

Chapter 18: Taken

-Wylder-

I looked up from the work in front of me when Helena came out of the bathroom wearing small sleeping shorts and a top. I enjoyed seeing all that skin. We were in late fall, so it was rather cold outside. Wolves might not freeze like humans, but we could get cold. Now she wasn't wearing much because the room was nice and warm, and I really enjoyed that. I enjoyed seeing those naked legs of hers and arms. She had been rather covered up. Not that I hadn't caught a glimpse of what hid beneath. A beautiful body that deserved to be adored by my hands and mouth. It wasn't easy to get close to her. I understood... That ****t of her former alpha mate deserved to be punched. He had let something so sweet and a little feisty go. I mean, could the little wolf be more perfect for me? Despite being a lone wolf, despite wanting to bow, she didn't, really. She met me head-on. Not that I couldn't get her submission when I wanted to, but I wanted her ery behavior as well. I wanted that toughness, and her deance. It made it all so much better when she nally gave in, and she would. She would give all of herself to me. Helena walked over to the couch she was going to sleep on and climbed under the blanket. I shook my head a little, smiling. It could be so much easier if she would just crawl into my bed.

"Remember," she said, and I looked at her. "No touching."

"I already touched."

"Anymore!"

I chuckled, and she lay with her eyes closed, yet I had sensed some amusement in her voice. She might want me at a distance, but not really. I continued to work for a little while, before my eyes again sought my little mate. She laid all curled up on the couch and it made me smile. It really did feel good to have her there. I heard her sigh a little content, and slowly she was drifting into sleep. I couldn't believe that even though she might have found my uncle, she would just have left again. She would rather leave than see others do it, and I understood. Her mate had rejected her, and now her mother had died. She didn't seem to have others. She really had been through a lot. We both had broken souls. We really couldn't be a better match. I smiled a little, as I nally decided to call it a night. I walked over to her and kissed her on her temple. I knew I had promised no touching, but this was just to show appreciation to her. I walked to the bathroom and got myself ready before I went back to my bed. I found it a little hard to sleep though, not that that was strange, but it just didn't feel right that she wasn't lying there beside me. I knew it would happen. I just had to be patient. So, I closed my eyes, and then nally drifted to sleep.

-Helena-

I wasn't sure what had woken me. Something... like a feeling of things not being right. I slowly opened my eyes and looked around the room. It was very dark...

"Wylder?" I whispered.

I turned to the bed, but saw he wasn't there. What on earth? Where could he have gone? The door to the bathroom was open, and no light was streaming inside.

"Wylder?" I called again.

I was sure he had maybe just gone out to solve something or on a night run, yet I felt uneasy now that I knew he wasn't there. It had been so easy to fall asleep with him in the room. I didn't think it would be, but it had been. Now he wasn't there, and it all felt cold and dark. I laid down again, though, pulling the blanket higher.

Hey, don't be scared. You still have me.

I smiled a little. Yes, I did have Amaya, and she was much stronger than she had been in a long time.

We don't need him. Just go back to sleep. I have your back.

I chuckled a little and closed my eyes. There was a good chance that Wylder would be back soon, anyway. So, I felt a little more at ease as I tried sleeping again. I had only just gotten comfortable though, when a small creaking echoed in the room. I let out a breath of relief. He was back.

"Not that I care... but where had you gone?" I asked with a smile on my lips.

I thought for sure he would give me a sassy answer, as always, but he didn't say anything. I opened my eyes, confused. He wouldn't normally just let a chance to annoy me slide by.

"Wylder?"

I sat up, only to see a dark shadow standing above me... No, that was not Wylder.

"Who are..."

I didn't get to say anything, then the shadow reached out and placed a hand over my mouth. He shushed me, and I was so paralyzed I didn't even make a sound. Soon, he pulled a syringe from his pocket and stabbed it into my neck. I tried screaming for Wylder, but the world quickly turned black and then I was out like a light.

-Killian-

The attack was going to be fast and easy. I would end Wylder once and for all. I would pay him back for everything he had done to me. He wasn't even going to know what had hit him before I had ripped out his heart from his chest. I knew how strong he was, though. I had been up against him before. So, I had brought some sedatives with me I would use on him. I didn't believe I would be so lucky I could just sneak up on him. So, I would weaken him rst, then kill him. I made a plan with a few of my closest pack members. They would make a distraction while I snuck inside. The distraction would not be big. I didn't want Wylder to leave the comfort of his bed. I wanted a chance to sneak up on him and surprise him. He really wouldn't know what hit him.

"Remember, just keep them distracted," I told my Beta Reese.

He nodded.

"We will keep them distracted."

"No killing all of them. I want there to be a little left at least."

I smiled darkly, and Reese shook his head.

"And I don't want Wylder to be alerted. Make them believe they can handle it without contacting their Alpha. You hear me?"

"We stick to the plan. How many times have you not made me repeat it to you?" he asked me.

I chuckled a little, and he smiled. He knew my battle with Wylder went deep. It had been happening for a long time. Since he took my mate from me. She had died because of him, and I was going to pay him back for it all.

"I am just making sure you aren't f*cking it all up," I told him.

"You can count on me."

I nodded, satised. I knew I could, but it was important that it all went well. Behind him was a group of ghters, also ready to hold back his border control. I just needed a small opening.

"All right then... Let's do this."

Reese took the group of ghters west. They would quickly notice Reese had trespassed and it would give me a chance to cross the border while no one noticed. Reese mind-linked me when it happened, and I hurried to the big metal gate, slipping through the iron bars and then running to the mansion. I knew the gate wasn't actually supposed to keep anyone out. It was just a way of showing where the whole territory started, and to keep unwelcomed guests at a distance. When I reached the front doors, I silently opened one of them, poking my head inside. It was very quiet. I smiled, and closed the door after me, before I hurried up to the next oor. I knew where his bedroom was. It wasn't the rst time I had trespassed. I ran up to the next oor and down a long hallway until I reached his room. As I reached for the door handle, I smiled and opened it. I stepped inside, only to quickly freeze as the sweetest voice I had ever heard suddenly spoke.

"Not that I care... but where had you gone?"

I couldn't move. I couldn't do anything. The voice echoed inside of me like a beautiful song. What was happening to me?

You smell that?

My wolf, Tarren, suddenly stepped forward. He had been pumped up the entire night, ready to nally avenge our mate, but now he was suddenly hyper focused on the scent in the room. He began moving around uneasily.

Who is that?

I looked at the small form on the couch. Why was the little female sleeping on the couch and not on the bed? I turned my eyes to the bed and then noticed it was f*cking empty! Where the hell was Wylder? Had the pack members alerted him, anyway? I wanted to shout my frustration, but then my eyes went back to the little one sleeping on the couch. I stepped closer, sneaking over to her. Who was she? Why did she make the room smell so good? Why was my heart pounding so fast? It was then I recognized these feelings. I couldn't believe it, though. Did the little one belong to me?

"Wylder?"

She surprised me as she suddenly sat up, only to look up at me, shocked to realize I wasn't Wylder. Before I knew it, I had her pressed back into the couch, though, my hand over her mouth, stopping her from asking me who I was. I couldn't let her alert anyone. She looked at me with scared eyes, and I was a bit unsure of what to do next.

Mate! That's mate! We have found our second chance.

Who would have thought I would nd my second chance mate inside my enemy's room? Who was she to him, though? Why was she in his room? Was she just a late-night visitor? No, then she wouldn't be sleeping on the couch fully clothed.

We don't have time for this! Wylder isn't here. Let's take her and go!

Tarren was right. I couldn't stay. My plan had not gone the way I wanted, and now I needed to leave. I would come back again when my mate wasn't at risk of being trapped in the crossre. I took the syringe, and when she saw it, her eyes grew so big. I quickly used it on her, though, and she fell asleep. It was easy to carry her, and I met no one on my way out. I did stop by the door, though, looking back and hating my plan hadn't gone the way I wanted, but I wasn't leaving empty-handed.

I had found my mate.