

Chapter 42

Nicola's POV

It's been a few weeks since the 'war' has ended and things are finally starting to get back to normal. Well not that this has ever been normal, but maybe the new normal?

My eyes flutter open and I can see the sun filter through the curtains and onto Zander's face. His eyes sparkle as they reflect the morning light and he gazes back at me. It seems as though he's been awake for awhile and I blink a few times to wake up a bit.

"Weirdo!" I smack him with a pillow. "Were you watching me sleep?!"

His laughter fills the room and I can't help but join him.

He tugs me underneath his body and presses a kiss to my neck which instantly turns me into a puddle.

"You're just so beautiful." He murmurs into my skin.

I can still smell him on me from the night before and I don't think I'll ever get tired of it. His scent is so strong and electrifying, yet calming at the same time. He's my favorite perfume.

"I love you." I say as I look up at him.

"Show me." He grins.

I pull him down into a kiss and I can feel him clutch the sheets around us. My hand goes into his hair as I nibble on his bottom lip before peppering kisses along his jaw.

I can feel him harden against me and I let out a soft moan with anticipation. He's everything I never knew I needed and for the past week, it's like I can't get enough of him. The need to be touching him 24/7 has probably earned me the title of clingy and borderline psycho but Zander hasn't seemed to mind. He's actually seemed to enjoy it just

as much as I have, which is relieving.

My other hand pushes at his shoulder and he lets me flip us around so I'm now on top. I resume my trail of kisses down his neck and to my mark before continuing down his chest. His heart races as his hands tighten at my hips and it makes my wolf growl in approval to know we can make him respond this way.

We have gotten so close and the bond we have together grows stronger everyday. I love the way his eyes light up when he sees me and the way his laughter brightens the room. I love how great he is as a leader and his selflessness towards the pack. I love everything about him, so I do just what he asked, I show him.

A little later I walk into his office and see him deep in thought as he looks at the computer screen on his desk. He smiles when he notices me walk in and gestures for me to come sit on his lap. I walk over and deposit myself onto his thighs as I rest my head against his shoulder.

I hum in contentment as I stare off at nothing in particular. He stops working and I can feel his eyes on me, which has been a normal occurrence, however, when his gaze doesn't waver, I glance at him.

"What?"

His eyes search my face questioningly and I'm suddenly feeling a bit self conscious. Did I miss something? Is there food on my face?

I sit up and look around at the office but notice nothing out of the ordinary. He has a grin on his face when I look back at him and now I'm really confused.

"What??" I say a little louder.

He chuckles and shakes his head.

"Nothing, you've just been staring at the computer screen for a few minutes now and I just thought you would have already said something."

"I've what?" I turn to look at screen and notice multiple pages open.

One of them looks like an invitation of some sort and I gasp when I look at it further.

"They're getting sent out today. I want to have the mating ceremony next week and officially announce you as my mate and Queen."

I start to tear up as I wrap my arms around his neck.

"I love you." I say.

"I love you too." He whispers back.

—

A week later I'm standing on one of the balconies that overlook the gardens outside the pack house. Today is the day of the mating ceremony and I'm already dressed in long white evening gown. Long sleeves with a lace design cover my arms and also continue along the front of the dress. My mind is racing as I look out along the peaceful landscape and my skin pricks with anticipation.

I catch the familiar scent and turn around to see Zander looking extremely sophisticated in his custom suit. Black is definitely his color. He walks over to me and plants a kiss on my cheek as he wraps me in his arms. My heart beats fast as I look up at him and open my mouth to speak.

"I need to talk to you." I say.

He looks worried and a little nervous but he begins to shake his head.
"Let me go first."

He grabs my hands and stares at me with so much love and intensity it knocks the breathe out of me.

"I've waited for you for so long I had already given up hope of finding you . But knowing what I do now, I'd gladly go through another 100 years alone for the chance to be with you. I love you more than life itself and I never want to let you go."

He gets down on one knee and tears blur my vision, forcing me to wipe them away.

Dammit! I just did my makeup!

He opens up a small box and inside is a single stone 2ct diamond ring.

"Will you marry me?" He asks nervously.

Oh my goddess he's actually nervous.

"Yes!" I say with a laugh and teary eyes.

He slides the ring on before picking me up and spinning me around. Our lips meet and I can feel the same spark I did the first time we kissed. I'm completely lost in the moment when he sets me down and I stare in awe at the simple but beautiful ring.

"When you said we needed to talk, I got nervous you might actually tell me no." He smiles at me.

Oh shit I forgot about that.

He walks up behind me and wraps both arms around my shoulders, pulling me close to his chest. Freya is practically purring with happiness and the feeling of security in his embrace. I reach up and grab both of his hands, intertwining our fingers together.

"About what I wanted to talk to you about..." I say and I slide our hands down until they rest over my stomach.

I look up at him over my shoulder and gaze into his deep green eyes. They're soft as he smiles at me and then widen with the sudden realization.

"You're-?" He steps back and looks at stomach before his eyes meet mine.

I nod and he rushes over, dropping to his knees. He presses his face into my stomach as his arms snake around my legs. Neither of us say anything for a few minutes as he clings to me, not moving.

When he finally looks up at me and I can see tears rolling down his face,

"I can't wait to tell everyone later." His voice is thick with emotion.

He stands up and grabs both of my hands before bringing them to his lips for a kiss.

"Come on we better get going." He smiles.

I smile back at him and for once life feels complete. I'm sure we'll have our ups and downs, but this? I wouldn't trade this for the world.

Chapter Comments

