

Wolfless 148

Chapter 148 You Can Keep Him

“That’s right. You can pine after him all you want, but you’ll never be his mate!” Winona sneered, her voice dripping with satisfaction. “You think the Thunder Pack’s Alpha family would ever let some scandal-ridden nobody like you into their bloodline?”

She felt a thrill just saying it out loud—for the first time since Tessa returned, she actually felt like she’d won.

Tessa didn’t even blink. Her voice was icy as she replied, “Yardley and Lila treat you like a precious gem. Sinclair family poured every ounce of its resources into grooming you. You awakened your wolf early, sure - but all you’ve done with that head start is cling to men. That’s your value? Fine. If that makes you feel proud, go ahead. I’m not interested.”

“You say that now, but you’re just bitter you lost. That’s all.” Winona scoffed. She didn’t think there was anything shameful about it.

This was how the werewolf world worked. If a lesser clan managed to secure ties to a stronger one, that was just good strategy. Tessa didn’t even have a wolf—what the hell did she have to be smug about?

The truth was obvious to Winona, Tessa was jealous. Jealous that she was going to marry Connor, heir to the second most powerful pack in the country.

And Tessa never would.

Tessa let out a soft, dismissive laugh and looked away, refusing to entertain the conversation another second. Talking to Winona was like trying to reason with a brick wall.

Pointless.

The car pulled up to campus. Tessa opened the door and got out without sparing Winona a single glance.

Winona sat there, fuming. She'd finally gotten the upper hand—and yet, in front of Tessa, that superiority vanished without a trace. Why did she always end up feeling like she was the one being looked down on?

Everything had been shifting since Tessa's return. The changes were subtle, but they terrified Winona. And she couldn't do a damn thing about it.

But Connor was coming back. Once they got engaged, once she was officially tied to the Thunder Pack's Alpha family, everyone would envy her—including Tessa.

Once she became Connor's mate, Tessa could never touch her again.

"Ms. Winona, we should go. Class is about to start," the driver reminded her gently.

Winona composed herself and finally stepped out of the car.

That afternoon, Tessa only half-listened in class. She'd mastered the material weeks ago.

Sitting through lectures felt like a waste of time, but her grandfather wanted her here, and she wasn't going to upset him.

Senior year was nothing but back-to-back exams.

As they stepped out of school, Tessa caught sight of someone waiting just outside the gate.

“Tessa! Over here!” Donald waved enthusiastically the moment he saw her.

She pretended not to see him and kept walking.

Donald, undeterred, walked straight up and blocked her path.

“What do you want?” Tessa frowned.

They barely knew each other. Aside from seeing him once at the Sinclair Corp shareholders’ meeting, they’d had zero interaction. And now, they were rivals—both in the running for executive CEO.

“Tessa, why so cold? Don’t you think I look good today?” Donald beamed proudly, tugging at his bright red suit jacket.

It was eye-searingly loud. He looked like a traffic hazard.

“Hey girl, what do you think?” he asked Ysabel with a wink.

Ysabel didn’t even hesitate. “I honestly don’t see anything worth looking at. Move.”

“Feisty, huh.”

“Donald,” Tessa said flatly, “why are you here?”

People were starting to notice. Curious glances and hushed whispers followed them from nearby students.

“Nothing much. I just wanted to congratulate you,” Donald said. “Beauty Luxe’s comeback? That’s impressive.”

“Thanks.”

Tessa turned and kept walking with Ysabel.

But Donald wasn’t done. He reached out and grabbed her shoulder.

Her expression darkened.

You’ve got to be kidding me.

Without missing a beat, Tessa grabbed his wrist, twisted, and flipped him clean over her shoulder. The sound of his body slamming against the pavement was loud enough to turn even more heads.

“Ah-!” Donald let out a sharp cry, stunned.

He hadn’t expected a girl without a wolf to move like that. He hadn’t even had time to react.

“Donald, are you okay!” His assistant ran over, panicking.

Donald lay on the ground, face flushed red. He was one of the Violette Pack’s All-

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“Let’s go.”

She walked off with Ysabel, cold and unbothered.

Donald’s assistant clenched his fists. “She’s dead. I swear I’ll make her pay for this.”