## **Chapter 20 Crash And Burn**

Alpha Blake

Bait, Sink, Hook.

Okay so, I pushed the boundaries. Sue me. Knowing Kelsey's stubborn nature, I was shocked when she finally agreed. She used any opportunity she could find to avoid me, we'd been playing this endless game of cat and mouse. There was no doubt that this was a crash and burn situation, but neither my wolf nor I cared – we would take what we could get just to spend five more minutes with her.

She passed me the blanket urgently like the thing was on fire and turned on her heels, swaying those hips in those short daisy dukes as she walked in front with her cowboy boots knocking against the wood of the pier. It was a picture I wished that I could forever etch into my mind. A picture I knew could quickly satisfy my late-night thoughts of her.

Taking in the sight for a moment that felt all too brief, I realized my pants had suddenly tightened. Kelsey tossed her blonde locks over her shoulder and whipped her body around, "I mean, I could just go home if you're going to take a lifetime pops," she said in a menacing tone. Kelsey loved to push my buttons and fuck, I loved when she did it. There's something about the fire that burns deep inside of her that makes me feel like I'm invincible around her. I heaved an exasperated sigh and shook my head; some things just don't change.

I pulled myself up off the pier, feeling my body weight push against my large corded arms, and quickly rushed over to catch up with her. "Easy there tiger, we've got all night," I said sarcastically, enviably rewarding me with a heart-stopping smile from her plush pink lips as she rolled her big green eyes in unison. She loved it though. She may be a brat - but she was my brat. At least, that's what I told myself at that moment to make both Titus and I feel better.

"I told you, five minutes. The clock is ticking," she scolded. My wolf growled in irritation at her order, his possessive Alpha nature amplified and on the brink of surfacing. It didn't matter what she said, I was determined to make this last longer than a whole five minutes even if I had to throw her over my shoulder and drag her with me. We continued to walk off the pier, the moonlight brightly shining down on us like it was calling out and pushing us closer together to seal the bond. It felt just like that night... that night that I had no choice but to do what I had done - for my pack. I wondered if it was just an oddly bright night or if it all seemed brighter because I was here with her. My mind was a foggy mess, thoughts of what if that night had gone differently plunging into my mind.

When our hands brushed against each other as we walked closer towards the pack house, electricity pulsated through my body from my fingertips. I was sure that she felt it too, judging from how quickly she whipped her hand away from mine, wanting no part in any of this. "Hungry?", I asked curiously, searching for a detour to lengthen our time together. I would take anything to give me more time with Kelsey while the walls that she protected so viciously were threatened to come down, even if it was for a brief moment. She shook her head and pressed her lips together, like she wanted to say something but then decided not to.

We approached the pack house where howls and laughter were heard nearby. I caught sight of Alpha Tate and Alpha Liam against the side of the pack house. They were obliterated and barely holding the weight of their bodies up as they chatted with some she-wolves from my pack. The she-wolves were swooning over the two of them, I was sure an unlucky two would end up in their beds tonight. I wasn't sure what it was with she wolves and Alphas, most treated it like a damn award to bed an Alpha.

Alpha Jaxon sat on a curb nearby, clearly unimpressed that the other Alphas had gotten out of control. Since he became Alpha of his pack, he's become much more serious. He held a certain rigidness about him and endlessly immersed himself in pack business. I noticed that Ashley was with them, and I was grateful that we managed to dodge all of them. The last thing I needed was Ashley ruining the moment and chasing my mate away. According to her, I had five minutes and the clock was already ticking.

"Alphas gone wild," Kelsey smirked, a glint of amusement swirling in her big green eyes. I placed my hand on the small of her back, feeling her body twitch in response. "Don't pay any attention to them, some of them take these training sessions as a vacation I swear," I replied slyly and directed us into the pack house.

The light cascading down from the chandelier in the foyer was bright, making me freeze as I got a good look at my mate. My eyes wandered Kelsey's body as I fought the urge to slide my hands over those alluring curves of hers. I hadn't noticed her eyes zoning in on me, clearly aware of how badly I wanted her until she placed her hands on the dips of her waist, "well?", she probed. I felt my face instantly heat up, she had caught me red-handed.

"I'll be right back," I said and turned to rush up the stairs and into my bedroom.

A glint of curiosity sprawled across Kelsey's face as I waved the keys and dashed back down the stairs. "Hmm, this isn't going to be five minutes, you're one sly Alpha," she said, perching her lips together. "But you knew that already, didn't you pup?, I replied, my chest filled with pride.

"Come on", I muttered, reaching for her hand and feeling the electricity pulse through my veins again. It felt nothing short of incredible having her hand laced into mine, as I pulled us back outside of the pack house through the side door. As we approached my yellow mustang, I walked her over to the passenger side and opened the car door, leaning over to secure her seatbelt. She belted out a laugh that nearly made me melt into a puddle, "I'm not a child!", she scolded. I knew she wasn't a child, she was more capable than anyone else I knew but I would take any chance I had to soak in her sweet scent, even for a moment to satisfy my wolf.

My wolf was clawing inside, wanting to take her against the brick wall of the pack house and leave his claim on her smooth little neck. She was my mate, gifted to me by the Moon Goddess – my mark belonged on her neck but fate was a fucked up thing, wasn't it?

I circled my car, slipping into the driver's seat, and plunged the key into the ignition. The car roared for a second before I reversed and pulled out of the driveway. The drive was silent, too silent. I could feel my own heartbeat thumping in my ears. Kelsey kept her glare outside the window but I noticed her eyes stealing side glances whenever she thought I wasn't looking. The sexual tension was thickly packed between us, I could smell her body defying her and her sweet arousal sifting in the air. It made holding Titus back even more difficult.

As I ripped through the gates of Blackclaw, enjoying every time my car roared, Kelsey finally piped up and broke the silence between us. "Do you mind?", she said, as her fingers grazed the

radio. I shook my head, trying to stay composed, "give it a go". She flipped through the stations a few times until she found a song and leaned back into the passenger seat.

It was a short drive, just outside pack territory. I pulled onto the side of the road and pulled over. "Okay, now I'm really confused," she giggled. Opening the car door, I stepped down and circled

to the other side of the car. I reached for her hand and gripped it tightly against mine, giving it a slight tug into the tree line. We walked for a short distance hand in hand. It felt so natural, it felt so right as my entire body pulsated at her touch.

When we finally reached a cluster of trees. Kelsey's eyes widened, the familiar sight setting in as

she shimmied out of my grip and stalked toward a tree that was slightly smaller than the rest.

"I, I, I can't believe it's still here", she stuttered out in shock.