

Chapter 187

98 - Ryker

"Just take a breath."

"I WILL NOT CALM DOWN AND NO ONE LEAVES THIS FOREST UNTIL SHE IS FOUND!" I roar into the blackness.


I am surrounded by every warrior that can be spared and every pack member that she has impacted. They are all here for her, to save her, when I couldn't.


"I didn't tell you to calm down, I'm not that stupid and none of us are calm. But, you are our best link to her and we can't use that skill with you acting like a lunatic. Now snap out of it and tell us what she said." Josh is doing his best to keep me level headed, I can feel it and see it and yet, I don't give a sh*t. My mate has been taken right from under our noses.

I wanted her home and safe, but she's too stubborn to listen and this is what we get. I was right and now who knows what is happening to her. I can feel her, but it's muddled. Like a frequency jam in my head. Add to that the fact that she figured out how to mindlink us. She doesn't have a wolf, how the f*ck does that happen? She warned everyone and we were all on alert. She is the only casualty from this multi-layered attack. No one was harmed in the fire and thanks to the doubled up patrols we intercepted a dozen rogues trying to get through our defenses. The problem is all of them were killed before she was taken and now we have no one to question. All I can seem to do is pace with my nervous energy. I will be lucky if I have any hair left too. 2


I just keep picturing the look on her face when she told me about her capture in Silver Crescent, reliving what they did to her. I can't let that happen again. I can't fail her again. My chest feels like it is going to cave

in and I can't do a thing to stop it.


"ALPHA! Knock it off!" My beta growls at me. He has never had to set me straight before. "You are making Bennet worse. Give him something to work with. He needs to find her just as badly as you do." This snaps me out of my spiral for a moment, as I look over army gamma...her gamma. 

I can see tear streaks down his dirty face. He tore around the forest where we last caught her scent. His hands were bloody and torn, eyes wild, screaming her name like a child in a nightmare they can't get out of. He's been crouched on the ground staring at the bucket that was in her hands hoping it will give him an answer to where to look next. He tried shifting, but even then, her scent disappears just like all the camps we found deserted before. 

"I can't do it, Josh. I can't focus or think. I don't know what to do. I don't know how to function without her. This is why I didn't want a mate, why I tried to resist her. There's too much power here and whoever has her knows it." My shoulders slump and I can't even look him in the eye. No alpha should be this weak.

"Both of you better buckle up then. I'm calling in reinforcements. We need Kennedy and you two dickheads are wasting time." I can't even question what the hell he's talking about. 


"Ryker! You need to stop and think. So many of our pack members see her and work with her every day. Talk to them, your warriors, heck even those kids that follow her everywhere.. Figure out how to find her. There has to be something we can work with."

"Mom. We have talked to everyone. No one knows about these rogues or where they could be. They are like ghosts. I don't know what else to do." At least my mom is safe and Rayna is far from here. I used to worry about both of them being used against me like my dad. 


"You aren't listening. I don't give a sh*t about those rogues. They took my girl. I want you to burn them to the ground. What I said was talk to them about Kennedy. She managed to mindlink this whole pack in a time of need. She warned us all, there has to be more clues she left us, whether intentional or not. Talk to the people who know her best, know her habits and little quirks when she is away from you." I nod, even though she can't see me. A different tactic, strategy. I can work with strategy.

I open my mouth to brainstorm with Josh when the thrashing of branches catches my attention and everyone turns to stare at Todd and a few of the teenage boys that work with Kennedy on Saturdays.

"ALPHA!, ALPHA! We got her...I mean I think it's her. No one else could be that over the top." Todd almost crashes into me. I grab him by the shoulders and blink a few times before asking him to repeat himself.


"We found a trail...Uh...a trail of her...of her...Ummm, would it be okay if you let go of my shoulders? I feel like I am way too close." 

"Just tell me Todd." I let go of his shoulders, but I step when he tries to give me space. Copyright © 2024 Miss L Writes and Ember Mantel Productions

"It's a trail of her blood. It's a lot." He gulps and my heart sinks and I feel dizzy, but I have to stuff it. I need to get to her. See her again. I know she's okay, I can feel it, but if he's right, we have a problem. 



"Show me. Bennet! Get your ass up. We have a luna to save. And I think this time, she might let us without too much grief." I try to lighten his mood. Like me, he needs to snap out of it, but he blames himself more than I do. It's going to take a while to get past this.


Todd and his friends don't hesitate and we all follow. It takes about five

minutes to get to where she clearly grabbed a branch for dear life. Her blood is smeared all over the leaves and bark, but it isn't spatter, I can see fingerprints in a few places. She put up a fight here. That's my girl. Keep fighting Lamb. I'm coming. 

We make our way through a dense patch of forest. I wonder if they have any idea she bled on so many surfaces out here. Either way they are idiots or this is a trap. We have to proceed with caution and the pace is reducing what is left of my nerves.

"I'm coming, baby." I'm not sure if her frequency is messed up like ours, but I won't stop trying.

 Miss L 

Thank you so much for reading. All constructive comments and gems are appreciated. I can't interact here. If you would like to join in the conversation you can find me on the socials. Miss. L. Writes.... 

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