

Chapter 113

"Sarah! Seriously?!" Bennet barges into the room, eyes wild and sweating.

"Bennet are you okay?" I pull my shirt down and move towards him. He does not look well at all. "What's wrong?"

"It's nothing I can't handle, but why didn't you say anything about that sooner?" He's hurt and really angry.

"I'm not allowed to talk to you or be around any of you guys. I don't want to get you in trouble again." I reach for him, but he pulls away jittery, like it's against his will. I nod, not trying to hide the tears. "See. Being around me just gets everyone hurt or in trouble." I whisper and walk out of the room. I hear them talk as I round the corner.

"I swear to the Goddess..." Bennet grunts.

"I know. You are doing what you can, but the Goddess has a plan and they have to see this through." Sarah knows why I have bruises. Bennet knows and neither can stop it. I just let the tears fall. There is only so much neglect a person can take.

I sat in my massive tub contemplating just sinking under the bubbles, but I couldn't do it. It's too easy. It gives Ryker the out he wants without getting his hands dirty. I'm going to go see the pups in the morning and come up with some way to feel better while my mate is literally f*cking injuries and pain onto me.

I tossed and turned all night, not in pain though, thankfully. I just can't turn my mind off. I don't know what I did wrong or what I can do to fix Ryker's perception of me. I shouldn't give a sh*t. I know better, but can't help it.

I didn't have any nightmares because I didn't sleep, so there's that bonus. I get dressed, but I don't even care if I match. I just want to be warm and comfortable. I throw my hair in a messy braid and pull on a knit hat. The wind has started to bite a little as it gets colder, but I will stay out as long as I can. Let's see if anyone tries to stop me or even says anything. Maybe my prison has been self imposed because I care too much about people I don't even know. 1

Just like my first morning here I walk out the front door with no one around to give me a hard time. I am bundled head to toe in Rayna's fluffy snow pants and down winter coat. I don't know why she has this stuff, wolves don't tend to mind the cold or are even affected by it. But, my thin human skin is grateful for it.

No one even stopped me. I probably could have walked right out of the pack and never looked back when I first got here. Stupid assumptions. I roll my eyes and head down the long drive on the path to the pup's field. I take a deep breath of the clean air as I walk, just being outside makes me feel a little better, my head clearer. I can hear the pups' laughter and taunting voices as I approach the field.

"Kennedy!" Emily shouts as she runs up to me. "Where have you been? The boys said you was here like forever ago!" She waves her hands exasperatedly. "What took you so long?"

"I had a few things to do before I could come out and play. How have you been? I've missed you." She wraps her arms around my waist in a quick hug, then grabs my hand, dragging me the rest of the way to the field. 2

I say hi to the other kids and then they get started on a new game so they can show off how much they have all improved since I saw them last.