

Chapter 52

35 - Ryker

"Why don't you just go and talk to her?" My wolf's question has been the same everyday. Today we are watching Kennedy, Rayna and some of the guys play with the pups. It's fascinating. It didn't take much to convince him to stop on our border run.

"I can't trust you to behave yourself, that's why."

"So you're just going to hide like a p*ssy and then follow her around like a stalker instead. That makes so much more sense."

"I am not stalking her. I'm trying to understand her. Besides, she hasn't made any effort to come to me either."

"That's what you're going with? Leaving your balcony door open hoping to hear her moaning your name is not an invitation to come talk to you. She's also human and doesn't have the same senses that we do. You're going to have to be in the same room as her for her to talk to you, dumbass."

"I swear to the Goddess if Danny hugs her one more time, I am going to rip his arms off." They know I am here and he's doing it to get a reaction. It's working. I lock all of my muscles resisting the urge to follow through on my threat.

"And you say I can't be controlled. They are playing a game and clearly she likes to win. You can't make everyone stay away from her. Based on our stalking, I have noticed she's not a fan of being told what to do."

"Jeremiah told us that. I'm not shocked it has been confirmed. I really hate you sometimes, you know that? Josh, any news about Claude? He

went dark after the meeting last week. We should have heard some type of complaint by now." I can't focus on her any more. We need a distraction from our distraction.

"Nothing Alpha. Where are you? I've been running for thirty minutes. I should have passed you by now."

"I stopped for a minute. Needed to get a better look at something."

"That something wouldn't happen to be 5'5", blonde and playing soccer way too close to your delta would it."

My wolf laughs right along with Josh. Dicks.

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"I think I hate both of you." He's obviously close, so my wolf gets up and we continue to run the border checking for signs of distress from our neighboring packs.

"What's the deal bossman? You've never been interested in blondes or women outside the bedroom." His tone is playful, like he knows damn well what the deal is. I won't say it out loud to anyone, not yet.

I just need to keep busy this week, I can't afford to be this distracted. Bennet can play guide and keep an eye on her, especially with all the rumors flying around right now. Something is coming and I think Claude might be behind it. I can't show weakness or have a weakness like a human mate right now. I need to get a handle on the threats and neutralize what I can before I can even consider talking to Kennedy about this mate situation.

My wolf and I have gone rounds about what to do. He won't take a chosen luna, so that's off the table and I don't disagree. I know we would be

stronger having our fated mate, but I still don't know how that works with a human. I should probably just come clean to Josh and maybe Robin and they can help me research this. But, if I tell Robin, she will find a way to keep Kennedy here and more than likely tell my sister and my mother. Then the choice would never be mine or hers to make. I can't have that. Not yet. It's safer for Kennedy if no one knows she's my mate. Jeremiah can protect them both and if I send warriors to help it won't be strange since he's mated to my sister.

Ignoring the constant taunts from my wolf and my beta, I have been able to stay away from Kennedy all week and finally caught a break in the rumors of disgruntled pack members. Claude's f*ckery is behind the biggest upstart and his land is close so Josh and I have been able to run out there and come home each night.

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