

Chapter 17: His Touch

-Helena-

"First!" I said as I grabbed my bag from the bed and moved it to the couch Wylder had been sitting on. "I take the couch."

He raised an eyebrow, not looking happy about that, but I was not sleeping in the same bed as him. I understood better why it was so important for the alpha and luna to be together. I had never realized the depth of their importance and what it meant for the pack when they were in sync. I understood they were the pillars, but it had surprised me just what they did together or didn't do together, how much meaning it had for the pack. I wasn't here to make it worse for so many pack members just because Wylder wouldn't reject me. He would, of course, reject me. I would find a way to make sure of that, but for now he wasn't, and we had to make it work for the pack.

"No," he said.

"Yes. And you will stay over there," I told him and pointed to the bed.

Oh, I could see the muscles in his jaw tensing, and how he hated we had to sleep separately, but there was no way I was crawling into bed with him. So, he could make me all hot and bothered again, use me and then throw me out. That might just be exactly what he was waiting for. I was his mate, after all. I was supposed to be all over him, but I refused to be his little plaything. Alphas were all the same.

They are! And if he comes near us again, I will bite him even harder!

I smiled a little and knew that was true. I should have been the one to bite him, though, but I hadn't. I had lost my mind and kissed him back. There would be no more kissing or touching. There would be an obvious line drawn between us.

"I don't like it," he admitted. "But... if it ensures you stay in the room... ne."

"It does."

"All right then..."

He looked like a kid who had not gotten the cookie they asked for, and I almost smiled. It was rather funny to see.

"Very well, now that is settled. Bathroom!" I told him.

"What? Want to shower together?" he asked me.

"Exactly the opposite. The lock stays turned and you do not break it down!" I told him.

"Is that what you think I would do?"

"That is exactly what I believe you will do. It stays turned and unbroken."

He sighed. "Fine..."

"And no walking around naked."

He seemed very unsatisfied with that rule.

"Fine, but it doesn't count for you," he told me and smiled. "Feel free to walk around naked."

"Not going to happen, but thank you for the offer."

He chuckled, and I was... actually a little amused. I told myself to get a grip and thought about there being any other rules.

"Oh, yes, and no touching from now on," I told him.

"At all?"

"I don't like it when you do it."

He seemed surprised.

"Are you sure?" he asked. "You seemed to like it very much."

"I am sure."

He looked at me a little suspiciously and then smiled. It confused me and I looked at him a little funny.

"What?"

"Do you not like it, or do you not like what it does to you?" he asked.

"How are the two things different?" I asked him.

"Well, the first one you feel disgusted," he said and stepped closer.

I looked a little surprised at him, he would come so close, but I didn't move back. I wouldn't let him push me.

"The second one, you enjoy what I do, but it scares you just how much you enjoy it. I mean, I haven't even touched you anywhere really good," he told me.

He took another step closer, and suddenly he was standing right in front of me. I found it hard to breathe again. This was why there was something called drawing a line, but it had been crossed, and I... I found myself not wanting to push him away.

Hey! Remember! Line. He is an alpha! Alpha! Get a grip or take a step back... His scent...

Even my wolf found it hard to ght. We were just overpowered by how good he smelled. It was even harder to block out because we were also in his room. Finally, I was able to snap out of my trance and take a step back.

"I don't think there is a difference."

"Of course, there is," he said and then reached out, wrapping an arm around my waist before he brought a hand to my neck, angling my head.

I thought he would kiss me, and I was almost ready for it. I knew I shouldn't be so ready for it, but I felt it. I felt myself almost wanting it. He didn't. He leaned very close to me so our breaths were mixing and my whole body shivered. I liked it... Oh Goddess; I liked it. It felt so intensely.

Get... get a grip! Remember, I bite him if he kisses us.

"Maybe... you shouldn't," I whispered.

"Shouldn't what?" he asked, and I knew he liked this very much. I could hear it in the tone of his voice.

"Get... Get so close."

"Oh? And why not?" he whispered and when he spoke, his warm breath fanned my lips, making my heart skip a beat for every word he whispered.

"I... My wolf will bite you again," I warned him.

He chuckled, only finding it amusing, and it confused me.

"Well, I am not really kissing you, am I?"

"No... but... but if you get too close."

"Then I will just stay right here," he said. "It still proves it."

"Proves what?"

"That you like my touch."

I swallowed hard, trying hard not to get affected by what he was doing to me, but my legs were shaking now and I was starting to sweat a little.

"You should..."

"Stop?" he asked.

I nodded a little, but only moved my head a little because I liked our position.

"Then push me away," he challenged.

I didn't move, though. I couldn't.

Fine! I will do it!

My wolf pushed forward, but just as she did, he leaned down and kissed me. The kiss was quick and light, but it made my wolf jump back, because she was now the one who had been kissed. Wylder moved back and smiled as my wolf ran around inside of me, almost screaming.

He kissed me! Ah! He kissed me! He kissed me!

She sounded like he had hit her, when really it was just a kiss.

How could I let it happen?

Okay, now it was starting to get a little amusing, and when I looked at Wylder, he was smiling, pleased. He had gotten exactly what he wanted. He knew what was truly holding me back. I cleared my throat, though, and nally pushed him back.

"That was..."

"Clever?"

"Manipulative," I told him.

He chuckled and took a step back.

"It worked," he said. "Now she felt it too."

"She didn't like it."

"She claims that, but we both know she enjoyed it as much as you did," he said and winked at me before he walked away and sat down at a desk at the other end of the room.