

CHAPTER 2-THE LYCAN CITY

MADELYN'S POV

Wow, just wow...

This bedroom was wonderful. A huge King bed sat in a carved out section of the mountain, giving it its own space. There was a desk to my left where a closed door was placed, I must have been for the bathroom, and on the right was a replace and two sofas, and behind that was a glass wall and doors that led into another carved out cave of the mountain with a glass wall overlooking the city.

I couldn't wait to see the view of the city tonight when it was all lit up.

I placed my bag down on the desk and changed into a pair of jeans and a pretty white top before returning to the lounge room.

Luna Morgan was kissing Alpha Troy goodbye at the door while Scott sat on the sofa with his legs up looking bored already, but Sky took another half an hour to come out of her room. She'd clearly taken a shower and changed into a red low cut dress and denim jacket.

"Ready." She announced, as if any of us cared.

"Took you long enough!" Scott complained as he stood up. For once, I was in agreement with the pig.

"I might run into my mate or one of the princes." She told us, "I have to look my best."

"Well then, you should get a paper bag and put it over your head."

"Scott, leave your sister alone." Luna Morgan said and shook her head. "Let's head off."

Admittedly, I had a very fun afternoon which was rare considering I hated two out of the three people I spent the afternoon with. We explored parts of the city and Sky dragged us shopping before meeting up with the Alpha again and having dinner in the tower's dining room.

I had never in my life had such an amazing meal. The only strange thing was I kept getting weird looks from some of the Lycan Alpha who were also out to eat, but I gured it was just because we were werewolves and let it go.

Finally, we returned to our suites. We were all full and exhausted after such a long day, and I very much welcomed the sleep.

After a quick shower, I curled up on the most comfortable bed I'd ever laid in and drifted off, but later in the evening, I heard my bedroom door open and close, and I jumped up in fright.

Scott was standing in my room and switched on the light, and I froze in complete shock.

"Mate!" I gasped when his scent registered to me.

I couldn't believe this, it was nally my 21st birthday, and I had found my mate.

No, no, this can't be. Why would the goddess do this to me?

"So you nally feel the bond." He commented as he leaned back against the door with his arms crossed over his bare chest, "I've been waiting for years for you to nally come of age."

I couldn't believe this. No, I must have drifted into a nightmare. Yes, that was it, I was having a nightmare, a very vivid horric nightmare.

I stared at Scott with wide shocked eyes, I think I was going to be sick, I hated this pig more than anything, more than anyone except his father and he was my mate!

"Are you going to say something?"

"I will when I can stop myself from throwing up!"

Scott growled and took a step forward. "You should be kissing my feet and begging me to keep you." He snapped, "I'm the one who got saddled with a pathetic woless pack less b'tch."

I climbed out of bed and marched over to Scott.

"Don't worry," I said rmly as my heart raced, his scent was actually very pleasing, but I pushed that thought into the deep recesses of my mind. "You won't have to put up with me for long, I Madelyn reject you Alpha Scott as my mate!"

I felt as if someone had punched me in the chest and I cringed in on myself. The pain was awful, and I couldn't breathe for a second, but when I looked up, I saw Scott had reacted the same way.

"How dare you, you stupid b'tch?!" He grabbed my upper arms and gripped me so hard, I knew I'd bruise. "Do you know how many girls would kill to be my mate?"

"Then go nd one of them and leave me the hell alone!" I shouted and kneed him in the crutch.

Scott gasped in pain and fell down onto his knees.

"You stupid b'tch." He groaned, "I am going to beat the hell out of you!"

"Accept my rejection, or I'll tell your mother everything you've ever done to me?" I spat furiously.

"You think she'd ever believe you over me!" He snarled and took a deep breath. "How about I tell her we're mates? You know how seriously she takes the mate bond, she'll force you to be mine, and I'll make you watch me scr*w other women every night, or you can take back the rejection, and we'll."

"NEVER!" I screamed, cutting him off mid-sentence, "Accept my rejection, or I'll tell your mother the truth about Laura. Do you think she'll believe you over me about her too? I don't think so!"

Laura was a girl we'd gone to school with, but Scott had gone to his father two years ago and had her banished. He'd told his dad that they'd slept together one drunken night during her heat and that she'd fallen pregnant, but Scott didn't want her or the child, so Alpha Troy had taken care of it after he found out the child wasn't male.

He'd shipped Laura off with some money to take care of the kid and warned her to never return. We found out a few months later that she'd taken her own life, but neither Troy nor Scott seemed to care and never spoke about her.

"F*ck you!" Scott snapped angrily and stood up holding his crutch. "Scr*w me, and I'll accept your rejection."

"Go scr*w yourself!" I took a step away from him, "I'd rather rip my own skin off than sleep with you!"

"Don't pretend like you're not curious about what it would feel like to be with your mate."

"You're not my mate." I told him with disgust. "You're my nightmare, now accept my rejection."

"You just wait until I'm head Alpha." He threatened me, "I will make you pay for this. I, Scott, future Alpha of Calco pack, accept your rejection."

I cried out in pain and fell to my knees as tears lled my eyes and a crushing sensation grasped my heart.

"You will pay!" Scott threatened again, and I heard him slowly leave the room.

I crawled over to the door and locked it before curling up on the cold ground and weeping.

I hated Scott more now than ever, and I felt sick to my stomach. All my dreams of nding my mate and being free were now taken from me. I'd be trapped in Calco forever.

I didn't remember falling back to sleep, but I must have because I woke to a loud tapping on my door and sat up.

My whole body was aching, and my bones were stiff from sleeping on the ground, but I got up and put on a brave face.

"Yes." I asked as I pulled open the door.

"Good morning, Madelyn." Luna Morgan greeted me. "Happy birthday."

Oh, that's right, it was my birthday, but just like every year, I had no desire to celebrate.

"Thank you, Luna." I said, but my voice came out crackly, so I cleared my throat.

"You're late for breakfast. Are you not feeling well?" She asked, "You look awful."

"How can you tell?" Sky commented as she walked out of her room wearing a bright yellow dress, "She looks like she does everyday to me."

"Go eat." Her mother said rmly before turning back to me.

"Actually, I'm not feeling too well." I admitted, "Would it be okay if I stayed here and slept until the ball"

"Of course, dear." She touched my face, "Get some rest. What an awful way to start your 21st year."

"You have no idea." I nodded and shut the door.

After a quick shower, I climbed into bed and curled up again. I couldn't believe how terrible I felt. I rejected him, and I shouldn't be the one in pain right now.

I hoped he was suffering too, and he deserved it. The nerve of him, tormenting me for years and then expecting me to be his mate, what a joke.

'I hope you're not too mad at me, Ava.' I whispered to her, 'I had to reject him. We can't be with someone like him.'

Like always, there was no reply, but I had to believe that she wouldn't have wanted the pr*ck as our mate any more than I did.

I fell back to sleep and didn't wake up again until I once more heard banging on my door.

I growled in frustration and sat up, I forgot for a moment that I wasn't at home and was shocked to see I wasn't in my bedroom, and then everything came ooding back.

I stretched and was glad to at least feel a little better, though not like my usual self, and I walked barefooted to the door.

I pulled it open to see an annoyed looking Sky with a bonnet around her hair. She had just gotten her hair done.

"Mom told me to get you up!" She said as if waking someone up was beneath her, "We're leaving for the ball in an hour."

"Thanks." I said and shut the door on her stupid face.

I went and took a quick shower before pulling on my gown. Was it only yesterday that I was so excited to go tonight, and now all I wanted was to hide in my bed?

I had plans to do my makeup and pull up my hair, but I didn't even bother now.

Once I slipped on my black shoes, I wandered out to the waiting family all dressed up.

The men in tuxes and Luna Morgan and Sky both have elegant ball gowns and both with their hair done into intricate braids down with jewels.

"Finally," Alpha Troy said lazily as he checked his watch. "Let's go."

"You look lovely, Madelyn." Luna Morgan told me kindly, "But you still look a little sick. You can go to ball for an hour or two, but then I want you back in bed to rest."

"Yes, Luna."

As we headed out of the suite, I noticed Scott staring at me with lust and anger, but I also noticed he didn't look well either, and he didn't hold himself with his usual arrogant manner, good he was suffering too.

"The same goes for you, Scott." She turned to him, "You both must have caught something in the city or maybe food poisoning. Did you eat the same meal last night?"

"My sweet, they're ne." Troy waved his hand, "It's probably just a bug. Who knows what they could have picked up here with so many packs around? They'll be good as gold by the time we leave in a few days."

Crap, a few days? I'd forgotten that we were staying here for 5 nights because a few of the Alphas were in negotiations with the King.

I looked at Scott angrily. How was I meant to avoid him?

I ignored Scot and focused on the cue of Lycans, werewolves, and a few witches in line for a shuttle bus that would be delivering guests to the large pack house tower in the center of the city.

I saw it all lit up last night before I went to sleep. It was beautiful, and I couldn't wait to visit. It would be a welcome distraction from the disappointment that was this day.

Sky magically found herself sitting next to a very handsome Lycan in the shuttle, but he didn't seem very interested in her with the way his eyes swept over Scott, who was sitting in front of them.

Finally, we reached the tower, and the excited buzz in the air was intoxicating and for a moment I forgot how depressed I was.

Everyone looked so lovely in their gowns and tuxedos and even the dragons who preferred no clothing at all, were in very lovely, if not a little too revealing for my taste, dresses and suits.

Sky patted down her dress and checked her makeup before linking her arm with her brother and walking inside among the sea of guests.

We slowly made our way into the various elevators and up to level 24 where the ballroom was. It took up an entire oor with a massive balcony and a small garden that wrapped around the entire level.

My jaw literally dropped when we wandered out of the elevator.

We were greeted by servers in golden suits all holding drinks trays with various beverages. I took a lemonade, I wasn't thirsty, but I liked having something to do with my hands.

I followed my Alpha and Luna passed a golden archway and out onto a stunning black glass oor. Millions of sparkling lights hung over my head, making me feel like I was in the stars themselves. There were also golden, black, and red balloons around the rooms, along with other decorations. In the center of this part of the oor was a large bar where about a dozen bartenders were mixing drinks and chatting happily with other guests.

Alpha Troy led us towards some tables, and I could see a band playing soft music in front of an open area, which I assumed was for dancing, though no one was using it yet.

More waiters were walking around with trays of food and more drinks while several guards stood at attention throughout the rooms, just keeping an eye on the guests.

A strange but wonderful scent owed all around me as we turned past the tables and further into the room where a few other werewolf Alphas and their mate's were standing around talking.

I stopped in my tracks and looked around for an explanation of the smell, but the room was lling up fast and I couldn't pinpoint it.

If I hadn't already found my disgusting mate, I'd have thought that scent came from him. It smelt a million times better than Scott's scent.

"Madelyn, keep up." Alpha Troy scolded me when he realized I'd stopped.

"Sorry." I began to look around the crowd again. Where was that delicious smell coming from? It smelt like all my favorite things all rolled into one.

Chocolate and rain and something else I couldn't identify.

"I thought I smelt." I shook my head and turned back to Alpha Troy and Luna Morgan, who were staring at me with strange looks. "It doesn't matter."

"Do you smell your mate?" Luna Morgan asked excitedly and looked around the area as if she'd seen someone who is holding a sign declaring themselves mine. "Is that what you smell?"

"No!" Scott surprised me and stepped closer. How dare he get jealous by that question when, for years, he knew we were mates and still slept with whomever he wanted.

"No, Luna." I responded and looked back at her, "It's nothing. I don't have or want a mate."

"Well, then stop dawdling!" Alpha Troy scolded me again and once more began to lead us to the others.

I took another scan of the room before I realized Scott was still glaring at me, so I quickly followed after his parents, not wanting to be alone with him.

For the next half an hour, I watched Sky getting introduced to several Alphas and their sons, but with each new guy she met, Sky was getting grumpier and grumpier. It was obvious she wanted to meet her mate tonight, but she wasn't having any luck.

I on the other hand, kept smelling that scent throughout the crowd of guests. Every time someone would move past me and stir up the air, I'd get hit with it again.

"Excuse me, Luna." I gently tapped her shoulder to get her attention. She was speaking with a very pretty Lycan woman in a silver strapless dress. Lycan's really was so beautiful.

"Yes, dear?"

"Is it alright if I explore and get some fresh air?"

"I don't know, Maddie." She said nervously and looked around the crowd. "There are a lot of strangers here. You should stay close."

"Oh, come now, Morgan." The Lycan woman waved her hand, causing her diamond bracelets to sparkle in the light, "We have guards everywhere. The girl will be safe. Let her have some fun. Don't you remember what it was like at her age? She must be so bored cooped up here with all us elders."

"Oh, alright." She gave in, and I smiled for the rst ted and headed away from everyone. I was getting sick of Scott glaring at me and I had to get away from that smell that was torturing me.

However, I only made it passed the dance oor and a few feet towards the open wall leading to the balcony when a large hand wrapped around my upper arm and pulled me in.

I gasped angrily as Scott spun me back towards him.

"Scott, get off of me!" I snapped as he pulled me further away from the crowd to a corner of the room.

"No." He said as his grip tightened, "Where are you going, to nd that guy you smelt earlier?"

"I don't know what you are talking about now get lost!"

"What do you think happened?" He stepped closer and leaned down. "The goddess gave you a second chance mate. If you think I'll ever let you go, you're crazy!"

"You're the crazy one." I snapped, but I froze for a second when I smelled that amazing scent again, only this time it was stronger.

"Why must you be such a b'tch all the time!" Scott asked. "You are mine. I am not letting your f*cking rejection stop me from having what I'm owed. I will take Brianna as my chosen, but I will not be denied my mate. I will move you to a cabin in the woods, and you can be my mistress."

"Your what!" I snarled and tried to rip my arm free. "You're insane, I would never."

"YOU DON'T GET A CHOICE!" He cut me off and gripped me even harder.

"Scott, get off. You're hurting me!"

A loud growl echoed out and several guests that had been around us jumped back in fear as the most gorgeous man I'd ever seen marched over to us and grabbed Scott's wrist and ripped him off of me.

"GET OFF MY MATE!" The stranger yelled.

What? This wasn't possible, but I knew it to be true. This man carried the intoxicating scent I'd been smelling, and my heart raced in delight.

He was perfect.