

An Angel

Derek POV

"Run as though your lives depend on it" roared the football coach, spittle ying everywhere, as we raced up and down the football oval, doing our training and keeping our tness up. He was a sadist, I thought, panting heavily, watching the sun high in the sky, sweat dripping off of me. A quick glance at my friends showed they were in the same state. We ran back to the coach who gave us a wicked grin.

"Drop down and give me twenty" he ordered.

I scowled at the balding bastard, dropping to my feet and giving him twenty push-ups as ordered. Then I staggered to my feet, watching as the others slowly nished their own push-ups and did the same. Coach Michael gave a satised smile. "You did well" he grunted, "you need to keep in shape for the upcoming games, so I expect you to train when I'm not there as well."

"Yes, Coach Michael" we chorused. I rolled my eyes. We had won the last few games easily, so why was he so worried about the upcoming ones? As shifters, we practically had it in the bag. We just had to make sure we didn't harm the damn humans we went up against. It was only the other shifters we had to worry about and there were very few shifter schools that had the same competitive edge we did.

"Go and shower" he ordered, "we're done for the day."

We all cheered and slowly made our way toward the locker room.

Naturally, the talk centered around girls as we entered the showers. "God, you should see the t*s this girl Brianna has, they are something else" scoffed Brody, as he walked into his own shower.

"Ha, what about my girl Lola?" asked Jimmy washing his hair and poking his head out.

I sighed and just hopped in the shower, intent on getting clean and getting out.

"Who are you going to prom with Derek? Let me guess, Tiffany" guffawed Mikey.

I scowled at him. Tiffany had been pressuring me to go and run for Prom King for the last few weeks. I'd nally conceded and been teased by the boys for it non-stop.

"Yes I'm going with Tiffany, so what?" I snapped "at least I have someone to go with."

The boys all laughed. "Don't worry about it, they're just jealous" said John wisely, from the shower next to me "they wish they had dates as hot as your girl."

"Thanks, man," I said breathing deeply, before turning the shower off and grabbing a towel. I headed back into the locker room and got changed back into clean clothes.

By now it was late afternoon and the school was empty. Tiffany had practice and then some errands to run, so for once she hadn't hung around after school and waited for me to nish. Which was good because she'd been awfully clingy lately. More so than usual. Could she tell that my interest in her was starting to wane? She was so shallow and so vain that it was irritating me. I stepped out of the school, looked up at the clear blue sky, and felt the sun's warmth on my back. It was a beautiful day, it would be a waste to go straight back to the pack house and have Tiffany cling to me. I shuddered at the mere thought. Instead, I considered where I wanted to go. There was a small lake nearby and a bit of a hike but it was surrounded by greenery and was a tranquil place that I liked to occasionally hang out at whenever I needed to be alone. Today I felt like it was the perfect day to go to that lake. It never occurred to me that there might be someone else there because every time I'd been there, I'd always been there by myself. In fact, I don't even know if anyone else even knows about it.

My wolf was a bit unsettled as we began the hike towards the lake, walking further and further into the forest and I sighed in annoyance, wondering what his problem was. I thought he would be pleased to go to the lake. It was one of Aries's favorite things to do. When we weren't going for a run that is. Maybe once we were at the lake I'd shift and allow him to go for a run, that might x his unsettledness. Then her scent hit me and it stopped me in my tracks. No wonder Aries was so unsettled. She was there, at the lake. The last person I had expected to be there. I couldn't turn away, couldn't move. Her scent was intoxicating, wafting toward me and I realized that she was unaware of my presence. Aries urged me to go closer, but I resisted, instead staring through the trees and getting a good view of her. I sucked in a breath, mesmerized by what I saw.

She was swimming in the lake, clad in her panties and lacy bra, with a dog of all things paddling beside her. There was a wide smile on her gorgeous face and her skin was smooth and creamy. She began to oat on her back as the large grey and white dog, with big blue eyes, paddled towards the edge of the lake and shook itself all over to get dry, placed its head on its paws, and watched. She was unaware that I was watching her every move as her big dark eyes looked up towards the heavens. I sucked in a breath. Damn. She was so beautiful. Aries was going berserk in my mind. He wanted to go to her, wanted to touch her. I had to put up a mental block in my mind to stop him from going crazy. I could have watched her swimming forever, the foliage of the trees and bushes hiding my presence but eventually, she oated to the edge of the lake and got out, wringing her hair out with both hands. I don't know what happened, my foot must have slipped and I must have made the smallest bit of noise because the next thing I know the damn dog is letting out a warning bark and she's getting hurriedly dressed back into her clothes to my disappointment. Damn. What a shame. I could have stared at her body for hours and been completely hypnotized. She was like a goddess. My wolf whined in disappointment.

I came waltzing out, a wide grin on my face, my hands in my pockets. she shivered, obviously still chilled from her swim, stepping into the sunshine, her guard dog coming to her side, a snarl on his face. He was so protective of her, I marveled at it, wondering when she had met this dog and where. It wasn't from the pack house, I was certain of it and I was sure she didn't have any pets at home. Don't ask me how I knew that. It was one of many things I knew about Lindsey.

"Thanks for the show," I said with a grin. "I enjoyed watching you." I couldn't help taunting her. I knew she was wondering how long I'd been watching her.

"What are you doing here Derek?" she spat out "Why aren't you with Tiffany?" She sounded really angry and annoyed at me.

I was a bit defensive at that. Why did she care where Tiffany was? "I was just going for a walk. It's not my fault you were swimming in the lake half-naked" I growled exasperatedly. "Some of us like to go to the lake to think." Plus anybody could have come by and seen her half-naked. She should be glad it had only been me and no one else. Who knew what an unmated shifter male might have done if they had come across her? My wolf growled, feeling protective.

The dog had the nerve to growl at me.

"That's some guard dog you have there," I said looking down at the dog.

"He's very protective," She said with a shrug. "If you want to stay that's ne, I was just leaving," she said quickly but I held up a hand, my eyes ashing black and then back to normal. Aries was ghting the mental block I'd put up and being super annoying. He wanted a chance to talk to Lindsey while he had the chance.

"You smell nice" I spluttered feeling like a complete i***t and cursing Aries in my mind for making me say it.

"Thank you," she said confused.

My eyes darted down her body, her wet hair soaking her shirt and droplets of water trickling down to the ground. I licked my lips. The dog gave a small whine. She patted him absent-mindedly and then made the mistake of going to fetch her backpack. She should never have walked away from that precious guard dog of hers. Aries decided to make an appearance and took control to my dismay. He was going to pay for this later, I fumed, forced to watch from the back of my mind.

Because the next thing I knew, he was there, standing in front of her

"I'm so damn tired of ghting it" he murmured "so tired of ghting him," he told her as she looked at me confused.

He reached out and grasped her chin with one strong hand, tilting it up so that her eyes were forced to meet us. she sucked in a breath.

"I bet you taste as sweet as I think you are" he murmured and then before she could make a sound, our lips were on hers, pressing against her and our tongue was diving inside, caressing hers roughly, our hand gripping the back of her head, forcing it to stay in place. Her heart was racing, we could hear it. Aries gave a low growl, his hand trailing down her arm and gripping the back of her waist, pulling her hard against our body. It felt like an eternity before we pulled back and she blinked, tears trailing down her cheeks. We felt a pang at that. We hadn't meant to make her cry. Well, Aries hadn't. He wanted to brush her tears away but I was forcing him back, trying to regain control before he did irreparable damage. We loved Tiffany, I tried to remind him but he hated her and it made taking control back even harder. Aries despised Tiffany and it was another reminder of just how different each of our tastes was.

That kiss though had nearly buckled me to my knees. It had been mind-blowing and I'd felt tingles all over as we'd touched. The dog growled and bounded back over. I blinked and felt my eyes return as I managed to wrestle back control. I saw Lindsey tense, no doubt waiting for the bullying to start but I didn't have the heart to be that cruel. Not when this was mainly Aries's fault. I should never have let him have control like that. I licked my lips remembering how she tasted and ran a hand through my disheveled hair.

"That was unexpected" I nally muttered as she inched.

I snapped back to normal. "If you tell Tiffany I'll make your life even more of a living hell" I snarled fearing she might just tell on me, and she nodded, I glanced down at the dog and my eyes softened for a moment. It was a really adorable dog when it wasn't growling at me. Then I glared at Lindsey and turned around stomping away. As I walked away, in the distance, I heard her crying and felt like a right bastard even as I tried to harden my heart.

Look what you've done. Now she's crying when it should have been a happy occasion. I'm in love with her damnit Derek, when are you going to accept her as our mate?

We've been through this Aries. I am never going to accept her as our mate. She is nothing but a pathetic, worthless omega. She is an embarrassment and not worthy of being our mate. Tiffany is strong and a capable Luna, she is going to be our mate.

Our mate is not worthless or pathetic! She is not just an omega like you think she is! You need to look past that and see her strength, her kindness, and her compassion. She is more capable of being a leader than you believe. You are making a mistake, Derek, a big one, in choosing Tiffany as our mate instead of Lindsey.

That's enough Aries! I can't believe what you just pulled! If Tiffany ever nds out who knows what she'll do? I will not ever contemplate having an omega for a mate. So get that through your thick skull. Tiffany will be our Luna, end of the story.

You're an i***t. Lindsey is not what you want to believe her to be growled Aries, thoroughly fed up with me and my arguments.

I wondered what that cryptic message was from Aries but he refused to elaborate and I gave up, heading for home. I decided to see if Tiffany was up for some fun, feeling a bit horny now from that kiss I'd just had from Lindsey. Aries, disgusted with me, put a block up and ignored me for the rest of the day.