

Chapter 81

50 – Kennedy

"I don't know what I am allowed to tell you. A lot of your questions are going to be better answered by the Alpha." He pinches the bridge of his nose, but I can't tell if he is frustrated with me or the situation.

"The Alpha? Who spends so much time with me and enjoys long drawn out conversations?" I raise my eyebrow again as I slide into the booth and look around. "Speaking of, is anyone else joining us, or are we the only ones who didn't eat?"

"Everyone else is fine. You will always have hidden warriors around as backup. That is protocol by the way. Sometimes even the Alpha will patrol if we think there is a threat. He will want to keep you as safe as possible and that may include luring a potential problem away while it looks like you are just going about your day."

"I'm sorry for that by the way."

"What are you sorry about?"

"I feel like you got the short end of the stick with me. You had to sit out in the hallway all night, had to run down a rogue wolf and take him into custody on basically no sleep. Now, you have missed meals just to be my babysitter. This is not what you signed up for."

"It's not a problem. It is my job to be your main protector when the alpha isn't around."

"Did you know? When we were visiting Dark Moon, did you know what I was then? Is that why you were with me everywhere?" I need to know if he'll give me a real answer.



"I had my suspicions, but it was because I was drawn to you but it wasn't a mate pull for me. My wolf and I had a need to know where you were and that you were safe. Ryker never confirmed or denied it, I don't know when he figured it out. This last month has been really hard too. I didn't realize that a gamma could have separation issues from their luna.

"What if I can't do the job?" I whisper. "There are so many things I don't know and more that I can't do because I'm human." It feels weird and comforting to say my fears out loud.

"I don't think you will have a huge learning curve and we'll figure things out as we go. I've never known a human luna, but you can't be the first. You're certainly not the first human mate I've heard of. What's good here?" He changes the subject and I let him drop it. We order and our food comes out quickly. That must be a perk of being associated with the Dark Moon pack. Then we eat in a happy surface level conversation. He doesn't let me ask any more luna or pack questions, even though I try to sneak them in.

By the time we get back to the packhouse the vehicles are loaded and lined up on the street. There are four in our caravan, and everyone is milling around, most likely waiting on me. Jeremiah rounds on me and pulls me into a tight hug, lifting me off the ground. I haven't hugged him like this since he brought Rayna home.

"There you are! Please don't be mad at me. Don't leave mad. You have never been mad at me and I don't know if I can handle it. Especially now that you are leaving." He whispers in my hair. "We should have fought my parents harder, I should have figured out how to bring you in, I am so sorry. I didn't realize." I can hear him on the verge of breaking down. So I squeeze him tighter.

"It's okay, Jer." I mumble into his shirt. "I'm sad and disappointed



that's all. There isn't a whole lot we can do about it now." What I don't say is that I will be starting this whole 'become a pack member' thing with a new alpha. And it will most likely result the same way.

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He pulls back and sets me down then holds my face in his hands. "Just don't shut me out okay? I thought you trying to go away for a couple years to college was bad. This is so much harder." He kisses the top of my head. "I love you Ken." He pulls me in for another hug.