

# **The Pack: Rule Number 1 - No Mates Novel Chapter 17 - Chapter 17 (English Translation)**

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Chapter Seventeen DOMONIC Gathered around the bar are all twelve members of the Red Wolf Pack .

We are the last of the wolf shifters on the North Washington Coast .

Sheriff Rainier , Deputy Koda , Deputy Lief , Fire Chief Timmons , Fire Deputy Logan , Fire Deputy Grant , Bartlett , Andrew , Quinn , James , Paul , and myself .

My father was Alpha before me , as his father was before him , and so forth .

He now resides in Canada .

A deserter , if you will .

But he wasnt the only one .

The rest of our pack went with him .

They wanted the twelve of us to join them , but we refused .

There is one reason why the twelve of us remain here , refusing to leave .

We have one major thing in common .

The deaths of our human mothers .

In the middle of the night , five years ago , a fire started in our packhouse , high up on the mountainside .

All males of the pack being forced to shift into our wolf forms on the night of the full moon were nowhere in the vicinity when it began .

Our mothers were left alone and unprotected .

When the fire began , we were on the other side of the moutain .

When we scented the smoke we raced back , but still in our wolf forms , we were helpless to stop the flames .

The entire place was an inferno .

There was nothing left of them by the time we were able to shift back .

We were left to watch from the shadows of the trees as the human fire fighters put out the remainder of the embers .

Every female human mate that resided there that night died .

That is when the twelve of us decided a packhouse was too much like an anthill and instead of cohabitating , we spread across the town .

Each of us watching over a separate part of it .

Each of us responsible for a different sector of its citizens .

But the rest of our pack , opted to leave .

The pain of what we lost was too much for most to bear .

The twelve of us refused to leave the memories of our mothers behind the way our fathers and other pack members did .

To this day we are determined to catch the murderer or murderers that started that fire all those nights ago .

When they left and we stayed out here , in Port Orchard , was when the twelve of us decided , we would be the last of our pack .

We came up with twelve rules we vowed to live by from that day forth .

Rule number one being no mates .

None of us wanted to experience the devastation our fathers had .

I heard that most of our old pack is now divided .

That the mated wolves broke off from the mateless .

Traveling East and away from the bad memories and faulty leadership .

Leaving the twelve to die on their own they way they left us to die on ours .

We didnt want to have to experience anything like the heartbreak our fathers went through when they lost their mates .

The emptiness , the guilt .

It changed them .

They are lifeless now .

Not fit to lead , not fit to fight .

They had to go and so they did .

They gave up the fight and disgraced the memories of our mothers by leaving things the way they were .

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Unforgivable if you ask me .

The future of our pack was no more .

We never even talked to them about it .

They simply sauntered into the night without looking back .

It became clear to me on that day that those twelve mateless wolf shifters our fathers never deserved to lead anyway .

Shifters were not meant to be weak .

There are many different types of shifters in the world , but only two kinds out here in in this part of Washington .

Wolves and Lions .

Lion shifters are predominantly female .

And females of any species are not as likely to commit mass murder , so we didnt think it had been them , despite their hatred for us .

No ... something m more sinister and 1 secret lay behind the fire .

And the twelve of us were determined to figure out what .

All wolf shifters as far as we know , are male .

There are rumors of a female wolf shifter on the East coast , but fairytales are told every day .

The pride of lion shifte that weve been feuding with , is the entire reason behind our needing a human male to watch over the bar in the 1/3 Chapter Seventeen first place .

Because every month on the night of the full moon , we as wolves , are compelled to change and roam the woods from sundown to sunup .

On each full moon for the last few months someone has been breaking into the bar in search of something we have no knowledge of .

And that someone must know we are unavailable on that particular evening .

So of course , we put out a nationwide search for a capable human caretaker who we could entrust with the bar so that we as a group might catch whoever has been breaking in .

Then for some reason , fate decided it might be funny to send Draven our way .

Until now , we had all been lucky .

None of us had found a mate .

All of us , with the exception of Rainier , had opted to remain single .

Rainier met and married Angie over a year ago , a local girl that he claimed he was in love with .

But she wasnt his mate , so no babies would be coming from their union .

Shifters can only reproduce with their mates .

We can fall in love , sure .

But any bond we might have with that person is severed once a mate is introduced into the equation .

So , of course , from the moment I met Draven , I have known that she was going to have to leave .

Because keeping her is against the number one rule with have set in place for ourselves .

Shes your mate , Paul says , voicing the one thing I had hoped to keep secret .

I nod , She is .

The entire bar falls silent .

Each one of my brothers with sadness in their eyes .

Then , just as suddenly , everyone begins talking at once .

Logan was the first to speak .

Its been a long time since weve had someone to protect .

Damn it , Rainier snaps .

I knew there was something strange about the way youve been acting .

But I had no idea that was what it was .

He shakes his head .

She has to leave .

I know , I hiss , closing my eyes .

What do you think Live been saying .

Thats fucked up Dom , Bartlett complains .

That girl needs you .

Shes helpless .

How can you just- Oh come on B , Rainier interrupts .

This has been decided for years .

We promised each other .

Bartlett pounds a fist down on the table in anger , his eyes full of fury , dont give a fuck what we promised each other ! That girls been through enough already ! We cant just toss her out when- What do you mean , been through enough ? Koda chimes in , eyes going dark .

This is so fucked up .

I dont want to go through anything like that night ever again , Quinn whispers .

But how can you just make her leave , Dom ? Are you sure shes you mate ? Fuck that promise , Timmons declares .

And fuck that rule .

Does she know? James asks What does it feel like ? Finding your mate ? Andrew .

Where is she now ? Lief .

I want to meet her .

Quiet , please just- I start , but am interrupted by the buzz of my phone in my pocket .

Lifting the damn thing up to my face , my heart goes cold .

A coil of fear snakes up inside of me and the entire room falls silent again .

Suddenly Im thinking of the black sedans we passed on our way here .

Suddenly ... they are all I can see .

Draven ? I answer .

Whats wrong ?