



Chapter 117

64 - Kennedy

I'm so angry that he bypassed how I feel and just moved on to how I know about rejecting. Was he just hoping I wouldn't figure it out so I can't hurt his wolf? My body is shaking in rage and I don't know how much longer I can stand here and have this fight. I already hit him once, I don't think He'll let me do it again. I need to work this out somehow or I might explode.

"No! Of course not." He growls. "Based on my interactions with Robin you should know that."

"You do realize I've never seen you interact with her right? Outside of your warriors and Amy, the only time I've seen you with people was at Rayna's party. And that was mostly flirting and schmoozing."

"Did my mother show you these books? It sounds like something she would do."

"No, I've never been introduced to her. I spend a lot of time in here, alone," I wave a finger around the office, "I figured no one would mind if I put everything back the way I found it. The days are long and sometimes the nights are worse." I slump on the couch. After that confession it's like my energy cord has been cut. Everything drained out of me all of a sudden.

"Greta said you have dinner with my mother a couple times a week." I take a deep breath in and just stare at him, his confusion is real. He's still glued to the spot in the middle of the office, arms hanging by his side. He's just as lost. 

The only person, not a packhouse omega, I do anything with regularly is...



f*ck, really? I sigh and look up at him slowly, my annoyance increasing.

I take a deep breath in and can't help the huff of a laugh that escapes me.

"That tracks. Your mother wouldn't happen to be named Sarah, would she?"

"Uh, yeah." His confirmation is wary, on the defensive. At least he's caught on that I am angry. 3

"The one person who has been able to talk to me has also been lying to me. Or I guess leaving information out. Figures. Now I know why she can talk to me when no one else can. You can't command her." I roll my eyes.

"My mom is a meddler for sure, but I'm sure her heart was in the right place."

"She's able to ignore your stupid alpha command for people to stay away from me. But she never told me who she was. I'm done being lied to, Ryker." I let my head flop back. "Why are you here, now? You have been avoiding me since you told me we are mates. I have given up trying to do anything to get your attention and just talk. I am ready for you to let me go and find whatever you think is better. Just get on with it." I wave my hand flippantly.

He whispers so low I almost miss it. "I don't want anyone else. I don't want you to go anywhere." 3

I raise my shirt again, not looking up at him. "Well, I have some pretty solid evidence that is complete bullsh*t." 4

"Tell me, in all those books you read, did you find anything that says how to make a human a pack member without hurting them? Or how to claim them, mark them without killing them? Because I haven't been able to find a thing and I can't risk it...risk you." 5



I finally look up at him. "What?"

"You are human, Kennedy. Fragile. I don't know what making you a pack member will do to you. I don't know what marking you will do to you and no one has answers for me. The more time I spend with you, the closer I am to you the more attached my wolf gets. He is affected by you, if something happens to you it could fatally wound him. I can't risk him being distracted or having his priorities all over the place. The pack needs him, needs me, at full capacity. You have already been attacked twice since you've been here. I don't know the best way to keep you safe. Making you a pack member might hurt or kill you, which hurts everyone. Marking you might kill you, which hurts everyone. I have tried to distract myself. It's not a good excuse, but it's all I've got. Staying away from you has hurt everyone, not just us. But my wolf won't let me stay away, my team won't let me stay away. Not anymore. We need you." He sits in a chair across from me. "I honestly thought Bennet was exaggerating when he came to me last night." 2

I wait for more, but apparently that was a whole thought. "What are you talking about?"

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"He came to see me and he has never looked that angry at me before. The look on his face was something I have only ever seen in battle." He rubs his face and looks right in my eyes. "I didn't even get out a 'hello' when he decked me, twice. Right in the same spot you hit me, actually." He laughs at himself, rubbing the top of his cheek with his thumb. "He said you were covered in bruises and he would punch me in the d*ck until I had the same visual pain that you did if he saw any new ones. Just so you know, he broke my nose and I would have two black eyes if I wasn't able to heal the way I do. Your gamma is fond of you and did you justice. Something I would expect from him towards anyone who disrespected



you.”

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