigh again and quickly explain what has happened.

She frowns, shaking her head.

"Are you serious? I can't believe he still defended her. I'll talk to him. Shay will get her apology."

She says and turns to walk away but she turns back to me, putting a hand on my chest.

"I'm proud of you for finally standing up for your mate. And up to your father. Shay is your mate, your luna. She should know she'll always come first in your life. Along with your children. Make sure she knows you'll be there for her. Today was a good start, now just keep building on it and make sure your luna doesn't leave you."

She gives me a small smile and kisses my cheek before she walk away.

I stare after her for a while, thinking about what she said before I sniff out my family.

I follow their smell all the way up to our floor, and I hear their voices coming from the entertainment room. I stop outside the door, just listening to them.

"Are you sure you are okay?"

I hear Shay ask and Zayde sighs.

"Yes mommy. I've already told you. I am okay, she didn't hurt me."

"As long as you're sure, baby. I'm sorry you had to go through that. Some people are just bad and very mean on the inside. But enough about her. How was your day with your daddy?"

I listen to Zayde telling her about our morning and I smile at the excitement in his voice.

"Four wheelers huh?"

"It was daddy's idea. I told him you wouldn't like it."

"Hmmm, I think I should have a little chat with him about that. But it sounds like you had a good day baby."

"I did.. I like it here. With daddy."

"Yes, I know baby."

It gets quiet for a moment and I go to enter the room but I stop when Zayde speaks again.

"Mommy... Are you still going to leave tomorrow?"

I hold my breath, nervously waiting for Shay to answer.

"Yes baby, I'm still going to leave."

My heart sinks a little hearing that.

"But why?"

I hear her sigh.

"There are a lot of reasons Zayde. I want to go check on your grandma. Grandpa is still in the hospital and Auntie Ashley says grandma isn't doing so well. And mommy just really needs some time away from you dad and grandfather."

"I don't think grandpa likes us very much."

"I'm sure he likes you baby. He just doesn't like mommy."

"He doesn't really spend time with me.."

I hear the sadness in my son's voice and I frown. I turn and head down the stairs again.

Shay and Zayde can enjoy their alone time. I'll talk to both of them later. First I need to find my parents.

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Shay's Point of View

"He doesn't really spend time with me.."

I hear the sadness in my son's voice when he talks about Zane's father and I frown. I pull him closer to me and kiss his head.

"I'm sure he'll play with you if you ask him baby. I promise you, your grandpa loves you."

I look up at the door and frown. I could've sworn I smelled Zane, but there's no one there. I shrug and turn my attention back to my son.

It isn't quiet between us for long before Zayde speaks again.

"I don't really want to leave.. But I'll come with you."

"You really don't have to baby, you can stay if you want."

"No, I'll go with you."

"Only if you're 100% sure?"

"I'm sure.. I'll miss daddy.. And grandma.. And Jason.."

Zayde frowns.

"I'll miss everyone."

He says with a sad pout and I give him a small smile.

"I know baby. You can come visit them anytime, or they can come to you."

"Really?"

I nod my head.

"Really. I promise."

"Are we coming back?"

I sigh.

"At some point.. Yes."

"Are we going to come stay with daddy then?"

He asks excitedly and I sigh again, running my fingers through my hair.

"I don't know yet baby, we'll see. There's still some stuff that needs to be dealt with before we can come live with him."

Zayde sighs but nods.

"Okay.. I hope it's soon so we can live here with him."

Zayde says playing with his blocks, I just ruffle his hair. Not replying as I don't know what to say to him.

I wish things were that simple.

I sigh and stand up, holding my hand out to Zayde.

"Come on, let's go find aunt Amy and Jason."

Zayde nods his head vigorously and jumps up grabbing my hand.

"Okay. Can we go see daddy too?"

I just smile at him and nod my head as we head downstairs in search of them.

"Sure, if you want."

He nods at me and I nod back.

I know I have to speak to him before I leave.. I really think it's for the best. Us taking a break and some time apart.. But a part of me wants him to beg me to stay.. And I know if he does.. That part will listen..

I sigh.. I guess we'll see what happens when I talk to him later.

## Chapter 42 - Returning to my rejected mate

Shay's Point of View

After dinner I run Zayde over to Amy's again.

She smiles at me as she opens the door and I smile back at her.

"Hey guys. Come in. Zayde you can head to Jason's room, he's already getting ready for a bath. You can go join him. I'll be there in a minute."

Zayde nods and waves at me.

"Bye mommy!"

"Bye. I'll see you in a little bit."

Zayde nods at me before he disappears down the hall.

I look at Amy.

"Thank you for watching him. Again. I'm sorry I keep leaving him with you."

She shakes her head.

"Anytime Shay. Don't worry about it. We love having him over. And Jason enjoys the company."

"Well thank you anyway. I'll see you as soon as I'm done talking to Zane."

"Take your time. I'll see you later."

I nod and give her a little wave before she closes the door and I head to the kitchen quickly.

As soon as I enter, Claire, the elder cook smile at me and brings over a covered plate.

"Hi Luna. The Alpha's food as you requested."

I smile back at her.

"Thank you very much for this. I owe you one."

She shakes her head and shoos me away.

"Nonsense. Now take our Alpha his food."

"Yes, mam. Good night mam."

I grin at her and she smiles at me again.

"You silly girl. Goodnight."

I blow her a little kiss and make my way over to Zane's office.

Just as I lift my hand to knock the door opens and Jake comes out.



"Oh, hi Shay. Sorry. You here to see Zane?"

I nod and he looks at the plate in my hand. He arches a brow questioningly and I blush a little causing him to smirk.

"He's in there. Go ahead. Goodnight Shay."

I give him a small smile.

"Goodnight Jake."

Zane looks up as I enter the office and gives me a smile.

"Shay, come in. Please close the door."

He says before he bends his head back down and continues to work on something in front of him.

I close the door behind me before making my way over to his desk.

I tug a piece of hair behind my ear and clear my throat, causing him to look at me again.

I give him a nervous smile and hold the plate out to him.

"I wasn't sure if you've eaten anything today. And you weren't at dinner so I asked Claire to make you a plate."

He looks at me dumbfounded and I blush.

"You don't have to eat it if you don't want to."

I nod and I start to lower the plate but he takes it from me.

"No, it's just.. Nevermind, thank you, very much. I'm actually really hungry. I just didn't expect you to bring me food."

I nod and take a seat on the other side of the desk.

Zane takes a few bites of the food and I just watch him.. The silence between us almost peaceful.

Suddenly Zane looks up and catches me looking at him.

He gives me a small smirk, putting down his knife and fork and crossing his arms over his chest.

"Where is Zayde?"

"At Amy and Ryan's. She's going to get him bathed and dressed for me."

He nods.

"So what can I help you with Shay?"

"You should finish your food first. It's going to get cold. I'll wait."

I say nodding my head at his plate and Zane nods at me.

"Okay, thank you."

Zane returns his attention to his plate and we sit in silence as he finishes his dinner.

He sets down his knife and fork and smiles at me again.

"Thank you again for this. So, what did you want to talk about?"

I smile back at him.

"It's my pleasure. It's about me leaving. As you know, I'm leaving tomorrow. "

The smile on his face disappears and a frown replaces it. He nods at me.

"Yeah I'm aware of that."

I clear my throat again, nervously.

"Well.. I spoke to Zayde. He wants to go with me."

Zane sighs and nods his head.

"Yeah I know. It's fine."

I frown.

"That's it?"

Zane frowns at me.

"What do you mean?"

"Is that seriously all you are going to say?"

Zane sighs.

"What do you want me to say Shay?"

I shrug.

"I don't know.. Maybe I atleast thought you'd try to get us to stay. Or atleast try to convince me to let Zayd stay with you."

"You're his mother Shay. Of course he'd rather be with you. I understand that.. And about you.. Well would it help if I tried to make you stay?"

I stare at him and sigh as well.

"I don't know. One part of me says to get the hell out.. But the other part is begging me to ask you to beg me to stay."

"Do you want to stay?"

I stare at him for a while.

"I don't know. I don't know what I want to do.. Or what I want.. I met a guy today... He asked me out.."

I see Zane's jaw clench but he nods at me.

"I see. That was fast."

"I gave him my number. And asked him to phone me."

"Why are you telling me this? Do you want a rejection so you can go out with this guy guilt free?"

I sigh.

"I don't know.. For a second today I thought about maybe moving on with someone else. I thought with everything between us it would be better to just part ways.. But then when I came back.. And you stood by me with the Lisa thing I thought maybe there is a change for us.. A real chance if we are honest with each other, if we support each other.. I've been thinking about this the whole afternoon. And if I'm being completely honest, when I really think about doing that, moving on, giving up on us for good.. My heart clenches because that's not what I want."

"Then what do you want Shay?"

I stand up and make my way around his desk. Zane pushes his chair away from the desk and I straddle his lap

I put my hands on his cheeks and I lower my face until our lips are just inches from each other.

"You. I want you Zane. Even with everything going on, everything that happened.. I still want you."

I look into his eyes and bite my lip nervously, waiting for him to say something.

Zane's hand tangles into my hair and he pulls my head back before his lips smashes into mine and he kisses me fiercely.

## **Chapter 43 - Returning to my rejected mate**

Zane's Point of View

I feel an explosion of sparks as our lips crash together and I groan.

I wrap my arm around her waist just as she wraps her arms around my neck and pushes herself closer to me and I tighten my arm around her, pulling her even closer.

I angle her head back even more, my tongue touching her lips, asking for entrance and she immediately opens her mouth, her tongue meeting mine.

My hand slips under her shirt and I move it up her side slowly, reveling in the sparks. My thumb brushes over her bra and she moans into the kiss before she starts to grind into me.

I groan and move my hand down to her waist, stopping her movements.

I pull away from our kiss and Shay groans unsatisfied.

"Shay.. We should stop before this gets to heated."

I say resting my forehead against hers, trying to catch my breath.

I feel her tense and start to move. I frown and move my head back, staring into her confused and hurt eyes.

"Why? I don't understand. Do you not want this anymore? I thought you did.. Oh god.. You don't.. That's why you didn't even ask me to stay."

She tries to get off my lap but I wrap one of my arms around her waist again before cupping her chin with the other.

"Look at me little mate."

I say tilting her head up to look at me, but her eyes won't meet mine.

"Shay, baby please. Just look at me."

I prompt again and she raises her eyes reluctantly.

"Firstly.. I just want you to know that I want this.. I really do.."

I tilt my hips up letting her feel my erection and I smirk when she blushes..

I brush a piece of her hair behind her ear.

"There's just a lot of things I need to explain and fix first before we can let this go any further. Secondly.. I overheard your conversation."

Shay frowns at me.

"What conversation?"

"I overheard you telling Zayde you're still leaving.."

"I knew I smelt you.."

She mumbles and I frown at her.

"What?"

She shakes her head.

"Nevermind.. So you knew we were both leaving today?"

I nod slowly.

"I did.."

"Do you want us to leave?"

"Of course I don't. I want both of you here with me."

"But you didn't even try to stop me.. Or ask me to stay."

"Because this is your decision Shay. I'm not going to force you to stay when you don't want to be here. Or with me... It hurt, thinking you'd rather leave than stay here, but if time was what you needed, to gain perspective and to decide what you wanted.. I was willing to give it to you."

"So what was your plan if I left? Were you just going to let me go?"

"Well I planned on texting you daily. Reminding you how much I love you.. And how sorry I am about everything. And to come see you atleast every other day. I was going

to give you time.. But I wasn't going to just let you be. I was going to show you I cared.. Without forcing you to do anything. ."

She searches my face for something and then nods slowly..

"Okay so now what?"

I tighten my arm around her waist even more and brush my thumb against her lips.

"Now, you stay here. Both of you.. With me.. And you let me show you how much I love you.. And how sorry I am."

She goes to say something but I shake my head.

"No, I need to apologize. I'm sorry Shay. For everything. I know saying sorry doesn't fix what has happened. And I'll probably make mistakes again.. God knows, I keep fucking this up... I don't even know why I keep fucking this up. Around every corner I do another stupid thing and I honestly don't mean to but I swear I'll try to be better. From now on I'll always stand by you and stand up for you. I'm sorry for letting you down. So many times.. But I want to be the mate you want.. The mate you deserve. I don't want anyone else. I don't need anything else. Just you.. And Zayde. From now on, if I'm being stupid or a just a complete dick call me out on it. I don't even care if it is in front of people. I want us to be open and honest about everything too."

"What about your father? And Lisa?"

"Screw them.. Screw anyone that has a problem with this. With us.. I want this.. We will deal with all of them together. I can deal with anything as long as you say you'll stay with me. So will you?"

"Will I what?"

"Will you stay Shay? With me, and give us another shot?"

She wraps her arms around my neck again.

"Hmmm.. I don't know.. Maybe I need some more convincing."

She says smiling at me teasingly and I wrap both my arms around her tightly. Arching an eyebrow at her.

"Oh yeah?"

I ask and she nods at me.

"Yes.."

"And how can I help convince you?"

"Well.. you can start by kissing me.. And then kissing me again.. And again. And then just keep on kissing me forever.. Think you can do that?"

She asks softly and I smile at her before I nod .

"I can definitely do that."

I say as I brush my lips against hers softly before I kiss her.

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Shay's Point of View

It doesn't take long before the kiss turns heated again and Zane pulls away, kissing down my neck.

"We should probably stop, it's getting late."

"I don't want this to stop."

I say kissing his jaw and down his neck.

He sighs and pushes me away a little.

"Shay.."

I shake my head and puts my finger against his lips, silencing him.

"I don't care Zane. I don't care what happened in the past. It's over now. I want to move forward. You can make it up to me anyway you want moving forward. If you want to. For the first time, it feels like we're on the same page and tonight I just want to be with you."

"What about Zayde?"

"He'll be fine at Amy's. He has everything he could need. You can link them if you want but I'm sure they knew there was a possibility this could happen."

He nods and his eyes glaze over for a minute. It doesn't take long before they return to normal and he looks at me again.

I brush my fingers through his hair.

"Everything okay?"

He nods.

"Yeah.. They'll keep him occupied until after breakfast."

"That's good. That gives us lots of time."

He looks at me, searching my face for something.

"What is it?"

"I just want to make sure if this is really what you want?"

I nod.

"This is really what I want. I'm 100% sure of it."

"I won't let you go after this Shay, after tonight you're mine. Forever."

I nod and lean closer to him.

"I've always been yours. And I'll always be yours.. Now shut up, kiss me and just seal the deal, Alpha."

He growls at me before he pulls my head back and kisses me again. Hard..

## **Chapter 44 - Returning to my rejected mate**

Shay's Point of View

I wake up slowly and see it's still dark in the room. I try to find something on the nightstand that can give me the time but there's nothing. I turn and reach out for Zane but he's not there. The bed is cold, meaning he's been gone a while now.

At once I'm wide awake and I sit up looking around the room, trying to hear if maybe he is in the bathroom, but everything is quiet. And I realize he's nowhere in the room.

A sense of déjà vu washes over me and I try to swallow but I feel my throat starting to constrict.

Suddenly I'm back here 5 years ago. Waking up alone in bed and my heart starts to beat erratically. I try to take a deep breath but I feel like I'm suffocating in the memory and I'm not sure how to get out of it.

The door to the room bursts open and I see Zane rushing in, putting down a tray before he gets onto the bed and cups my face. He tilts my head, making me look at him. I see him talking but I can't hear anything except for the blood rushing in my head.



I feel sparks explode in my lips, traveling through my whole body and I relax into the comforting warmth as it spreads through me. The sparks stop and I open my eyes to see Zane looking at me worriedly. I touch my lips, he kissed me, pulling me out of the dark memory.

"Shay, are you with me baby?"

I nod slowly.

"I think so.."

I whisper.

He brushes a tear of my cheek with his thumb.

"What happened? Are you okay?"

"I woke up.. And you weren't here..."

I whisper again, looking down at my interlocked fingers.

Zane pulls me closer and crushes me in a hug. Kissing my head while he rubs my back.

"Shit baby. I'm so sorry. I left you a note, saying I'm just down the hall. Cooking us some breakfast."

I see the note on his pillow and I push my face into his chest.

"I'm sorry, in my panic I didn't even see the note. I just.. Suddenly it was 5 years ago.."

He kisses my temple.

"I know little mate. And I'm sorry I did that to you.."

I wrap my arms around him and hug him tight.

"You're here now. That's all that matters.."

We sit like that for a while before I pull away from his comforting warmth.

"Thank you."

"For what?"

"Not getting mad at me, for kind of assuming the worst."

He gives me a small smile.

"I kind of deserve it. I've given you more than enough reasons to be skeptical. But I promise you little mate, I won't do anything like that to hurt you again."

I nod at him and give him a small smile

"How did you know something was wrong?"

He brushes his fingers down my neck and over my collar bone and I feel the tender spot.

I gasp, getting out of bed and rushing over to the mirror.

"I completely forgot about the mark."

I say, moving my hair out of the way and staring at my mate mark.

I run my fingers over it softly and smile. Zane comes over and wraps his arms around me from behind. Resting his chin on my shoulders and our eyes meet in the mirror.

"It looks good on you."

He says before he softly kisses the mark. I can't help the groan that slips out when sparks course through me and Zane smirks at me when I blush.

"It's beautiful. Let me see yours."

I say as I turn around in his arms. He pulls his collar away a little and I touch his mark softly.

"It looks good on you too."

I smile at him and lock my arms around his neck.

"I can't believe we're actually marked and mated."

I say softly and he kisses me.

"Believe it little mate. Now you're mine forever. And I'm never letting you go."

"Promise?"

"Cross my heart. Now come on, let's eat before the food gets cold."

I nod and head over to the bed and snuggle back under the covers.

Zane hands me a plate with bacon and pancakes and my stomach grumbles as soon as I touch the first piece of bacon.

Zane laughs.

"Someone is hungry..."

"Well I had a pretty long night."

I say blushing and Zane smirks but before he can say anything I push a piece of pancake into his mouth.

"Don't you dare say anything."

I glare at him, putting a piece of pancake into my own mouth.

Suddenly I put my fork down in my plate and look at Zane.

"Shit! Zayde! I forgot about him."

I say trying to get out of bed but Zane stops me.

"It's fine. I spoke to him and Ryan. He's perfectly content with spending the day with Jason.. So we're good. We'll see him at lunch."

I frown at him.

"Lunch? Why lunch?"

"Because we're not done yet."

I blush.

"Didn't you get enough last night?"

He shakes his head and his eyes roam over me hungrily.

"I'll never get enough of you baby. So eat up, you'll need the energy for later."

"Stop looking at me like that."

He arches an eyebrow.

"Like what?"

"Like you want to eat me."

"Oh but I do. You taste fucking divine baby. I can't wait for another taste. Maybe I should leave the food and take my to devour you."

He smirks at me as I choke on my orange juice.

"You okay there? Your face got really red."

"Zane! Stop it."

I say blushing and cover my face with my hands and he laughs at me.

"Okay, I'm sorry. I'll stop. Please eat your food."

After breakfast Zane takes my plate and I lie back and snuggle into my pillow.

"I'm so sleepy now."

I say with a sheepish smile.

Zane smiles back at me and brushes my hair out of my face.

"Then sleep little one. I'll just take these to the kitchen then I'll come join you. Okay?"

I nod and Zane kisses me quickly before he stands and heads out the door.

I pull the comforter up to my shoulders and I feel myself starting to drift off, surrounded by Zane's scent.

A little while later I feel the bed dip, and a comforting warmth pulls me closer. I turn and snuggle into Zane's chest. I kiss his chest softly and I smile when I feel his lips touching my hair.

I sigh contently. I could get used to this. This is how I want to go to sleep and wake up for the rest of my life. I think, slowly falling asleep listening to Zane's steady heartbeat.

## **Chapter 45 - Returning to my rejected mate**

Shay's Point of View

I wake up slowly, with my back pressed against Zane's chest and I sigh contently.

I try to snuggle even closer to his comforting warmth but something pokes me.. I frown trying to wriggle away from it, but it just keeps poking me. Without opening my eyes, I push the thing poking me away from me. Hard.

There it moved, but as it moves away so does Zane's warmth. I hear him groan in pain.

"Jesus Shay! What was that for?"

"What do you mean?"

I turn to look at him with a frown. I see Zane holding his groin and realization strikes me.

"I'm sorry! Something was poking me and I tried to move it away, but it wouldn't budge. Oh god. That was you?"

"Of course it was me! What else could it have been? That is not the way I thought we would wake up."

"I'm sorry! Can I do anything to help?"

I try to move closer and touch him but he stops me.

"No.. Just give me a second."

I nod and bite my lip but I can't stop the giggle that escapes me.

"This isn't funny Shay. I think you broke it."

"It is a little. I know you don't see it now, with your groin a little worse for wear. But it is kind of funny. And it's not broken."

"How would you know?"

He frowns at me making me laugh.

"I'll make it up to you. I promise."

He squints his eyes at me.

"And how do you plan to do that?"

"I guess we'll have to wait until you feel better to see."

I shrug and get out of bed.

Zane sits up and frowns at me.

"Hey! Where are you going?"

I slowly start to unbutton Zane's shirt, that I slept in, and his eyes darken.

"I swear that looks so much better on you than it ever did on me."

"Good, because I think I'm keeping it."

I open the last button, and shimmy the shirt off my shoulders, dropping it to the ground and a small groan leaves Zane's lips.

"I'm going for a shower. Maybe after I'm done, you'll feel better."

I smirk at him over my shoulder and walk to the bathroom, putting extra sway into my hips before I close the door behind me.

I turn on the shower and wait for the water to heat before I step in.

I stand under the shower head and let the warm water cascade down over my head and body.

It doesn't take long before I hear the shower door open behind me and Zane steps in. He puts his hands on my waist pulls me back a little. I feel something poking me and I smirk looking over my shoulder.

"I see it is not broken anymore?"

"It would seem so.. But it could use some more fixing.. You now to make sure it's all better."

I turn around and wrap my arms around his neck arching an eyebrow.

"Oh yeah? What can I do to help?"

He smirks at me.

"Well.. You could always kiss it better.."

I look down between us, his thick, long girth brushing my thigh and my core clenches.. I run one of my hands down his chest, slowly, and wrap my hand around him. Stroking him a few times.

The groan that leaves him makes wetness leak out of me. I lick my lips when he twitches in my hand and look up into his smoldering eyes.

"I think I can do that."

I whisper and I start to kiss down his chest, going down until I'm eye level with his manhood. I stare at him, licking my lips again but I hesitate.

Zane tangles his hand into my hair. Tilting by head back.

"I was joking baby. You don't have to do this."

"I know.. but I want to.. It's just.. I don't know how, I've never done this before. What if I'm no good at it?"

"I'm sure you'll do fine baby.."

I stroke him a few more times and I stick my tongue out, licking his mushroom tip, catching the pre-cum leaking out of him.

Zane groans and the hand in my hair tightens.

I look up at him keeping eye contact as I run my tongue down his entire length. I smile in satisfaction when I see pleasure contour his face.

I slowly take his tip into my mouth, my eyes widening when I realise he's so big I can barely take him.

He smirks cockily at me.

"That's it baby. Your doing good."

I take him deeper into my mouth and start bobbing on his shaft.

I brace myself against his thigh with one hand while the other wraps around the part that I can't fit into my mouth, pumping it with the same rhythm.

Zane groans and his hand in my hair tightens even more, guiding me.

I breath through my nose, allowing him to guide me, stretching my mouth around him, every thrust seems to hit the back of my throat and I moan against him causing Zane to buck his hips.

"Fuck, little mate."

Zane growls as he begins to roughly thrust into my mouth. Every thrust getting faster, harder. I look up at him seeing him with his head thrown back, caught in pleasure and the heat pools between my legs.

"I'm fucking close baby."

I grip both of his thighs tightly, bracing myself, and began sucking on him while he thrust into my mouth fast.

'Then come for me baby. Let me taste you.'

I say through the mindlink and Zane's eyes flashes as he starts to pound into me even harder. I can hardly breath at times but all I can think about is making him come.

His hand in my hair tightens and I feel my own core dripping. I moan in plea against him when he finally shoot his load down my throat. I swallowed what I could, one of my hands pumping him, milking him for all he's got.

I fix my eyes on his face, loving the look of pure pleasure and satisfaction on his face.

"Fuck Shay."

He breathes, yanking me up and kissing me hard.

He lifts me up and I immediately wrap my legs around his waist as he pushes me up against the shower wall.

He starts to kiss down my neck to my breast but I stop him.

"I want you."

I whisper and kiss him.

"I'll return the favor in a minute. Patience baby."

He smirks and I shake my head.

"No, that can wait for later. I need to feel you inside me. Now."

I say, grabbing his shaft and positioning it at my entrance.

"Are you sure?"

I nod and he thrusts into me in one hard motion.

I moan and dig my nails into his shoulders as he starts to pound into me, hitting the perfect spot..

"Fuck baby! Yes that's it!"

I say my head thrown back against the wall.

"Look at me, Shay."

He commands and my eyes snap to his immediately.



One of his hands grips my waist tightly while the other tangles into my hair just as he slows down his pace.

A storm of emotions surrounds us as we lock eyes.

"I love you, Shay."

My lips quiver and I pulled his head down kissing him with everything I have while he makes love to me, hard and slow.

As the pleasure builds Zane buries his head against my shoulder. His thrust becomes harder. Rougher. Faster.

Pleasure consumes us as he continues to pound into me, burying himself into me deeply with each thrust.

My eyes flutter shut and I moan as he kisses and bites my neck. We move in perfect sync, my hips meet his every thrust.

I tangle my hand into his hair. Fisting it as I near my release.

"Oh yes baby! That's it!"

I whimper, but cry out when he pound into me heard, triggering my release.

A low growl of pleasure leaves him as he shoots his load into me, and we ride out the waves of pleasure together.

Zane hugs me tightly both of us try to catch our breath.

I move back and look into his eyes, slowly caressing his jaw.

"I love you."

I whisper and he smiles at me.

"I love you too, little mate."

I lean my head down and kiss him, moaning when I feel him starting to harden inside of me again.

Zane moves back and starts to thrust into me again.

"God.. don't you ever run out of steam?"

I moan breathlessly, meeting his thrusts.

"When it comes to you, I will always want more. Are you complaining?"

He asks thrusting into me hard and I gasp as he hits the perfect spot.

I shake my head.

"Oh I'm definitely not complaining."

"Good because we have five years to make up for. And I'm not done yet with you for the day. I'm going to fuck you so hard, you won't be able to walk to lunch. "

I smirk at him, tugging his hair.

"Game on baby."

I tease him, licking my lips. Zane smirks at me sexily before his lips meet mine in a hungry kiss.

A low growl escapes him as he thrusts into me hard and my heart starts to pound in anticipation of what's to come.

## **Chapter 46 - Returning to my rejected mate**

Shay's Point of View

I glare at Zane, snickering on the bed.

"Stop doing that."

I hiss, closing the buttons on his shirt that I'm wearing. Amy brought over some of my clothes earlier. But I wanted to wear his shirt.

"I can't help it. You look like a penguin when you walk."

He says, bursting into a new wave of snickers.

I throw my brush at him, blushing. Everything aches. I haven't had sex in over five years, and we've been at it non stop. I'm feeling numb and had trouble walking.

"Zane stop it! This isn't funny. Everyone will know what we've been doing."

I say, feeling my cheeks heat up. Zane reaches for me and pulls me in between his legs.

"You just don't see it, because it is really funny. And I'm sorry to burst your bubble little mate, but everyone already knows what we've been doing."

"Oh god.. Don't say that."

I take my brush and wobble back over to the mirror. Triggering a whole new bout of laughter from Zane.

"Zane stop! It's not my fault. I haven't had sex in over five years. And you went at it like a energizer bunny."

I say looking over my shoulder before bending over and pulling on my jeans.

Zane doesn't answer so I look back at him again, seeing him right behind me, naked, sporting a fresh erection.

I turn around and arch my brow at him.

"Seriously Zane? We've been at it all night and all morning."

"So? I can't get enough of you. Just thinking about how tight you are gets me all worked up."

He says trying to reach for me but I put my hands up between us.

"Oh no you don't. Stay the hell away from me Zane."

Zane smirks coming closer, slowly, fisting himself.

"Come any closer and I'll chop him off.. We can go again tonight, not now please."

He comes to stand right in front of me.

"Please baby, just one quicky? Up against the wall. You'll love it."

I bite my lip, god I'm feeling horny again but my core is screaming no more!

"Zane, I'm serious. Stay away from me. Before I really break it this time. I honestly don't think I can take anymore. It hurts.. Down there."

I say blushing and the smirk vanishes from Zane's face. He cups my chin softly. Lifting my head.

"Did I hurt you? Why didn't you tell me?"

He asks with a frown, stepping back from me.

I shake my head.

"No it's just that I haven't had sex in a really long time.. And incase you haven't noticed you pretty huge. And we've been going at it like animals. I just need a little break."

He pulls me closer and kisses me on my forehead.

"I'm sorry I hurt you little mate. You should have told me to go easier. I promise I'll be gentler from now on."

I shake my head, looking up at him.

"I'm not complaining, I didn't want you to stop. And I don't want you to go easier on me. I just need a little break. If you want I could give you a handjob? Or another blowjob?"

I say wrapping my hand around his shaft and stroking him.

Zane groans grabbing my wrist stopping my movements.

"As good as that feels, and as much as I love to see those pretty lips of yours wrapped around me I think I should get dressed so we can head downstairs."

He grabs my chin and kisses me hard before moving towards the bed to put back on his clothes.

"Are you mad?"

I ask nervously wringing my hands Zane looks at me and frowns.

"Of course I'm not mad at you. I'm giving you a little break. Like you asked. Besides Ryan has mindlinked me a few times. Zayde keeps asking for us. So for now, let's head down and have lunch with our son and spend the rest of the day with him. And then tonight... You're all mine. How does that sound?"

He asks coming over and wrapping his arms around me, pulling me close.

I rest my hands against his chest and nod, smiling.

"I like that idea."

I pull his head down, about to kiss him when my stomach growls. Very loudly..

Zane laughs and gives me a quick peck while I blush.

"Come on, let's go feed your poor hungry stomach."

He teases and pulls me out the door.

Halfway down I groan, pulling on his hand.

"Zane, slow down! I can't move that fast."

Zane smirks at me.

"Sorry I forgot you can only waddle today. I can carry you if you want?"

I slap his chest.

"Stop that! And don't you dare! I don't need anyone saying anymore than they're already going to. Just slow down.."

He nods.

"Okay, I'll slow down for you."

"Thank you."

As soon as we reach the door to the dining hall Zayde runs at us. Yelling!

"Finally! What took you guys so long? Uncle Ryan said you were coming ages ago!"

Zane scoops him up and hugs him tight.

"Sorry buddy. You're mom is just moving really slow today."

I glare at Zane and slap his chest but he just smirks at me.

Zayde looks between the two of us, frowning.

"What? Why?"

"It's nothing baby!"

I say, taking him from Zade and hugging him tightly.

"I'm sorry were late. I've missed you."

He hugs me back and kisses my cheek.

"It's okay momma. I missed you too. Can we eat now?"

I nod and put him down moving over to the tables with the food.

"Mommy, why are you walking like a penguin?"

Zayde asks, very loudly in the hall. A wave of laughter fills the room and I look up mortified, seeing Amy choke on her drink, while a laughing Ryan is patting her back. Jake and Megan are both trying really hard to hide their laughter and I turn to the laughing Zane and glare at him.

"What? Why are you laughing?"

Zayde asks confused and looks at his father. Zane shakes his head.

"It's nothing buddy."

Zayde frowns..

"That's a whole lot of nothing going on."

Zane smirks.

"Your mom is just in a little pain but she'll be alright. Come on, let's get some cake before it's gone."

Zane says and immediately Zayde's attentions is drawn to the table with the cake.

Zane winks at me, before he moves over to the desert table with our son.

I shake my head, filling our plates with food before I make my way over to our table.

I look up at their smirking faces and I blush.

"Well hello there Gloria. I see you and Mumble had a little to much fun."

Jake says just as Zane and Zayde sit down. Ryan snorts and the girls giggle.

I glare at Jake.

"What are you talking about?"

Zayde asks with a frown.

"Oh we were just talking about why your parents were late."

Megan says and smiles at Zayde. He turns to look at me.

"Did you watch Happy Feet? Is that why you're walking like a penguin?"

Everyone at the table laughs and Zane pats Zayde's back.

"Yes buddy, that is exactly why. Mommy was trying to be funny."

"Oh.. That makes sense. "

Zayde says eating his food.

I shake my head with a little smile and start to eat my food.

Soon a light conversation is going around the table. Nobody mentions the waddle or anything connected to it and I was thankful for that.

Suddenly Zayde looks up at me.

"Mommy?"

"Yeah baby?"

"Are we still leaving today?"

Everyone at the table stops and looks at us waiting for the answer.

I look over Zayde's head at Zane before I look back at our son.

"No baby. We're staying right here."

He looks at me with big eyes, excitement all over his face.

"Really momma? For how long?"

I look at Zane again as I answer our son.

"Forever baby. This is our home now."

## **Chapter 47 - Returning to my rejected mate**

Zane's Point of View

"So we're going to stay with daddy?"

Zayde asks, looking at Shay and she nods at him, smiling.

"Yes, we are staying with your daddy. We'll go to uncle Dan's pack on another day. To check on grandma and grandpa. But we'll come right back."

Zayde turns to me with wide eyes.

"Are we really staying with you daddy?"

I give him a soft smile, ruffling his hair.

"Yes, you really are."

He turns to Jason with a big smile.

"I don't have to leave anymore! You can still be my friend."

"Why do you think you would have stopped being friends?"

I ask him with a frown and both boys look at me frowning as well.

"You can't be friends with someone you don't see."

Jason says, as if it is the most logical thing ever. And Zayde nods in confirmation.

"You have to see someone and play with them to be friends."

I look at both boys, not sure what to say. I look at the rest around the table and they all shrug at me. No one knows how to respond to their logic.

I look back at the boys and smile.

"That isn't exactly how it works kiddos, but let's move on. Since you are staying, I think you should both move into my apartment. Zayde, you can choose any room you want and then we can decorate it."

"But I already have a room."

"You have a room on the alpha floor yes, but those are usually for guests, my apartment is where the Alpha family lives. And since you're not leaving anymore you and your mom should both move into the apartment with me."

"Can I have a Bluey room?"

He asks excitedly.

I frown and look at Shay.



"A what?"

She shakes her head and smiles at our son.

"You can have any room you want."

"Can I go choose a room now?"

He asks looking between me and his mother.

"Did you finish your food?"

Zayde nods and Shay looks at me.

"Well if you're dad is finished and ready I guess we can go?"

I put my last bite in my mouth and stand up.

"I'm done. We can go."

I look at Ryan and Jake.

"I'll see you at the office a bit later. I'll link you when I'm on my way."

They both nod at me before I turn around and head out of the dining room to follow Shay and Zayde.

I catch up to them quickly, grabbing Shay's hand as we make our way up to our floor.

All the while Zayde keeps going on about something called bluey and all of his ideas for his bedroom.

"Can I have sleepytime stars??"

"Of course baby, we can get you some of those."

Shay says smiling and I frown again because I still did not know what they were talking about.

"Can someone please explain to me too what you are talking about?"

They both look at me.

"Don't you know who Bluey is?"

Zayde ask sounding shocked and I shake my head, he stares at Shay with wide eyes.

"Mommy he doesn't know Bluey."

"Yes, I see that baby. Maybe we could show him tonight?"

Zayde nods vigorously and then starts to talk about his room again.

I look at Shay.

"What are you going to show me?"

"A kids show."

I groan in protest and she slaps my chest.

"Stop. You haven't even seen it yet. I promise you, you'd love it!"

I stop at my door, unlocking it and letting Shay in before turning to Zayde that is still walking down the hall and still talking about his room.

"Zayde, where are you going?"

He turns to look at me, and then down the hall before he runs back over to me.

"Oh yeah! Sorry! I forgot."

He smiles at me and I smile back as we go into my apartment.

"So where are the room?"

He asks looking around.

I motion to the hallway.

"Right down here. There are 3 rooms. You can pick any room you like."

He nods and wanders over to the rooms.

I turn to Shay.

"Want to join him? Or would you like some coffee?"

"Coffee, please. Let him decide on a room on his own."

We make our way over to the kitchen and I put on the kettle.

"Zane.."

"Yeah?"

I ask looking at the mugs, pouring in the coffee and sugar.

"I have to go back to my pack..."

I slowly lower the sugar pot before I turn to her with a sigh.

"Yeah I know.. When do you want to go?"

"As soon as possible I guess... My mom is really not doing well.. I want to spend some time with her. It won't be for long. I'll just feel better if I see her."

"I can't really leave now.. Maybe you should ask my mother if she wants to join you."

"I didn't even think about that. That's a great idea. Maybe seeing her would snap my mother out of it. Even just doe a littlewhile"

"It couldn't hurt to try."

I say handing her, her coffee.

"I'll go talk to her a little later. Thank you. For understanding."

I nod and smile at her.

Before either of us can say anything else Zayde comes running down the hall.

"I chose one! Come see!"

Shay and I take our mugs and follow our son down the hall.

"This is isn't the biggest one. But I have my own bathroom! Mommy you can have the bigger room. It just across from mine."

Shay and I look at each other before she smiles at him.

"Thank you baby. But I don't need that one. I already have one."

"Which one is yours?"

"I'm going to share daddy's room with him."

"Why?"

He asks with a frown.

"Because that's just what mommy's and daddy's do when they live together."

I say getting down to his level, looking into those eyes so similar to mine.

"Then who's getting those rooms?"

"Well.. no one now. Those are for when you have a brother or sister."

"I'm going to have a brother or sister?"

He says looking between me and Shay.

She arches her brow at me, waiting for me to answer. I look back at Zayde.

"At some point yes, you will."

"When?"

I shrug.

"I'm not sure buddy. Whenever the moon goddess decides to bless us with a baby."

Zayde frowns..

"Can she do it soon?"

"Do you want a brother or a sister soon?"

Shay asks running her fingers through his hair and he starts nodding excitedly.

"Yes. Lots and lots of them.. But then we need more rooms daddy. There isn't enough rooms for all the babies."

He says looking worried.

I look at him with a smile.

"Then we'll just have to build ourselves a big house to make room for all the babies."

"I think so to. Will you give me money?"

"Why do you need money?"

"When I watch the babies. Momma used to give Lisa money whenever she would watch me when she auntie Ashley had to work."

He says earnestly and Shay laughs.

"You're thinking ahead way to much baby. For now, you are enough. But we can talk about money again when there is a baby on the way."

"Okay.. Do you think if I make a wish the moon goddess will send us a baby?"

Shay and I look at each other before she smiles softly at our son, cupping his face.

"If you ask her nicely I'm sure she'll grant your wish."

"Okay, I'll ask her tonight."

I just smile and shake my head.

"You do that buddy.. Now come on do you guys want to watch a movie before I go to the office?"

"Yes!"

Zayde yells out rushing out of the room.

"Daddy?"

He asks stopping midway.

"Yeah buddy?"

"Can we watch Happy Feet?"

Shay chokes on her coffee and I laugh at her before nodding at our son.

"Sure. We can watch Happy Feet."

I smile as we make our way to the tv room.

I could get used to this. Having my family with me like this everyday.

I put the movie on and sit on the couch next to Shay.

She smiles at me and cuddles into my side.

I wrap my arm around her and kiss her softly.

She sighs happily and rest her head against my shoulder and my heart feels full..

This is what I want for the rest of my life.

## Chapter 48 - Returning to my rejected mate

Shay's Point of View

After the movie Zane goes to his office and Zayde and I start to move our things to the apartment.

"When can we start decorating my room?"

Zayde asks as we start to pack away his things.

"Do you know what you want?"

Zayde frowns.

"Well I want a Bluey room.. and sleepy time stars.."

I smile at him.

"Okay, do you maybe want to look at some pictures so we can get an idea an decide on what you want?"

"Yes, can we do it now?"

Zayde asks and I motion him over.

"Come here then we can look at some pictures on my phone."

Zayde nods excitedly and launches himself into my lap.

I just laugh and shake my head before taking my phone out to start looking for ideas.

It takes a while to choose a few ideas because Zayde wants everything. But eventually we decide on a few things and I store them on my phone.

We stand up and I look at the time before I put my phone away.

"Okay, I think that is enough for now. It's almost time for dinner. Let's go run you a bath."

"Can we still watch Bluey tonight?"

Zayde asks as we head to his room and I nod.

"Yes, we can watch Bluey after dinner."

I say turning on the tub

"Is daddy going to watch with us??"

"Of course I am!"

Zane suddenly answers right behind me, startling me, causing me to almost tumble into the tub head first.

Zane grabs my hips, keeping me up and pulling me close to him.

"Careful there little mate."

"Then you shouldn't startle me like that!"

"You shouldn't bend over the tub like that.. With that pretty ass of yours sticking up into the air. I can think of quite a few things I'd like to do to you in that position."

Zane says softly and bites my earlobe, causing a shiver to run through me. He smirks before letting me go and turning to our son.

Zayde smiles and runs over to his father.

"Daddy! You're here!"

"Of course I'm here. I told you I'd be here for dinner didn't I?"

"Daddy can you bathe me?"

Zane looks at me.

"Can I?"

"Of course you can bathe him. I'll go get his pajamas ready while you bathe him."

I say, turning off the tap and making my way into his room.

After I've put together everything for him to get dressed I make my way back to the bathroom.

I stop in the door taking Zane and Zayde in while they play with some toys in the tub. I smile softly and take a few pictures of them.

2 Pairs of eyes, so similar to each other turn to me.

"Why are you taking pictures?"

"Just capturing some childhood memories for you."

I say shrugging making my way to the toilet, closing it and sitting down.

"So what are you two talking about?"

"How babies are made. Daddy told me all about moon cycles and kissing."

I turn to Zane.

"What?"

"Well... Zayde wanted to know where babies come from..."

Zane says scratching his head and I arch a brow at him.

"Oh really, and what did you tell him?"

Before Zane can answer Zayde pipes up.

"I asked daddy if mommy's and daddy's make babies when they kiss. He said they need a certain time of the moon cycle to make a baby."

I laugh.

"Yes, the timing of the cycle is very important for making babies."

"So when is the right time? Should I wait for it to ask the moon goddess?"

I shake my head with a smile.

"No baby, you can ask her anytime you want."

"Can we ask her tonight?"

"Sure, we can ask her tonight. And every other night until she grants our wish. Okay?"

Zane answers before I can and Zayde looks at me for conformation. I nod at him and smile.



"Are you two done? If so, maybe it's time for Zayde to get out and get dressed? We do still need to go down for dinner."

They both nod and Zane help Zayde out of the tub.

15 minutes later we make our way down to the dining hall.

"Daddy, is grandma going to be at dinner?"

Zane frowns.

"I don't know buddy. Maybe. Why do you ask?"

Zayde shrugs.

"Just wondering. I missed her today."

Zayde says, and I hear a tinge of sadness in his voice. Zane hears it so and hugs him.

"I'll tell you what. If she's not at dinner, we can go find her just to say goodnight at least if you want?"

Zayde nods.

"Yes, please."

As we enter the dining hall I immediately see Zane's father and mother at the table.

"Grandma!"

Zayde yells and squirms to get down.

Zane puts him on the ground and he rushes over to Diana

"I've missed you grandma!"

"I've missed you too!"

"We're going to have babies! Mommy and daddy said I can ask the moon goddess."

Diana looks at me with a raised eyebrow and then her eyes widen as she sees my mate mark.

"Oh my! When did this finally happen?"

"Yesterday."

"Congratulations! Both of you. I am so happy!"

She hugs me and Zane before turning to her mate.

"Are you going to say anything?"

"I see you decided to stay?"

Zane's father asks looking at me and I nod.

"I did. He is my mate and this is where I'm supposed to be. This is my home.."

"Oh, so now this is your home?"

"Dad."

Zane warns with a frown.

"What?"

"Don't start. This has nothing to do with you."

His father looks at us and nods.

"Fine. Congratulations. We'll see how long it last before she decides to run off again."

He says, getting up and leaving the room.

Diana sighs.

"I'm sorry. Congratulations again."

She says before going after him.

I look at Zane and he smiles at me.

"It's going to be fine. Ignore him. Let's just enjoy our dinner."

I give him a small smile and nod.

I really hope everything will be okay..

## **Chapter 49 - Returning to my rejected mate**

Shay's Point of View

Zayde looks at his father.

"Why did they leave? Don't they want to have dinner with us?"

"Your grandpa isn't feeling well and grandma went with him to take care of him. That's all."

I say quickly and give him a smile. We get our food quickly and go back to our table.

"What just happened?"

Megan asks with a frown as we sit down.

I sigh and shrug, shoveling a spoonful of mash into my mouth..

"My father isn't too happy about our marking."

Zane says, running his fingers through his hair.

"What? Why?"

"Well apparently he thinks I'm going to run off.."

I say softly and they all look at me. I frown.

"I'm not going to."

I say defensively and Amy holds her hands up.

"No one was thinking that Shay okay, we know.. We just don't understand why this is a problem for him?"

"Grandpa doesn't like us."

Zayde suddenly says from beside me and everyone looks between him and me not sure what to say to that.

"I've told you baby. It's not you, okay?"

He doesn't answer me, just continues to eat his food.

I sigh and look at the rest.

"Sorry. Let's just move on to something else. "

"I have a doctor's appointment tomorrow morning."

"Oh that exciting! Are you going to try and find out the gender?"

Amy asks and Jake nods with a smile.

"Yes, we kept contemplating whether we wanted to know or not, but both of us are way to eager to wait."

"What are you hoping for?"

Ryan asks, putting some scrambled eggs into his mouth.

Jake shrugs.

"It doesn't really matter. As long as the baby is healthy. But I would really love a boy, you know to complete their trio. I know he'll be a bit younger but it would be great to see the next generation of leaders growing up together."

He says looking over at Jason and Zayde, talking about robots and we all smile.

"And what if it is a girl? Would Zayde need a different beta?"

I ask, looking at Zane and he shakes his head.

"No, she would still be next in line for beta. But nothing is set in stone. Zayde is free to choose whomever he wants."

Jake and Megan nods.

"We'd be fine with that too. Boy or girl, when they are older and Zayde decides on a beta we will support whatever he decides. But it is just nice thinking about our boys being as close as we were growing up."

Zane and Ryan both nod and the three of them smile at each other.

"Ooh bromance at its finest right here."

Megan smirks, breaking the moment between them and I just laugh shaking my head.

"Oh my god! I have an amazing idea!"

Amy suddenly exclaims looking at Jake and Megan excitedly.

"Okay? About?"

Megan asks with a raised eyebrow.

"I know you guys are excited about finding out the gender. But what if we do like a gender reveal? We can do a whole big party for the entire pack this weekend."

Megan looks at Jake and he shrugs smiling at her.

"It's up to you babe. I can wait a few more days."

She turns and looks at me.

"What do you think?"

"I think a party could be fun. It could be a good distraction from the attacks that have been happening. The pack needs a little pick me up and a party where they can celebrate the next beta is just perfect for that."

"Yes and this could be a good, neutral, informal setting for Shay to mingle with the pack before the more formal Luna ceremony."

Amy adds and everyone at our table nods.

"That is actually a good idea."

Megan says but I shake my head.

"Don't worry about me. This should be about you, Jake and the little beta on the way. I can get to know the pack on my own. This is your party. And you should decide what is best for you."

I say with a smile, squeezing her hand and she gives me a soft smile back.

"Thank you."

She turns to Amy.

"Can we think about it? We'll make the decision before my appointment and let you know."

Amy smiles at her.

"Of course. Like Shay said, this is about you guys, so whatever you want is fine with us. Even if you decide you want to find out the gender tomorrow we can still just hold a very big baby shower."

I nod.

"Yes, that's true. Either way we will be holding a party to celebrate the three of you."

Megan smiles as they get up from the table.

"Thank you guys. We'll talk tomorrow, okay?"

She says looking at me and Amy and we both nod and smile at her.

"Sure. We're going to start planning the party. We can decide the small details a little bit later after you've made your decision."

"Good night everyone."

Jake says and Megan waves at us before they leave the dining hall.

Amy turns to me but Zane stops her.

"Oh no you don't, tomorrow you can have all the time you want for party planning. But tonight we're going to have some family time."

"Is that what we're calling it now?"

Ryan asks wiggling his eyebrows and I blush.

"I mean actual family time. We're going to watch some kids show."

"Yes, me and mommy are going to show daddy what Bluey is."

Zayde says excitedly and Jason turns to Amy.

"Can we watch Bluey too?"

Amy smiles at him and strokes his hair.

"Sure baby, we can watch Bluey too. But only for a little bit okay?"

"Okay."

He says smiling happily and turns his attention back to his conversation with Zayde.

Ryan looks at Zane and smirks.

"Good luck, you're never watching anything you want ever again when he's awake."

They start to get up from the table as well.

"We'll see you guys as breakfast and then after breakfast how about the boys spend the day together again while we start to plan the party?"

Amy ask looking between the three of us and both men nod.

"Sure, we'll take the boys after breakfast. We promised them we would finish the border checks anyway, so that works out great."

"Good then it's settled. Night guys."

Zade looks over at our son.

"You done buddy?"

"Yes daddy. All done."

Zane turns to me.

"Shall we head upstairs too? Or do you still want to eat something?"

I shake my head and stand.

"No, I'm good. Let's go upstairs. Time for you to be introduced to Bluey."

"Yeah! Bluey!"

Zayde yells running out in front of us and I smirks at Zane.

"Good luck. After tonight, Bluey will have a permanent place right here."

I say tapping his head, following our son.

"It is bad?"

I shake my head.

"No, it's pretty cute. You'll see. It's just that it stays with you. Especially that song..."

"You're starting to make me wonder if this was such a good idea."

I laugh.

"Put on your big boy pants Alpha. You promised your son."

I squeeze his arm just as we all reach the apartment door and make our way tk the tv room.

We all get comfy on the couch before I look up Bluey for us.

"You ready?"

I ask looking at Zane with a smile.

He sighs.

"Yeah, I guess.. Let's get this over with so I can see what everything is about."

He says and kisses my head.

"It's not that bad, you'll see."

I say and start the show, I snuggle into Zane's side and I sigh contently before kissing him softly.

"What was that for?"

"Nothing I'm just happy."

Before Zane can reply Zayde's voice pops up.

"Mommy! Daddy! You not even watching. Stop trying to make babies now. We're watching Bluey."

He says shaking his head at us.

"So much kissing. We'll need a much bigger house for all of them.."

He mumbles while looking worriedly around the apartment.

Zane and I look at each other, laughing at Zayde.

Still laughing we turn back to the tv to start watching Bluey with our son.

## **Chapter 50 - Returning to my rejected mate**

Shay's Point of View

"Please just one more? Then we'll go to bed. I promise."

I sigh, crossing my arm over my chest and shaking my head.

"Seriously Zane? No! You've been saying that for the last 3 episodes. You're done. Zayde needs to go to bed."

I say and put off the tv to show them how serious I am.



"But I want to watch more Bluey."

Zayde says with a pout.

"No. I've given you more than enough time to watch Bluey tonight. It's bedtime Mr."

I say pointing in the direction of his room but he shakes his head at me crossing his little arms over his chest.

"No. I want to watch Bluey!"

I arch my eyebrow at him.

"Excuse me? Just who do you think you are talking to? I am not one of your friends. I am your mother and what I say goes. Now, just because of what you did tonight, there will be no more watching Bluey for a week."

"A week? Isn't that a bit harsh?"

Zane asks with a frown and I glare at him.

"I wasn't talking to you. You've been aiding him in disobeying me. I'll get to you in a minute.."

I turn back to Zayde.

"When you apologize, and really mean it I'll reconsider. But until then.. No Bluey. Go brush your teeth and get to bed."

He goes to protest but I hold up my hand.

"Keep this up and there's no Jason for a week as well. You'll sit here all alone doing nothing. Go brush your teeth and get into bed. Your father will be there in a second."

He nods and slowly makes his way to his room.

"Goodnight Zayde."

I say, staring after him down the hall. He mumbles a goodnight and I sigh before I turn back to Zane with my hands on my hips. He gives me a sheepish smile and holds his hands up between us.

"Just calm down, baby."

"Don't tell me to calm down Zane. Look what you've done. He should've been in bed half an hour ago. You're not supposed to let him do what he wants. You're supposed to

help me teach our son. Now he thinks he doesn't have to listen to me because you said he can watch some more tv."

He sighs lowering his hands.

"I know baby. I'm sorry, we were just having so much fun watching Bluey I didn't mean for it to go this way. I'll talk to him. It won't happen again. I promise."

I glare at him for a few more minutes before I nod.

"Fine. You go get him into bed while I clean up."

Zane nods and heads to the hall.

"And Zane when I say into bed I really mean into bed."

I say, staring at him. He turns back to me.

"Yes, I know. I promise. Straight to bed."

He turns away again and heads over to Zayde's room.

I shake my head and sigh while I start to clean up the tv room. This co-parenting thing is new.. To both of us. But we need to get a handle on this or that boy is going to play us like puppets..

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Zane's Point of View

"Can you read me a story?"

Zayde asks as I tuck him into bed.

I shake my head and smile at him.

"No, buddy no stories. I'm sorry. I promised your mom you'll go straight to bed."

"She's being mean. Can we watch Bluey tomorrow when it's just us?"

"Okay buddy we need to talk."

I sit there for a minute just staring at him not sure how to start.

"Are you okay?"

"Yes sorry. I'm fine. So about your mom.. She isn't being mean."

"I think she is."

I shake my head.

"Well let's think about it... Mommy made us snacks and told us we could watch four episodes of Bluey but then you have to head to bed. Right?"

I ask and Zayde nods.

"That was pretty nice of her, wasn't it?"

"Yes.. I guess.."

"Okay and then what happened?"

"We watched Bluey."

"That's right.. And what happened after we've watched the four episodes and she said it's bedtime?"

"We watched more Bluey."

I nod my head.

"Exactly.. Mommy let us watch 3 more episodes. Even after she said it was bedtime. And then what happened?"

"We wanted to watch more Bluey. And she said no."

"That's right. Because she already let us watch 3 episodes more than we originally agreed to. You got to stay up later and you got to watch more Bluey. And we still wanted more after she already gave us alot. Mommy isn't the one being mean we are. We didn't listen to her and we disobeyed her."

"But we wanted to watch more Bluey."

"Yes.. And that was wrong. She said four episodes.. And then we got to watch seven. We took advantage of her niceness. We were greedy. We kept wanting more and more. And did we even say thank you?"

Zayde frowns and shakes his head.

"No.. we didn't."

I nod.

"Good.. What did you d9?

Zayde sighs.

"I got mad at her and talked back."

"And was that nice?"

I ask him with an arched brow. He thinks for a moment before he slowly shakes his head.

"No, that wasn't nice.. I was being mean to her... And I didn't listen."

"Exactly. And when we disobey there are consequences."

"Like no Blue."

I smiles at him and nod.

"Yes.. Like no Bluey."

He is quiet for a minute before he looks up at me.

"Is mommy mad at me?"

"No buddy, maybe a little annoyed and hurt but not mad. You should really apologize to her tomorrow."

"How? Do I just say sorry!"

"Well there is a little more to it. But yes.. You walk over to her and say you are very very sorry and you love her."

He nods.

"Okay.."

"Daddy has a great idea. How about tomorrow you draw her a few pictures to say how sorry you are and how much you love her. We get her some chocolates and a big bouquet of flowers. And when she comes home tomorrow we give all of it to her?"

"Do you think she'd like that?"

He asked excitedly and I nod.

"Yes she will definitely like it. Now that we have our plans for tomorrow, it's time for you to sleep. Goodnight buddy."

I say bending down and kissing his head. He gives a big yawn, then smiles at me while snuggling into his pillow.

"Goodnight daddy."

I see Shay coming in heading for us. I stand up and she beds over our son, kissing his head.

"Goodnight baby. I love you."

"Night mama. I love you too."

We leave the room, heading for ours.

As soon as the door closes behind us, I pull Shay closer. Nibbling on her neck.

"Alone at last! So.. Since Zayde already has his punishment I think it's only fair if I get my punishment in return. So what is it going to be little mate?"