

Chapter 41 - The Rejected Goddess

Melanie POV

“I asked who the hell is Beta Jeff?” Emma asks me, I stand there relishing in the feeling of besting Emma. Now the tables have turned, and I have something over her.

“Alpha Inga’s Beta, who else?” I reply.

Alpha Inga scoffs, and I point to him. “Ask him, go on. Ask.” I encourage.

“Alpha Inga, who is your Beta and what is his name?” Emma asks over her shoulder, her eyes not once leaving mine.

“My beta is the man standing next to me and his name is Edward.” Alpha Inga replies.

“WHAT? But that can’t be... his beta is definitely Jeff and Alpha Inga is just bluffing.” I reply, but I don’t feel so confident now.

“So I ask my question again, who is Beta Jeff?” Emma asks me as if she is dealing with a child. When did the tables turn?

“I have told you; Beta Jeff is Alpha Ingas’ Beta.” I reply again.

“Can you give us any evidence?” Emma asks.

“No... wait yes I can, look at the text messages. They are signed off by Beta Jeff.” I reply, my confidence growing again. Afterall if he wasn’t really Jeff then he wouldn’t

“I called him the day before Alpha Inga first showed up here a few weeks ago. That’s why he appeared and visited the next day, but it coincided with your request.” Beta Edward explains.

“But I thought...” I start but then I stop and I realise how much of an idiot I have been, I have played right into their hands and there is nothing I can do.

“I don’t believe you; you are all lying.” I continue, to which Emma just rolls her eyes. How dare she?

“Look, we did something underhanded, and you did something stupid. How about we just leave it at that?” Beta Edward suggests, but he does not know me well as he would not have suggested that otherwise.

“Beta Jeff will back me up.” I say, snatching back my phone and dialling his number.

The restaurant is quiet while I wait for the call to connect and when it does...

Ring...

Ring...

Ring...

Ring...

I look up and see that the man called Edward pulls his phone out of his pocket and ends the call. What the hell?

“So, Edward is lying and his name is Jeff, but I am still right that Alpha Inga is supporting me not you.” I say cockily. It just proves my point.

“No Luna Melanie, I am afraid that you have been played.” Beta Edward says, drawing my attention to him.

“What do you mean?” I ask confused. Played, how?

“I am Beta Edward; I follow Alpha Inga. I gave you the name Beta Jeff as I knew straight away who you were and that you were going to be trouble. Your reputation proceeds you, and not in a good way so I gave you a false name.” Beta Edward explains, and I am standing here looking like a idiot.

“But then why text me?” I ask, just not understanding how my trump card against Emma turned to dust in mere seconds.

“I instructed him too, it was a way to keep tabs on you and Eric.” Alpha Inga speaks up.

“Then why tell me now?” I ask cockily, trying to save some of my reputation.

“It’s pointless now, you know Beta Jeff was a lie.” Alpha Inga says as if speaking to a simpleton.

I just stand there shocked, how the hell did this turn out that I am the one embarrassed? I was planning on making Emma look like an idiot, not me! Why? Goddess why?

Because you deserve it. A voice says inside my head, one that I have not heard before.

Who are you? I ask, but I am met only with silence.

“A lie? But why?” I stutter.

“Why not? You were going to use us, and we didn’t really want an alliance with you. But imagine my delight when I discovered you still wanted to chat? You gave us information that we could use later on to help this pack of yours, but you were willing to trade it to someone you haven’t even met. What kind of Luna does that make you?” Beta Edward says.

I look around and see judgemental eyes everywhere, but instead of being on Emma like I planned they were on me.

Beta Edward POV

I watch as Luna Melanie turns on her heels and stalks out of the restaurant, with her mother hot on her heels. How the hell those two are related to Goddess Emma and the rest of their family I do not know. They are two rotten apples.

When I first got the call from Luna Melanie, I gave her the first name that came into my mind, mostly because I didn’t want to deal with her, imagine my surprise when she not only didn’t realise that I was lying but that she was telling me information she shouldn’t be. Luna Melanie should have realised that I was lying as she had met me only a few months before at an Alpha meeting, I went to in Alpha Inga’s place, but then it goes to show that she never really cares about those around her unless it benefits her.

I went to Alpha Inga about her and everything that was happening, and I thought he would be mad at me, but instead he laughed so hard that it took quite a while for him to even form a sentence. When he could he told me to carry on with the ruse, as we might be able to use the information later on.

We decided to agree to meet Luna Melanie but more because we were already planning on visiting Alpha Eric’s pack anyway, we had heard Goddess Emma was there and we wanted to introduce ourselves to her.

“Are you sure about this? What if Emma finds out?” I asked Alpha Inga when we first started replying to the texts.

“Hopefully she will understand that we are doing this to help her, after all it is not a good example of a Luna now is it?” Was his reply. And I couldn’t even argue with him.

I turn and watch Alpha Inga interact with Emma and I can see that Emma is affected by Alpha Inga, the way her eyes soften and she leans in to talk to him are subtle hints by my alpha is too thick to see them. Instead, he thinks she cannot feel the mate bond, and while he might be right it is obvious that she feels something towards him.

It would be nice to have her as my Luna, and not just because she is a goddess. But in fact, because she has a kind and pure heart, while some may not believe that because of what she has done to Melanie and Eric it is clear for those to see if they look hard enough. After all the pain in her eyes when she gave them the punishment showed that it hurt her to the core to do something like that, but I can also understand why she did.

But even after everything Melanie and Eric put her through, and the pack not helping her, instead of holding it against them she is helping them. If I was in her shoes there would be no way in hell I would be able to help this pack, even though others did not raise a hand to her they didn't help her either.

James POV

After watching the interaction between Goddess Emma and half of her family I have a feeling of unease. Melanie and her mother are planning something, that much is obvious, but I am also worried that Alpha Eric may well be planning something too. Either way, I am glad that Alpha Inga is Goddess Emma's mate as it means that she will have protection.

I plan to also protect her, but I know that Alpha Inga will be able to protect her better than I can. After all I allowed her to fall into Alpha Eric's hands and it took Alpha Inga to come and find her, if it was left to me then Alpha Eric would have succeeded in his plans as I just broke down.

I don't know if Goddess Emma remembers but I used to train with her and her father, so knowing that she survived what happened to her is a miracle. The moment I saw her again I knew that I wanted to protect her, even if it meant cutting ties with this pack. I will do everything in my power to help her.

"So, you think everything could be linked?" Alpha Inga asks Emma, drawing me out of my own thoughts.

"It is a possibility, that's all but it would make sense. We need to find out though what the rogues found, or didn't find, in this pack. Then we will know what the hell is going on, but some of the attacks here link with when rogues from nearby packs went quiet." Emma replies, her mouth full which just makes it funny.

"Also, what about the attacks on the packs that no one else can remember?" Matthew asks, good question I think to myself.

"Well, we won't really know how many packs have been taken over, if our hypothesis is correct and a witch is helping then we won't know. All we can do is add any pack names to the list we have when we come across one, but something tells me we should be more worried about the witch." Emma replies.

"What makes you say that?" Shelley asks this time.

“She is their weakest link, once she is identified she leads right back to whoever is in charge. So while she may be of use to them now, eventually she won't be. And finding her might be hard now but it will be easier than trying to work out who the rogues or their leaders are.” Is Emma's reply.

“That makes sense, a missing witch is going to be noticed by a coven more than rogue wolves who no one can identify.” I pipe up, seeing Emma's logic.

“Exactly.” Emma says, pointing at me with her fork.

“Alright smarty pants.” Beta Edward elbows me in the side laughing and joking, “but it makes sense, and the worrying thing now is the safety of that witch. Is there anyway we would find her?”

“Not really, not without raising suspicions. If we started asking around then the people involved will know we are on to them, and at the moment we want the element of surprise to stay on our side.” Emma continues to explain.

We continue to have a conversation about the theory behind the attacks, spending a while eating the food and chatting which is clear that Emma has been enjoying spending time with us. It almost feels like the old days when she would come and grab food with us sometimes after training.

By the time the deserts have arrived the conversation has moved onto lighter topics and we are having a good laugh, but it is a shame that it doesn't last.

As soon as we have finished our deserts the door to the restaurant flies open and in runs a panicking warrior.

“WE ARE UNDER ATTACK!” He shouts, sending the whole restaurant into a terrified frenzy.

Chapter 42- Attack

Chapter 42 - The Rejected Goddess

Emma POV

I look around as the entire restaurant is now in a terrified frenzy mode, I sigh. We were having such a wonderful time, why did this have to happen now?

I quickly get up off my chair and head towards the exit, the boys and Shelley not far behind me.

“EVERYONE, PLEASE MAY I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION?” I shout, and I am surprised when it works. The whole restaurant becomes quiet, and everyone turns to face me.

I turn and face the warrior who is still standing in the doorway shaking.

“What happened?” I ask.

“There was a breach in our border on the north side. We received a mind link from the team patrolling there, they are currently fighting the intruders as we speak. I panicked and headed here.” The warrior says, shame eating away at him as he bows his head.

I place my hand on his shoulder. “There is nothing be ashamed about; you have done the right thing. You came here and warned everyone, after all this will be the next place the intruder reaches if the patrol cannot hold them off.” I say.

I then turn to face the restaurant.

“I know this is unorthodox, but are you all ok to listen to me and take orders?” I ask the room. I don’t want to be giving orders just straight off the bat. We might be strapped for time right now, but I refuse to cause another problem.

I see some of those in the room mind linking. Then they all kneel before me and they say in unison.

“We, members of the Solar Eclipse Moon, hereby put ourselves in the charge of Goddess Emma. Please command us as you will.”

I feel a sudden rush of power and connections, all those in the restaurant and the pack have temporarily pledged themselves to me. That means that I am now in charge of them, I even overpower Melanie and Eric.

“Thank you everyone, and please mind link the rest of the pack with the following orders: children, the elderly and young wolves to head towards their nearest safety points and hide in them. Even if they can fight, if they are under 18 years old, they are to go into the bunkers. All those that are willing to fight, to spread themselves out around the border but try to hide themselves. We do not want to deal with a surprise attack from another location. No one, and I mean no one, take on the enemy headfirst if they don’t think they can win or they are on their own. I will not tolerate casualties out of stubbornness. If you think you are losing, then get out of the fight and get somewhere safe.” I order. I wait patiently until everyone’s eyes are clear again before I turn to the warrior.

“I want you to link the patrol currently on guard and those who are off, those who are willing to come fight with me are more than welcome to join at the north border. Those who are not, please could they spread themselves evenly throughout the pack to protect the pack members and watch the other sides of the border?” I ask, the warrior nods and then his eyes cloud over mind linking the other warriors.

While he is mind linking, I turn back to the room.

“Do you want us to help?” Alpha Inga asks me.

“It is up to you, as long as it won’t cause issues, I won’t stop you.” I reply honestly.

“Father, Shelley, and anyone who wishes to join them, please head down to the safety bunker under this restaurant. Go into the kitchen and down into the cellar, someone will either come or mind link you when it is safe to come out.” I address the room. I know father and Shelley want to fight me on this, but I want to keep them safe for myself and for Matthew. I can see the fight in their eyes, but they surprise me by nodding their heads and bowing.

“As you wish.” They say before they turn and head into the kitchen, the young and elderly follow but all of the men and women stay behind. They are clearly going to fight with me.

“Ok everyone, let’s go!” I shout before I turn and run out of the restaurant and towards the north border.

The border itself is only a mile from the restaurant and we cover that distance quickly, the adrenaline pumping in my body and helping everyone go faster. Although I cheat and open up a portal to the northern border, meaning I arrive first, and I run straight into the fight.

While I may no longer have my wolf Ruby, it does not mean that I cannot fight wolves. I have increased my strength and I am able to hold my own against wolves.

I run into the fight and head straight for one warrior who has three wolves surrounding him, clearly debating which one would land the final blow. The warrior himself is all bloody and looks like he doesn’t have much fight in him, but when I look closer thankfully the wounds are not life threatening.

I run to the warrior and take aim at the largest wolf who happens to be the closest to me.

I throw a punch at the first rogue wolf, and he goes flying into the nearest tree, the sound of his spine breaking fills the air and he breathes his last breath. I quickly turn my attention to the other two, I grab them by the scruff of their necks and throw one to James who quickly dispatches him and the other I lift up and slam him down into the ground. A small dent forms and the rogue lays there out cold. I refuse to risk him waking back up and attacking so I quickly summon some silver thread and wrap it around his paws, loose enough to cause no harm but tight enough to restrict his movements.

I then turn my attention back to the fight and run towards a group of rogues who are planning a sneak attack on an unsuspecting warrior wolf who already has his hands full with two other rogues.

I run into the group of rogues and start kicking paws as I run, causing the wolves to lose balance and their attention to fall onto me.

The rogues then surround me and growl, I simply motion for them to come, and they do not disappoint. Two shift back to human and we have a quick hand to hand combat, with me coming out victorious. Mainly because they focused on my top half and I was able to attack their legs and knock them off balance. Beating them after that was easy.

The rest of the group then got involved and they took turns at trying to attack me in their wolf form, thinking that they would be able to wear me down eventually or land a good attack.

As I am dodging one attack, another thinks fast on his feet and reaches out towards me. At first, I am confused but then I feel a pain in my head before I am sailing through the air.

The wolf has grabbed my hair with his jaw and uses that to add momentum to his next move, he shakes his head and I go sailing through the air, landing on the ground at his feet slightly winded. The rogue then places a paw on my chest to hold me down, his growl sends spit flying into my face which makes me cringe.

He continues to paw my hair, making my head hit the ground again and again causing me to feel a bit sick. The other wolves are growling excitedly, thinking they are about to beat me and if I cannot get this wolf off my hair and release my head then they might be right.

As the wolf leans down and is just about to bite into my throat, I see my opening to turn the tables and I throw up my arms and aim for the middle of the throat, where I push on his windpipe. This sends him stumbling back and another wolf is quick to take his place, but not quick enough as I role to the side and jump up onto my feet.

It is then that James makes his way to me and the fights we have been in for the last few weeks now pay dividends. We stand back-to-back and fight off each of the rogues that attack us, even when they circle us again and attack all at once we are able to hold our own.

After a while the group of rogues are laying on the ground either dead or unconscious.

“Thanks James.” I say gratefully.

“Anytime Emma, you know that. It was fun actually, I might sound weird but I like our fights haha.” James jokes.

“Me too, when we win.” I reply jokingly.

I look around and it appears that we are winning, the rogues are either retreating or being beaten and the ground is littered with more enemy wolves than our side which is a really good sign.

But as they say, never celebrate too soon.

The warrior from earlier runs up to me with a very worried expression.

“Goddess Emma, we have a problem.” He says, panting.

“What has happened?” I ask worried.

“The rogues are increasing in number further down the border, they are grouping up and coming here but they outnumber us three to one.”

That is not good, many of these warriors are doing fine in their one-to-one fights with the rogues but when it increases in number they are struggling. Three to one will only spell disaster for them and this pack.

“Let them come, make a path for them and we will greet them.” I say, a plan forming in my mind.

A few minutes later and the rest of the rogues finally come into view. I quickly get to work, I find the current in the air and I then start to slowly introduce my power into the air flows, once they are saturated enough, I use the connections to force the wind towards everyone fighting. The only problem with wind manipulation is that I cannot target specific people.

Once everyone is on the ground I act quickly for my second part of the plan, I then kneel and place my hand on the ground, I order the roots of the trees to wrap around the wrists of the rogues who start to panic when they cannot get up and keep fighting. Ground magic is easier to manipulate so I can target specific targets which is helpful, as in this case.

It might be anticlimactic, but it was time to bring everything to an end for today. Even I am tired from my fight with the group of rogue wolves earlier, my head certainly took a bashing.

“Solar Eclipse Pack members, please grab silver cuffs and the rogues that are alive are to be taken into custody.” I instruct. I know that many of them will be turned over to the council, but we might be able to get some information out of them before that happens.

Chapter 43- The Second Attack Aftermath

Chapter 43 - The Rejected Goddess

Alpha Inga POV

I am standing on the field watching as Emma and James are working together to direct the Solar Eclipse pack members, Emma has taken charge and is ordering everyone around. Surprisingly no one seems to mind that they are taking orders from someone who is not their alpha. I know in the restaurant they temporarily agreed to take orders from her but the way the pack is still listening to her, all of them smiling and seem at ease despite the fact that they were recently attacked.

The way Emma ended the fight surprised me; I did not know she had it in her but now I can see why she is referred to as the little storm goddess by other packs. She is certainly one that is underestimated on the battlefield, and she uses that to her advantage. After the drugs finally got out of her system, she seems to be more determined to get what is going on in this pack ended sooner.

“Where is Alpha Eric and Luna Melanie?” I hear one of the pack members ask another. Good question, I have not seen them since the incident in their office.

“They ran, just like they always do.” Was the response.

Did you hear that, Alpha? Beta Edward mind links me, he is standing a few feet away and trying to help Emma direct some of the wolves to the pack house.

I did, they really are a disgrace to this pack. I reply angrily. The role of the Alpha and Luna is to set an example to their pack, and even if they can't fight, they should still be doing all they can to help their pack. But instead, those two ran which does not surprise me.

But at least Goddess Emma is stepping up. I feel sorry for these pack members.

As do I, but at least they have Emma for now. I smile at the passing pack members as they thank me for my help in the fight.

I spend a little time with my Beta helping the pack members to arrange transport for the wounded and round up the rogues. Those that have been injured are taken to the dungeons where they will be placed in a cell and their wounds tended too. Those that did not survive will be buried just outside of the territory, the pack members were against this at first until Emma argued her corner saying that those wolves were once just like them and most likely had family somewhere. And even in death they deserve some respect, after that little rant the pack members willingly moved the rogues and started the preparations to dig graves for them.

Alpha, we are under attack! Shouts my gamma over mind link. I just stop in my tracks, surely I misheard my gamma, there is no way we are being attacked.

What? I mind link back.

About ten minutes ago the first rogue attacks. They are coming from all sides, we are holding them off, but we need help. He links back.

“Edward, we have got to go!” I say, not even bothering to hide the urgency in my voice.

“What's happened?” Emma asks before anyone, where the hell did she pop up from? I think to myself.

“My pack is under attack.” Before I even finish Emma has a portal open and I can see my pack house on the other side.

“Come on!” She says, urging me, Beta Edward and James through the portal.

We step through and are met with a slaughter.

At first, I panic looking at the wolves littering the ground but when I look closer, I take a deep breath and release it. Most of the rogues have already been dealt with and I notice that most of the injured are not my pack members.

“Thank goodness they’re ok.” I hear Emma release a sigh next to me and I look over to where she is looking and see a group of pups standing there scared surrounded by some warriors.

My Gamma run up to me out of breath but before he can say anything I turn to him angrily.

“What the hell happened?” I shout.

“Alpha Inga please calm down. We will get to the bottom of this, but you need to calm down.” Emma says, placing a hand on my shoulder which instantly starts filling me with sparks.

I look into Emma’s eyes and see the sincerity in them, I start to take slow deep breaths to get my anger under control.

“I know walking into this is hard but look around you and see that your warriors have fought valiantly, and they have beaten the rogues.” Emma continues, with my Beta standing beside her while nodding his head like a nodding dog.

“Thank you, Goddess Emma, for your kind words.” Gamma Graham says, bowing and kneeling in front of her.

“Please stand sir, it is nice to meet you. I just wish it was under different circumstances.” Emma says to Graham who smiles like he has just won the lottery while he stands back up.

“I am Gamma Graham, and thank you for your kind words, Goddess. The attack came all of a sudden, a few hours ago, at first, we could handle it as it was only a few rogues but then all of a sudden, the rogues just swarmed us and outnumbered us completely.” The report that Gamma Graham gives is worrying but it is the same pattern as at the Solar Eclipse Pack.

“The same MO as at the Solar Eclipse Pack.” Emma mutters but we all hear her, and she is right the attack sounds identical from the one we have just come from.

“Is that something we should be worried about?” Gamma Graham asks Emma.

Emma shrugs her shoulders. “At the moment our focus should be on what is going on here and what you need. So my question Gamma Graham, what do you need from us?” Emma asks.

Graham stands there shocked, “Well... erm... some medical supplies would be nice and please could we have our Alpha back for a few hours?” he asks nervously.

Emma laughs. “Of course, I’ll head back to Solar Eclipse pack for now.” She turns on her heel and opens the portal again.

I quickly step forward, not wanting her to go.

“Please Emma, stay here. I need you to stay here.” I say honestly, all of my emotions on my sleeve. Emma turns around to face me and I can see two emotions conflicting on her face, regret and sadness.

“I would love to, but I have to go back to the Solar Eclipse pack. Their Alpha and Luna are currently MIA, and they need someone.” She says to me sadly, I know she is right but that doesn’t stop me from asking again.

“Please Emma. I need you.”

Emma sigh and studies my face few a few seconds.

“Give me five minutes, then I will be back.” Emma doesn’t wait for a response; she just walks through the portal, and it closes behind her.

A part of me feels sad that she has left me and my wolf is whimpering in my head, but I can understand why. The Solar Eclipse pack need her right now, and it would be selfish of me to keep her here.

“Alpha?” I am pulled out of my thoughts by Gamma Graham.

“Yes?” I ask.

“What shall we do?” He asks.

“Right, yes. I want you to arrange medical help for all of our wounded. The rogues who are alive are to be placed in the dungeons and they are to also receive medical care. But prioritise our pack members first, unless a rogue is in a life-or-death situation. Arrange burial for our lost wolves and a burial outside of our territory for the rogues.” I reply.

Gamma Graham nods his head and turns on his heel to carry out my instructions. I turn to see Beta Edward smirking at me.

“Taking a leaf out of your mate’s book?” He asks me cheekily.

“What?” I ask.

“With the rogue burial.”

“Yeah, well after listening to her reasoning it makes sense. Even if they were a lost soul in life, they shouldn’t have to be one in death.” I reply, walking over towards a group of warriors.

“Hello everyone.” I say as we approach them.

The warriors turn and bow when they see us approach. “Alpha. Beta.” They say in unison.

“Thank you all for all of your hard work today, this surprise attack goes to show that even when it comes from out of the blue you have amazing reflexes and work exceptionally well. I am proud of each and every one of you. Thank you all for everything you do for us, and for protecting the pack today. I am so sorry that I was not here to help you.” I bow to the warriors, shocking them as an alpha never bows.

At first the warriors don’t know what to do, but then Brian pipes up, “That’s ok Alpha, our Luna needs you and we can handle things here.” He says jokingly but I can tell that he means every word he just said.

I stand there blushing, which I have never done before. “How... How did you know?” I ask.

“That you have found our Luna? Gamma couldn’t contain his excitement this morning. And when the rogues attacked we fought so hard because we thought we could show her what we can do. So, who is she?” Brian continues.

“I see, so you fought for her, not me. And her name is Emma.” I reply.

“Goddess Emma?” Brian asks, all the warriors around us all look shocked but also really excited.

“That is so cool! We can boast that our Luna is Goddess Emma.” Says one warrior.

“I cannot wait to meet her.” Says another.

But Brian has a look of concern on his face, all of his joking has subsided as he looks at me and take a step forward.

“I don’t know why she is forced to endure another mating bond Alpha, and please don’t take offence to this, but you better treat her well. What she has been through is enough for anyone, but to go through all of that alone and have her oppressors and abuser still in power is a devastating blow. She may look strong and confident on the outside, but she is still broken on the inside. Please alpha, take care of her and don’t hurt her.” He says, stunning all of us into silence.

“I would never, what on earth makes you think I would ever hurt my mate?” I growl, both in anger and hurt. I have been nothing but fair and kind to my pack, but is that really how they think I treat my mate?

“I did not mean to offend Alpha, just... well just she is my niece.” Brian tells me.

I stand there surprised; I did not see that coming but then I shouldn’t have been as surprised as I am because her grandmother does live in this pack with her mate and has since my grandfather ran this pack.

Before I can respond, there is a shimmer in the air next to me and Beta Edwards takes a step to the side, both of us knowing exactly what is happening.

Almost exactly five minutes to the second and the warriors jump in fear as a portal opens up beside me and out steps Emma.

“See, I told you five minutes.” Emma says, stepping out of the portal and smiling at me. I can see that she has cleaned up a bit, her once dirty clothes and mess hair from the fighting is now clean and tidy again.

“That you did.” I say laughing.

“Hey squirt, how are you?” Brian asks.

I watch as Emma turns around in surprise and a huge smile spreads across her face as she throws herself at Brian, jealousy hits me at seeing her in his arms and him embracing her that I bite down the ‘mine’ that is threatening to growl out of me.

MATE! My wolf growls.

Calm down, he is her uncle.

I know, but still mate. Mate should be hugging us like that, my wolf growls grumpily before retreating to a corner of my mind and sulking. I am sure Emma would embrace us like that but she doesn’t seem to feel the mating pull so does not know we are mates yet. I really do need to sit down with her and talk to her about that.

“Sounds like you are holding up well, that is good to hear. You here to see this old man or the nice handsome Alpha?” I am pulled out of my thoughts by Brian’s words to Emma.

“To see the Alpha uncle.” Emma replies normally, but a blush deeply covers her face.

“Thank you for coming back, Emma. Now we can continue our chat from earlier.” I reply, but out of the corner of my eye I see Beta Edward slap his face with his hand and mumble ‘wow, who said romance is dead? Idiot’.

Chapter 44- Interrogation

Chapter 44 - The Rejected Goddess

Alpha Inga POV

“It is ok Alpha Inga; we can help you get to the bottom of this.” Emma says to me in a calming tone. we continued our conversation with the warriors having some input but then I just started to worry again.

“But why?” I ask.

“I think the two attacks are linked, there is no way they can’t be.” Emma continues.

“What do you mean?” Beta Edward asks.

“Don’t you think it is odd that when the Solar Eclipse Pack are attacked yours is too? That is more than coincidental for me. This was planned, and very well. If it wasn’t for the skills of your warriors then the outcome would have been one or both packs decimated.” Emma continues to explain.

“So, what do you think was their target?”

“That I don’t know for sure, but I think one of our packs was to fall and the other was to be weakened. Which one is which I don’t know, but hopefully after the interrogation we will know more?”

“Shall we go then?” I ask her, already leading the way to the dungeons and hopefully some answers.

We cover the distance quickly, all of us on a mission to finally start getting some answers. I just hope we don’t end up with more questions than answers.

I lead the way down the stairs to the underground dungeon, which is based about 100 feet down, it is dark and it smells but it is strong and no one has escaped from here in over 30 years. The smell is too much for Emma who puts her hand over her nose, but she continues to walk down with us.

I have already mind linked one of the guards on duty to put one of the rogues into an interrogation room, so I just walk straight to the door to the first interrogation room where we all peer in.

“Why this rogue?” Emma asks, breaking the silence.

“He is the one who resisted the least and didn’t really fight, if anyone will give us what we want it will be him.” Says the guard, it makes sense and I hope he is right.

“Stay here.” I say to Emma, not wanting to her to see my dark side. I am not known as the ruthless alpha for nothing, my treatment of rogues is almost legendary.

We enter the room and, in the middle, strapped to a chair is a man with shaggy brown hair covering his face. He looks like he works out as he has a muscly build and looks incredibly strong.

Beta Edward and I get to work straight away, both of us taking it in turns to hit and kick the rogue when he refuses to talk, which is to every single one of our questions. No matter what, he just won't budge and tell us what we want to know.

After a few minutes and no answers, Beta Edward and I are about to give up when we both hear the door open, and the scent of strawberries fills my nose. What is she doing coming in here? I think to myself worriedly. I don't want her to see this side of me.

"Hello, hopefully you will talk to me rather than those two brutes." Emma says soothingly and friendly to the rogue, while pointing to me and my beta.

"No, I won't." The rogue growls.

"Oh, that is a shame as I was hoping that if you talked to me then I might have been able to help you. But if not, then I will leave." She says turning around and heading to the door. Emma made it to the door and just as her hand touched the door handle the rogue spoke.

"Wait! Who are you? Will you really be able to help me?"

"I am Goddess Emma, and it depends on what it is that you are after." Emma replies.

"Goddess Emma? The Goddess of justice and vengeance?" The rogue says, awe coating his face.

"The one and the same." Emma smiles, turning around and facing the rogue again.

"What do you want?" Emma asks kindly.

"I am trying to find my brother, that is why I ended up being a rogue. You see one day my brother went to training and he never came back, he left behind his mate and young pup and disappeared. My alpha thought he was a traitor and when I stood up for him, I was cast out. Ever since then I have been trying to find him to know what happened, I know he isn't dead. I can feel it." He says, tears flowing from his eyes.

"Who is your brother?" Emma asks.

"Mitch Woodbine." The rogue replies. Why does his name sound familiar?

Alpha, is it me or does that name sound familiar? Beta Edward asks me over mind link.

It sounds familiar but I cannot place it. I reply.

"Are you William?" Emma's asks cautiously.

“Yes, how did you know?” William looks at Emma with caution but also hope in his eyes.

“I know your brother, and I know where he is. Don’t worry, he is safe. He has been through a trying period and is finally starting to get back on his feet. I will talk to him, I promise. And if he wants to, I will bring him to see you.” Emma says to William, honesty dripping from every one of her words.

“Thank you Goddess.” William replies.

“So will you answer my questions?”

“Yes.”

“Are you part of a group or a pack?” Is Emma’s first question.

“Group, but we are ran like a pack.” William replies.

“How did you get recruited into the group of rogues?” Emma asks.

“I was approached in a bar, as were many of us. Some are ruthless and willing to fight of their own accord, but others were blackmailed or manipulated into joining and fighting.”

“Which one was you?” Emma asks,

“Bit of both, I joined willingly thinking it would be a good place to start looking for my brother after months of no success. But then the attack leader threatened my brothers’ mate and pup to make me fight, you see they had managed to order me to tell them everything when I first joined.” William explains. How could they do that? The only ones who can order anyone to tell or do anything is.... I look up shocked at Emma’s question and Williams reply.

“Was it an order or an alpha order?”

“An Alpha order.”

Silence fills the room after the revelation, but it still doesn’t bring us any closer to discovering who the leader is.

“Who?” Emma growls at the rogue.

“I honestly don’t know goddess. Please believe me.” The rogue begs, and I can see Emma starting to make connections in her head.

“Do you know where your leader is based?”

“No.”

“Do you know if the leader is a female or male?”

“No, but I have heard the term ‘he’ quite a lot. So, I think it’s a man.” Well at least we have something to go on now.

“Is he always present?” This question from Emma surprises me, and also the rogue from his sharp intake of breath.

“Yes.... Wait wait, no. The answer is no, he is always hard to get hold of.”

“As in difficult to pin down or just doesn’t want to talk to anyone?”

“As if he isn’t there. We have to go through this guy, never told his name just to call him master.” William explains.

“Master? That is a weird name but doesn’t surprise me.” Emma is about to say something else, but I decide to ask him a question.

“Is Master known to you? Is he your leader?”

“I do not know who he is but I know he is not my leader.” William answers me, but I can see he doesn’t want to.

“Thank you William. That is all I have to ask you for now, do you mind if we deal with this first and then I will come back and talk to you about your brother? I will let him know there is someone who wants to see him, I promise. Just I need to deal with what you have told me with urgency, otherwise a lot of innocent lives will be lost.” Emma says to William, and Beta Edward and I get ready for a fight.

“Thank you Goddess, just please don’t forget your promise to me.” William surprises us and bows to Emma politely.

Emma, Beta Edward, and I make our way out of the interrogation room and back up to the outside world. Once we are outside and going over some grass, I decide to break the silence and try to get a grip on the situation.

“What are you thinking?” I ask Emma, I am curious what conclusions she has got from that interrogation because I sure as hell have nothing.

“Whoever the leader is he has to be known to the werewolf world, and I think he may even have a pack.” Emma says, stopping Beta Edward and myself in our tracks.

“What makes you say that?” Beta Edward asks.

Emma stops and turns around to face us.

“Now stop me if it stops making sense but this is what I think. The leader is someone who can control others, who has the power to control others, yet he is not always there. There is clearly a structure with the rogues as the one we just spoke to was clearly a highly trained warrior. That means that the leader has not only made the rogues follow him, but he has tried to structure them like a pack as this would make them easier to monitor, train and order around. Which means that the person belongs to a pack, now the only ones with the experience to pull off the structure of a pack successfully are Betas, Gammas, highly ranked warriors and the Alpha. But only an Alpha would be able to even get rogues to talk to them, let alone get them to agree to be led.” Emma explains, and it is worrying that her explanation makes sense.

“Which is why you said he must have a pack, rather than he belongs to a pack. It makes sense, and that is the worrying thing.” Beta Edward says, getting where Emma is coming from.

“So, who could it be?” I ask,

“Technically any alpha at all, but I have one in mind.” Emma says thoughtfully.

“Who?” I ask frustratedly.

“Ahh, that card I will play close to my chest. But if things go to plan, then you will find out soon enough.” Emma says, opening up a portal to a dark room.

“Where are you going?” I ask worriedly, is she leaving again?

“I don’t know about you two, but I am off to have a nice chat with Elder Tom.” And with that Emma leaves both of us standing there looking like idiots with our mouths open. She drops a bomb and then runs, what the hell?

Chapter 45- Examination Of The Spells

Chapter 45 - The Rejected Goddess

Emma POV

After listening to William and what he told me about his leader, I am convinced that the leader is an alpha as they are the only ones able to control and order those below them. Even rogues would find it tough to fight an alpha for long periods of time, and to be able to create a pack like structure to a group of rogues is admirable but it is making them ruthless and a possible formidable force to deal with.

So, I left Beta Edward and Alpha Inga and headed off to Elder Tom’s office, luckily he was in and I was able to share our findings and my thoughts on who it could be. After I explained my

reasoning for my belief even elder Tom had to admit defeat and admitted that as scary as it was it made sense, so we decided to come up with a plan to validate my hypothesis.

After leaving the office of Elder Tom and our plan in place, I decide to head back to my realm and do a little bit more research on those ropes and rugs that Eric used on me.

The enchantments used on the ropes and drug to enable my powers to be temporarily sealed sure is impressive but worrying. How the witch managed to create such spells and potions that can render a deity immobile without alerting them is worrying. And the fact that I let my guard down temporarily just helped Eric to gain access to me.

I got Selena to have a look at the ropes and drugs because if they could affect me, then there is a chance that they could affect the other gods and goddesses which is a major concern. Which makes me think that even after all of Eric's protesting, I am not the only target he has in mind and that is a very worrying thought.

I am currently back in my realm and sitting down to just get my thoughts together. I need to get back and check on James as I left him in charge of the Solar Eclipse pack while I went and helped in the Blue Moon Pack and Alpha Inga. I checked in with James just before I came back home and he has not seen Eric or Melanie but the pack are listening to him and keep asking him to say thank you to me.

"Hey Em." Selena says happily while appearing in the room out of nowhere and pulling me out of my thoughts.

"Hey Sel, did you manage to find anything out?" I ask.

"Yes, it is impressive. The witch not only created a potion to temporarily cut off deity magic and a spell on the ropes to do the same, but she also casted a spell on you." Selena says, making my head snap to her quickly.

"What? But how?" I ask.

"It was a distance spell, in other words she would have had something of yours. From what I could find out the spell was one to lower your guard, the spell itself was powerful but it only worked for a few seconds on you." Selena goes on to explain.

"A few seconds was all Eric needed." I reply.

"That is true. But that is how and why he got you."

"What about the witch?" James asks.

"Well... she is dead. Turns out that Eric killed her not long after he was released from the hospital." Selena explains, sadness coating her voice.

“He knew we would look for her, so he silenced her before we could get to her.” I say sadly. That is a horrible thought but something Eric would do.

“It looks like it. The sad thing is there is nothing left just a pile of ashes.” Selena says sadly.

“So he used her weakness against her?” I ask. The only way to kill a witch and turn her to dust is to get hold of her weakness and use it against her, it will cause the witch so much anger, pain and negative emotions that they consume her, and her magic literally causes her body to turn to dust. It works on warlocks too, but what with witches being female it is far more effective. It is a cold and callous way to kill another living this.

“He needs to be stopped.” Selena says.

“Hey don’t look at me, I am already working toward helping the pack like you asked. If he happens to get in my way again, then I will end him.”

“Then all I can do is hope he is stupid enough to stray into your path.” Selena says with so much conviction I am surprised, she I supposed to be a goddess for wolves about love and respect but hearing her speak with such hatred and conviction is a little unsettling.

“Anyway, is there a way to counter the drugs and ropes?” I ask.

“Not really, only time to wear off and for our magic to return. Like you did. Why do you want to know?” Selena looks at me concerned.

“I have a feeling that Eric doesn’t have his sights set just on me, having one deity under his control is nice but more would be better and I get the sinking feeling that that has been his plan all along. So if we don’t have an antidote to the drugs, then we might want to look into finding one.” I say.

“I will put out feelers, along with the other deities and see what we can find. You are already doing so much Em that I will now pick up part of the slack. It appears that I cannot sit on the sidelines anymore.”

“Side-lines? You? Are you kidding me? Sel, you have been central to this ever since you got me to agree to help the Solar Eclipse pack. Though why you did even I don’t know.”

“I was hoping you might be able to mend your relationship with your mother and sister, and possibly even your ex-mate. But I can see now that I made a grave error in judgement.” Selena says.

“It is fine, the past is in the past and I moved on a long time ago. But I think we need to be careful, there is something going on behind the scenes and even though I think I know all of the players, what they are planning I do not know.”

“I hear you; I will warn the other deities and I will send word to the packs to be on their guard. The storm I warned you about is changing Emma, you are now at the eye of the storm, and I just hope you can weather the rest of the oncoming storm. The rewards for you will be great, but if you don’t then the losses will be high.” Selena says, speaking in riddles again before disappearing.

I sit there thinking for a while, just trying to figure out how the hell everything has gone so crazy lately. But then I start to see some connections, and things start to make sense.

Two years ago there were some rumours floating about that new and small packs were disappearing before they could be officially recognised by the council or other surrounding packs. At first no one thought much of it but I remember investigating one such incident 9 months ago as that case was an anomaly.

The Thunder Pack was newly formed but they were powerful, the pack itself was recognised by local packs and just awaiting the confirmation from the council before it disappeared. One day a visiting alpha arrived at the pack lands to find it deserted, what made it odd was a few hours before he had spoken to the alpha of the Thunder Pack and when he arrived the pack looked like a ghost town. But there were no signs of violence or anything.

I did investigate but all of the leads came up empty, no one heard anything or saw anything. I managed to find the pack log by grabbing the hard drive from the smashed computer and writing it. The only place in the pack that had been trashed was the archive room and the alphas office, clearly whoever attacked the pack wanted what happened to remain a mystery, but there weren’t lucky as I was able to reconfigure the hard drive and make it eligible.

Nothing was of any suspicion as it was all neatly explained and written clearly, except for one thing that was appreciated which the alpha had written on the pack log: 10am SEPAEV. I did not know then what the word stood for or anything regarding SEPAEV, not until I spoke to William and things started to fall into place and then it clicks in my mind.

I think I know what it stands for, and it makes the whole situation make sense, what happened that day to the Thunder pack and why the attacks on this pack started and then stopped suddenly. The person behind this had been playing the long game, and they were exceptional at it but I have finally worked it out and I will change the table on them.

SEPAEV. That word has haunted me for 9 months, but now I think I have solved what it stands for: Solar Eclipse Pack Alpha Eric’s Visit.

Chapter 46- Alpha Eric Permanently Removed

Chapter 46 - The Rejected Goddess

Emma POV

Yesterday the Solar Eclipse Pack was attacked and the alpha and luna of the pack left the warriors and pack members to handle the attack themselves. If not for James and me helping in the fight and then taking charge afterwards, the damage sustained by this pack would have been devastating.

Turns out that the alpha and luna had ran through the pack and to the pack house where they went down to the safe room and stayed there all night until this morning. James found them sneaking out of the safe room and trying to make it upstairs, but he caught them and brought them to Alpha Eric's office, which is currently where elder Tom and I are.

Once James had them in the office he mind linked me to come, and after grabbing Elder Tom I met James and the two runaway leaders in the office. Since then Eric and Melanie have been asked to explain why they were hiding in the bunker during an attack but they kept doing the question.

"I think we need to have a discussion about you remaining as this pack's alpha, or you both being removed." Elder Tom says, bringing silence to the room. "I think you should step down Eric."

"I am sorry, I don't think I heard you correctly, Elder Tom. What did you just say?" Eric growls, while Melanie stands next to him in shock.

"I said that I think you should step down from being Alpha and Melanie from being Luna. After all, during the recent pack fight you both ran instead of fighting with your pack. You both cowered in the pack house safe room with the pups when you should have been out helping your pack members." Elder Tom goes on to explain his reasoning.

"I do not think so, I am a good alpha, and this pack would be screwed without me." Eric retorts.

"And I am one hell of a luna, the pack loves me." Melanie lies, she says it convinced it is the truth, but we all know it is the opposite.

"Yeah, you are so good that your pack agreed to let Goddess Emma order them about during the fight and me afterwards. Goes to show what they really think of your leadership." James pipes up, making me hold back a laugh.

Melanie goes red with anger and Eric just stands there, his mouth opening and closing like a fish.

"Nothing to say Eric?" James chides.

"Goddess Emma, what are your thoughts?" Elder Tom asks, turning to me and trying to distract from the fight about to ensue between James and Eric.

I turn to face Elder Tom as I reply, "I think that it is a good idea. How Eric and Melanie became the alpha and Luna of this pack I don't know. Both of you are cruel, callous, and only out for

yourselves. Not once have either of you thought of this pack recently. Instead of focusing on the attacks and fortifying your pack, you have both been fascinated with either mating with me or breaking me. Either one will never happen.” I say turning to Eric and Melanie at the end.

I then pin Eric and Melanie in place and silence them with a glare.

“Alpha Eric, from this day forward I hereby strip you of your Alpha title.” I say, to which Eric falls to the floor as the power of the alpha title is forcibly ripped from him.

“Luna Melanie, from this day forward you are hereby stripped of your Luna title.” I say while Melanie looks on in horror, before she howls in pain as the power leaves her too.

“That is not all, both of you are to come here and kneel before me.” I demand, finally having enough of these two and deciding to seal their fates. What they did to me both years ago and recently is one thing, but running while their pack fights for their lives is a whole different ball game.

“Please, sister, have mercy on us.” Melanie begs as they both step forward and kneel before me.

“Oh I will. I wont kill you.” I say.

“Thank you.” They both say in relief, bowing before me.

“Melanie Locke and Eric Zanner, you are hereby removed as leaders, and you will have all of your rights removed. You are to become slaves to the Solar Eclipse Pack; you will both work in the omega's house as their slaves. There you will cook, clean and do every task given to you. Do you understand?”, I inform them with the authority of a goddess coating my voice.

Both of them bow to me again, “Yes Goddess.” They say.

“Stand and leave this room. You are never to set foot in here or anywhere except the omega house again. And all of your privileges and freedom to leave this pack have been removed. If you leave, then you will be considered rogues and killed upon your return. Is that clear?”

“Yes goddess.” Melanie says the fight and cockiness finally gone from her.

“Why Emma? I am your mate. How could you do this too me?” Eric asks, growling and shaking with anger.

“Ex-mate. And you both made your beds so now you must lie in them. You reap what you sow Eric, and finally you are reaping the anguish and humiliation you have sowed on other people. Not just me. Am I clear?”

“Yes.” Eric says, bowing his head. Hopefully now they will see what being part of a pack is really like and change themselves for the better. I doubt it but you never know.

“Good. Mother, it is your turn so come here.” I say, surprising everyone as the door opens and in walks mother. I knew she has been hiding behind the door for the last few minutes, her perfume is distinct and always makes me want to sneeze. Plus Melanie went from nervous to calm, meaning mother wasn’t too far away.

“Please, Emma dear, have mercy on them and me. That is a cruel punishment, you are taking their freedom and titles away.” My mother cries, falling to her knees to beg me to forgive them, but her cries fall on death ears.

“I held myself back, but those two allowed pack members to fight and die for them without helping. They ran like cowards and hid. No leader should ever do that. And to treat this pack and its members the way they have is disgusting, they have got their just deserts and you will get yours.”

“What?” Mother shrieks.

“For all of your meddling in my life and the pack as a whole. Isabella, known formerly as Isabella Locke, you are hereby stripped of all familial ties and hereby made a rogue. You are to leave this pack immediately and never return.” I again use my Goddess voice, making my decision final.

Everyone just looks at me in shock. I have done the one thing they never thought I would do. I have put an end to the terrible reign of Alpha Eric and punished all three of them in the best way- I have stripped them of power and removed them from pack life. I was kinder to Eric and Melanie as they could still be useful to the pack and hopefully change into better wolves later on in life. But mother is too far gone.

Mother falls to the floor howling in pain as her pack and family ties are all cut at once. A warrior then enters the room and looks at everyone.

“Goddess?” He asks as he bows to me.

“Warrior Adam, I would like you to remove Isabella and have her escorted to the pack boundary. She is to be killed on sight if she so dares as to returns.” I say, giving mother the cold eye as warrior Adam steps forward and grabs her by the arm.

“Please Emma! Please have mercy! At least let me get my stuff.” Mother cries as she is dragged from the room, but I do not answer her as I have said all I want to her.

Another warrior then enters and bows, clearly he had joined Adam when Elder Tom mind linked him to stand outside the office a few minutes after Eric and Melanie arrived.

“Ah, warrior Clive, please would you escort Eric and Melanie to the omega house and don’t leave until they have been settled in?” I ask.

“Yes Goddess.” Warrior Clive says, heading towards Eric and Melanie.

“Don’t you dare touch me!” Melanie growls as Clive just grabs her arm.

Eric growls at Clive and tries to attack him, but Clive is stronger and quickly subdues the two and drags them kicking and screaming from the room.

The room is silent for a few seconds until Elder Tom breaks it.

“Did the plan work as well as you hoped?” Elder Toms asks me.

“Don’t know yet, but something tells me we won’t be waiting for long.” I reply.

“Wait, was your plan to remove Eric and Melanie?” James asks me.

“That has been my plan all along, but I needed juts cause to be able to do so. Something from five years ago that could be seen as a vendetta against them would not stand up in front of the council, but not standing with their pack in the recent rogue attacks gave me just the opening I needed. Then when William told me what he did and that the leader was not always present, I put two and two together and hopefully I have just got four as my answer.” I explain.

“So, if the rogues become active again...” Alpha Inga starts.

“Then Eric and Melanie are the leaders.” I complete his sentence.

Chapter 47- The New Alpha

Chapter 47 - The Rejected Goddess

Emma POV

“What happens now?” James asks, breaking the silence that followed my revelation.

“What do you mean?” I ask.

“The pack is without a leader, that means that it cannot function anymore.” James explains.

“He is right Goddess.” Elder Tom says sadly.

“Who says they are without a leader? Did you really think I would be the cruel?” I ask, slightly hurt.

“Well no, but I don’t see anyone here who would be able to take over the pack.” James says, looking around the room in confusion.

“Well, there is you James.” I say, making him take in a sharp breath.

“Please Emma, don’t remove me as your beta.” James begs me, sadness covering his face and voice.

“James, I was never thinking that. I just wanted to put you forward for being the new alpha of the Solar Eclipse Pack.” I explain.

“So, I would still be your beta?” The excitement on his face makes me find it hard to say no.

“Yes, if that is what you wish.” I agree, this way I also get to keep my freedom that I have come to love but I can also be tied to a pack like the other deities have been wanting me to do for the last few years.

“Thank you, Goddess.” James says, kneeling in front of me and bowing.

“But Goddess, James doesn’t know the first thing about running the pack.” Elder Tom expresses his concern.

“Which is why you will help teach him, and Mitch will work as his temporary Beta until James decides who he wants to be his Beta and Gamma.” I explain, I wouldn’t just leave James in the deep end.

“But why Mitch? He worked with Eric.” Elder Tom argues.

“Not willingly, he explained to me that he was brought here while under the influence of an outside source. I personally suspect that influence to be witch magic.” I explain.

“Do you have any proof?” Elder Tom asks.

“His brother, his account of how Mitch was before appearing in this pack and his leaving matches that of Mitch’s.” I explain.

“And you believe them?” Elder Tom asks shocked.

“So would you if you saw their eyes. The hurt and turmoil in both of them is etched into them now. Hopefully they can both move forwards.” I state.

“Maybe they could both start fresh in this pack and then hopefully Mitch can also be united with his brother and then his mate and pup. Afterall, Eric took everything from him and I think he deserves another chance. Plus he was beta previously, so he is the best candidate to help bring James up to speed quickly with the current pack affairs.” I explain my thinking.

Elder Tom nods his head. “I see, so with my guidance and Mitch’s knowledge James will be able to step in and up to the demands of Alpha. James, I wish you the best. Do Goddess Emma proud.” Elder Tom then turns on his heels and leaves.

“A man of few words I see.” James mutters.

“Not changed then.” I say, smiling.

“Are you ok with this though? I know I sprang it on you.” I say, feeling a bit bad.

“It is ok, I know you have faith in me and that makes me want to do it. Thank you, Emma.” James says, smiling.

“Do me proud.” I say, before I head out and go to the hospital to check on the wounded.

The next day I told Mitch that I hoped he would be the beta to James he was nervous and a bit skittish. When I finally talked to him, he said that he was worried that the pack would hate him after working as Eric's Beta, but I explained that they don't care about what happened with him and they think that Eric ordered him too. I decided to keep the magical aspect of Mitch's compliance from the pack for now as my main focus is helping him to heal, once Mitch agreed I told him that his brother had also been located and was coming to the pack.

Mitch was worried at first as he does not remember him, but I explained that I am more than happy to explain everything to William if he wanted me too.

A few days later and I portal into Alpha Inga's office and make him jump from behind his desk. I fall to the floor laughing at the face he makes.

“Hey, what the hell Emma?” Alpha Inga asks in mock anger.

“What? That was hilarious.” I say between laughs.

“Hmph.” Is all her replies.

A few moments after, when my laughter has finally calmed down, I stand up and take a seat opposite Alpha Inga.

“So, today is the day. How is James doing?” Alpha Inga asks.

“James is doing really well, though hates it when I refer to him as alpha.” I say smirking.

“So, plenty of pay back then?”

“Oh, definitely. How is William doing?” I ask.

A few days, after our chat, I asked Alpha Inga if he wouldn't mind helping William transition back into being a pack member. We explained to William that it is temporary and that he was more than welcome to permanently join James pack later on if he wants to. William was a bit hesitant until I explained that Mitch would be there, and that Mitch would like me to set up a

meeting between the two of them and explain to both what I know of how and why Eric did what he did to Mitch.

William agreed and we arranged to meet in Alpha Inga's office today.

"William is doing well; he has settled in relatively well, but he seems nervous." Alpha Inga explains with concern.

"I am not surprised; he has just found out that his brother is near, and he will be seeing him soon but he has no memory of him. That would hit any sibling hard, if it was me then it would crush me if my brother wouldn't remember me." I say sadly.

"True. It must be horrible. Anyway, I have asked someone to go and get William as he is running late." Alpha Inga says, giving me a pointed look.

"What?" I ask innocently.

"You were late." Alpha Inga accuses.

"By three minutes." I argue.

Our little squabble is interrupted by a timid knock on the door.

"Finally." I say as William walks in the office door.

"Sorry Goddess, my nerves got the best of me for a while. But I am ok now." William says blushing.

I nod my head in understanding.

"Come on then, let's go. See you later Inga." I say, opening a portal up to the training field in the Solar Eclipse Pack. I am hoping for the small amount of distance to James's office will help William to calm down, as he still looks like he is going to pass out.

"Later Emma." Alpha Inga says, waving goodbye.

I turn and take William's hand, leading him through the portal.

The walk starts off silent, William taking him time to look around at the training field and looking a bit nervous when he sees the pack house come into sight.

"Why Goddess? Why are you helping me?" William asks surprised and breaking the silence.

"Many reasons: I don't believe you deserve to be punished when we can help you, your in this predicament because of my old alpha and you have a chance to be with your brother. Those three are enough for me to help you." I say to William.

We continue the walk to the pack house in silence, the nervousness of William is coming off of him in waves.

“Just stay calm, it will all be alright.” I try to ease Williams worries.

“But what if he hates me. What if he turns me away.” William starts to voice his concerns.

“Then I will have a word with my Beta.” I say sternly, but something tells me James is not like that. Never once since I have known him has James given me that kind of vibe, he gives everyone a fair chance.

“But what has your beta got to do with James?” William asks confused.

“Sorry, I didn’t tell you did I? Alpha James is my Beta.” I explain.

“Does that make my brother your Gamma then?” William asks, happiness dancing in his eyes.

I want to say no but his happiness is too pure for me to ruin, so I just continue to lead William to Alpha James’ office.

William stays quiet on the rest of the walk, taking in the sights and sounds of pack life again I suppose. He has both a happy smile and sad smile on his face, happy that he is joining this pack but also sad of the pack he has lost I am guessing.

As soon as I open James’s office door, I stand there shocked as James rushes past me and I turn to see he has William pinned up against the wall. At first, I worry that James and William are about to get into a fight but then the words out of both of their mouths both shock me but also make me smile.

“MATE!”

Chapter 48 – Alpha Finds His Mate

Chapter 48 - The Rejected Goddess

James POV

For the past few days I have been trying to come to terms with being an Alpha. The fact that I am the alpha of my old pack does not make it easier. When Eric was in charge it was easy to say ‘I wouldn’t do that’ or ‘If I was in charge I would...’ but it is a lot harder when you are there doing it yourself.

Emma has been around a bit to help me settle in, as well as helping Mitch to get comfortable with me. Whatever Eric has done to him must have done some serious damage to the poor guy.

The fact that I have a history with this pack, and I have not appeared out of the blue has made the transition easier, with almost the whole pack being delighted when it was announced that Eric had been stripped of his title and made into an omega.

Eric and Melanie tried to get the pack behind them after Emma's ruling, but they were surprised when none of the pack stood up to side with them. Instead, the pack just hurled insults at them or shouted at them to leave. I have had omegas watching them and they have not made any moves to leave the pack, but they have noticed Eric mind linking and texting at times when he thought no one was watching.

I have asked around, but no one has received a mind link from or made one too him, therefore I think what Emma said the other day is correct. He has something to do with the rogues, but we have to make sure that we pretend to be unaware of his connection.

A few of the omegas have had fun getting even with him for what he made them do over the years, and while I have had words with those involved, I have also understood where they were coming from. On the outside looking in the pack looked to be flourishing and Eric was an amazing leader, but he was not. The pack itself was weary of him and rumours spread quickly of the activities he had been up to, which I had come across in a few reports since taking office and they made me feel rather sick to be honest. Especially when I learnt that when we went to war with a neighbouring pack, it was in retaliation to Eric not getting his way rather than a justifiable reason. That annoyed me because I lost a few friends in that war, and for it to be over something so ridiculous was a kick in the teeth.

But Mitch has been a huge help and with his aid we have managed to get on top of all of the paperwork within a few days. With Mitch being Beta again it meant that most of the information I needed was with him and it was easy to find and collate.

I have been in the office for a few hours now, I am expecting Emma any moment as she said that she will be bringing over a new pack member. Apparently, he is Mitch's brother, but he has no memory of him, Emma asked Mitch if he wanted to see him and it was Mitch's idea to have him become a pack member when he heard that his supposed brother had been made a rogue over him.

At first I was surprised that Mitch could be so understanding, but I have noticed over the last few days that the Mitch I knew was not the real him, it is as if he has come alive since Eric has been removed from his life. What Eric did to Mitch I do not know, but from what I can gather Emma is helping him to rebuild his life at his pace.

I am distracted from the pile of paperwork I have been working through when I hear the front door open and a scent hits my nose.

I smell the most amazing scent; it is a mixture of grass after rain and mint. The smell makes my mouth water and at first, I am not sure what it is or where it is coming from but then I see the door to my office open and I am out of my chair at record speed. I cross the room and pin the person up against the wall.

“MATE” we both say at the same time.

I could get lost on those beautiful green eyes, they shine like emeralds, and I am so lost in them that I don't realise we have company until I hear a someone clearing their throat behind me.

“James, please put him down. He is nervous as it is. But I am glad you have found your mate.” Emma says, pulling me away from Will and embracing me in a hug.

Emma then leads us into my office.

“William, meet James. James, meet William.” Emma introduces us to each other once we have closed the door.

“Its just Will.” Will mutters. His voice sounds like music to my ears, so soft and beautiful that I could just listen to him talk for hours.

I smile at William at wave, “Hi William, nice to meet you. Sorry about earlier.” I say slightly ashamed of how I reacted.

“I am confused, I don't think I want this.” William mutters to me.

“You're going to reject me?” I ask sadly, my voice rising, and I start to panic.

“No, it is just... I am not gay.” Will says to me, blushing.

Oh man! His blush is so cute, I think to myself; when did I start sounding like a schoolgirl?

“Neither was I, but I want you mate. No matter what, you were made for me, and I will give you everything you could ever want.” I say desperately.

“But I don't know... is this right?” Will asks unsure.

“Ouch!” He shouts, making me jump. It is then that I realise Emma has slapped up on the back of the head.

“Don't be an idiot and lose something so precious. Take it from someone who knows, the bond brings you two together but staying together is your choice. James has made his and says he will accept you. What do you want?” Emma asks him, drawing all of his attention to her. I want to growl at her, but the side eye she gives me makes me take a step back. I know she is trying to help, but he is my mate, and it should be me he is focused on!

“I...” Will starts.

“What does your heart want? Not your head, your heart?” Emma asks again, interrupting Will.

“My heart wants him.” Will mumbles, and my heart jumps out of my chest and soars into the sky. My mate wants me!

“Then what is the problem?” Emma asks.

“He is a male.” Will mumbles.

“So?”

“I like women.” Will continues and my heart sinks, but Emma’s next words have me floored.

“If I take you into an empty room right now and say let’s go, would you?” Emma asks.

Will steps back, a look of shock and horror on his face.

“Sorry Goddess but I don’t feel that way about you now. I did when I first met you, but not now.” Will replies, making me smile.

“And any other woman?”

“Nothing.” Will says.

“Then your heart has made its decision. What about your head?” Emma asks, turning Will slightly so we are face to face.

Will looks at me with a small smile and my heart melts all over again.

“I want to jump his bones.” Will growls out sexily, slapping his hand over his mouth and looking at me shocked.

“Well, there is always later.” I say huskily, and I wink at Will whose blush becomes redder.

“Alright you two love birds, either go to a room or pack it in.” Emma says, but with a hint of laughter in her voice.

“We will pick this up later.” I promise Will, who blushes and looks at the floor.

“So first thing, James do you want Will to be in your pack?” Emma asks me smirking, knowing full well that I do.

“Of course, that is a stupid question.” I say, but I am surprised when I hear a sigh of relief leave my mates lips. I look at him confused.

“Will has had a rough time of late, I am sure he will explain later when he is good and ready.” Emma explains.

“Right, well that was all I needed to be here for. You two love birds have fun.” Emma chuckles as she walks through the door and pulls it close, so it is on the jar.

As soon as Emma leaves the office I walk around my desk and take Will by the hand.

“Come on mate, let’s go get acquainted with each other.” I say huskily.

Will only blushes deeper as I pull him behind me from my office into the bedroom I was given when I first made my alliance with Emma.

I mind link everyone within the pack house that I am not to be disturbed for the rest of the day and night until tomorrow morning, once I close the door, I pin Will up against the wall and I crash my lips to his.

The sparks go flying and Will fights for dominance at first, but I finally win and explore his mouth which I am sure can do amazing things.

Will starts to moan as the kiss deepens and I cannot help myself, I rip open his shirt and run my hands over his chest. Once I have fully explored his chest, which I must say is amazing and he totally works out, I plunge my hand down his trousers. Will reacts to my hand, and I can feel him grow bigger under the boxers.

I stop the kiss and look at Will who is dishevelled with his hair all messy, top ripped open and trousers now sitting tighter on his hips.

“Strip now. I want to get acquainted with you, body and soul.” I say seriously to him, at first I think he is going to fight me, but he doesn’t. Instead, he smiles and nods his head, before he smirks and gives me a strip tease, making my trousers tighter with each passing second.

I think of all the things I am going to do with this man, and the thoughts get me all the more excited. Will swallows nervously, he has no idea just how well I am planning on being acquainted with him. I move to the door and lock the door, making sure we definitely will not be disturbed.

I then walk over and gently push Will down onto the bed, where I start to kiss him again before I explore his body. I learn every curve, every scar and everything that makes him moan.

We spend the rest of the day and the whole night getting really and truly acquainted with each other.

Chapter 49 - The Rejected Goddess

William POV

Last night was amazing. I cannot believe that I have finally found my mate and all of my reservations have gone. Yesterday and last night we spent time just exploring each other, mating and marking each other into the early hours of this morning before finally falling asleep from exhaustion.

I lay there in bed with my eyes closed, not wanting to get up just yet but slowly waking up. All of yesterday plays in my head and I reach over to the other side of the bed to James, but my hand is met with an empty spot. I move my hand around a bit, but I cannot find him. The spot is warm but cold enough for me to know that he has been up for a few minutes.

“Finally, you are awake.” James says to me. I open my eyes to see James sitting on the bed next to me already dressed. He is wearing a white shirt and black trousers, he looks so hot and his hair is shaggy which gives him an edgy look. Seeing him in that makes me hard and I want take him again.

As if ready my mind James smirks at me. “There is time for that later mate, but I have some news for you.”

“What’s wrong?” I ask, sitting up from the serious tone James voice has taken.

“Nothing is wrong, but Mitch would like to speak to you.”

I quickly jump out of the bed and grab my clothes from the floor. “Of course I will.” I say, but then sigh when I see that the shirt is all torn, the trousers I can wear still though. I guess it is trousers and no shirt day today. I smile to myself; I can tease James.

“Don’t even think about it unless you want me to take you here and now. Wear these, no one else is to see you like I do.” James says huskily, sending the blood down south.

James throws me a bag and in it I find clean clothes and boxers.

“I guess we will have to go shopping tomorrow.” James says.

“Why tomorrow?” Surely, we could go today.

“Because once you have spoken to Mitch, I cannot promise I will be able to keep my hands off you. Besides, you might want some alone time to collect your thoughts from what he says.” James says. My heart melts, he is thinking of me and my feelings.

“Now get dressed and I will take you to Mitch.”

I quickly dress in the black trousers and dark blue shirt that James has gotten for me, along with a black hoodie that I steal from James’s wardrobe, making him smirk.

“Now others will know your mine.” James smiles into my neck and he pulls me in for a hug.

“My mark says that.” I smile, embracing him back. He is slightly smaller than me, so he fits perfectly in my chest and neck making me want to protect him. But James has strength over me, so we are evenly matched in the dominance department. I use my height against him, and he uses his strength against me but it makes our games all the more fun if last night is anything to go by.

“Stop whatever you are thinking about otherwise I will have you naked and in the bed in seconds.” James mumbles into my neck.

I savour a few more second thinking of being naughty before I compose my thoughts and focus on seeing my brother. My nerves are playing up and that is making it hard for me to focus on anything. James’ grip gets tighter, clearly he is sensing my inner turmoil and is trying to help calm me. I am worried, hat if my brother doesn’t remember me, what if he hates me? What if it was because of me that he left, and now I’m here he might leave again.

That is my worst fear, now I have found him I do not want to lose my brother again.

Once I am ready and calmed some of my nerves, I pull away from James and nod my head that I am ready.

James takes me hand and we walk towards his office.

Mitch POV

For some reason some of my memories are fuzzy, but Goddess Emma has said that this will pass. However, since hearing his name some memories have come back regarding my brother but his face is always obscure. Last night I had a dream which felt like a memory of us in a bar laughing and drinking. From the music and the surroundings, it looks like it was a few years ago but no matter how hard I tried, I just couldn’t see his face. But I do remember him, and I remember a woman and a child but their connection to me I am unsure of. But since Emma helped to remove the spell placed on me, I feel a connection to the woman in my memories.

I just hope that it is not my worst fear and that she really was my mate and the little girl was my pup, that would mean that I left them and I think that would break me. I have a feeling and I know I told Goddess Emma that I had a mate and pup in my old pack, but a part of me hopes I was wrong otherwise the guilt is going to be unbearable.

When she told me that my brother had been made a rogue because he wanted to find me, I was devastated and I quickly agreed that he should become a member of the pack, after all he has a right to have a home and it would be nice to see him again and see if it jogs any of my memories.

The past few days more and more memories have been coming to the forefront of my mind, and they have been driving me insane. Which is why I am extremely grateful that Emma and James agreed that I could be the Beta again, not because I wanted the position or anything but because it helped to keep me busy, and my mind occupied on something. Then I was only left with my invading memories of an evening.

Every time Emma asked if I was ok, I knew I should have spoken to her about the memories, but I didn't want to burden her. Emma has done so much for me and this pack, and to add to her burdens just seemed like a mean thing to do. Especially when even I couldn't make sense of the memories, I could see faces and events and places, but I couldn't place them as nothing seemed to strike any emotional level with me. I just feel like I am watching a film, not my past.

I look up when the door opens and in walks Alpha James and William, they are holding hands which makes me smirk.

"I will leave you two to it." James says, pecking William on the lips who blushes and nods his head.

Alpha James turns on his heels and closes the door behind him. Leaving William and I standing in silence for a few moments.

"So, you and alpha James huh?" I ask jokingly, trying to break the ice.

"Yeah, who would have thought it?" Will asks.

"My womanizing brother? Not me, that's for sure. So, what do I call you, Luna or Alpha?" I ask.

"Just Will, it has been too long brother." Will says honestly.

"I am pleased for you brother, you deserve happiness. Especially after everything I put you through." I say solemnly.

"So you do remember me?" Will asks me, excitement filling his eyes along with hurt.

"Yes and no. Since hearing your name I have had memories come back, along with memories of a woman and a girl, but I couldn't remember any of your faces." I reply honestly. The pained look that flashes on Will's face tells me the truth is going to hurt.

"I was told you wanted to talk to me, may I ask what about?" Will shifts uncomfortably in his chair which makes me feel even more nervous.

"The day my life changed. I know who I was before then, I know I said goodbye to people but who were they? Who was I?" I ask sadly, I have memories but

"You were an amazing brother, an elite warrior and the best mate and father I have ever seen." Will says sadly.

A whimper falls from my mouth before my head falls into my hands and I start to cry.

“So, I really do have a mate and pup? How could I leave them? What must they think of me?” I cry, my shoulders shaking and I feel like the world is closing in on me.

“Your mate is called Sharon and your pup was named Lily, after your favourite book character, remember? They still love you and hope you return to them still.” Will says quietly.

“What happened to me that day?” I ask looking up with tears flowing, nervous because I don’t want to know but determined because it is time that I find out the truth.

“Well, the day you left you kissed your mate and daughter goodbye and promised to see them that evening, but then no one saw you enter the training grounds or anything. No one saw you after that, no one could find you. It was as if you simply disappeared off the face of the earth. Sharon and Lily were the last to see you alive, we searched high and low for you but were unsuccessful. When I went to our alpha, I knew something was off as he just brushed it under the carpet.” Will says.

“Then how did you become a rogue?”

“Sharon was asking too many questions and the alpha got angry. Our alpha wanted to punish her by having her imprisoned and Lily put into an orphanage, but instead I stepped in and offered to go rogue as long as he let them live in the pack. After some pack members backing me, he relented and agreed.”

“Are they still there?” I may finally be reunited with my family.

“Last I heard two weeks ago they were. They are pretending to adhere to the alpha’s request that they forget you, but new on the grapevine is they are still looking and hoping you will return. Now I have found you, and whatever was done to you has been undone, I hope you will go to them. They miss you. I miss you.” Will says honestly. His eyes holding all of his emotions: sadness over his loss of me and his home, anger over his alpha and what happened to me but the biggest emotion in his eyes is the happiness.

“Thank you, brother, I really appreciate it.” I say, standing up and embracing him.

“I will always protect you, Sharon and Lily. You know that.” He says.

“But I am the eldest.” I protest.

“But you’re the stupidest. You let Eric get his claws into you, I am just glad that Emma knew you.”

“Emma?” I ask.

“Yes, she found me when I was a rogue and helped me reunite with you.”

I knew Emma had a hand in this but to think she actually found him and made the connection between us. I feel so blessed right now.

Thank you. I think to myself, Thank you so much Emma.

Chapter 50-Emma Goes On A Date

Chapter 50 - The Rejected Goddess

Emma POV

I am currently standing in front of the mirror applying some lipstick, and my nerves are starting to get the best of me. I have been asked out on a date by Beta Edward. The request came as a surprise, but he said that he is worried that when he finds his mate he would not know how to wine and dine her, and asked if I could assist him?

I was hesitant at first because I didn't want him to get the wrong idea, but then he explained the reasoning that he wanted to make sure he could do his mate proud. My heart melted a little and after all of his help I couldn't refuse. Honestly though, I am looking forward to it as this will be my first date after all.

I am currently in a guest bedroom getting ready, Beta Edward wanted to walk up and start the date by knocking on the door. At first, I declined and wanted to get ready at mine, but after seeing his face fall I quickly agreed. So instead, I got ready at home and then opened a portal and entered the room Beta Edward had procured for me to finish applying the lipstick and makeup.

I stand back and look at myself, I am currently wearing a white blouse with a black skater skirt, heeled knee-high boots and a white cardigan to finish the look. I have my hair half up half down, with a nice high ponytail which I have littered with flower hairclips. The overall look is an innocent and young one, and I am happy with the completed look.

Knock, Knock.

I walk through the portal and to the front door, where Beta Edward greets me with a bunch of roses. The roses are all different colours, and I am in love with them.

"These are for you, my lady." Beta Edward says, bowing and passing me the roses. I take a quick whiff of them before I walk to the packhouse kitchen and grab a bowl from the cupboard and put them in it with some water. Not ideal but I will put them in a vase when I go home tonight.

I return to the door and Beta Edward bows again, taking my hand and kisses the back of it before his kisses my cheek. I blush slightly, I was not expecting this level of extravagance. Got me a bit worried about where we are going on the date.

“You look radiant this evening.”

“Thank you, you look handsome.” I say, smiling at Beta Edward, who’s on smile gets bigger.

“Shall we?” Beta Edward holds out his arm for me to take, I slide my arm into his and we walk down the road for a few minutes. We spend the time chatting and laughing and it feels more like I am hanging out with a friend than a date, but that is a good thing for me as I don’t feel anything romantic for Beta Edward. But is this is anything to go by his mate will be one lucky person.

After a few minutes we arrive at a little restaurant, it is tucked away and looks like a house, but it is so sweet, and the smell is intoxicating.

“This is a little pack secret; this restaurant is famous within this pack, and I thought it would be the perfect place for this evening. But if you wish, we could go somewhere else.” Beta Edward says a bit nervously.

“No, this is perfect. I love it.” I say, smiling up at him.

Beta Edward moves forward and opens the door for me, and as he does the smell of pasta and pizza fills my nose and causes my stomach to rumble. I look t Beta Edward and he bursts out laughing.

“Let’s get some food in you.” He says, entering behind me and taking my arm in his again.

After we are seated and placed our orders- I ordered spinach and ricotta pasta and Beta Edward ordered a meaty pizza- we sit at the table and chat about each other, spending the time to get to know each other.

“So, you were there five years ago? At the party?” Beta Edward asks surprised, he asked me when I first met Alpha Inga and so I was telling him about the night my life changed.

“I was, he complimented me on my look, and it made me smile. I smiled even more when I found out he was going to be my new alpha, but that was not meant to be. I am not sure if he remembers me, but he looked sad to be there and that surprised me as Eric had boasted to Melanie about how he and Alpha Inga were good friends.” I say.

“Oh...” Beta Edward looks lost in thought, until realisation hits him. “Ah, I remember now. I cannot believe what happened that night, but was that really your first time meeting him?”

“Yes, my grandma had asked Alpha Inga if I could move here after my birthday, and he agreed. So, I didn’t need to meet him before then.

“What about you?” I ask.

“I have known Alpha Inga for many years, I have been with him through thick and thin ever since he helped me when I needed someone to be on my side. My whole family turned their back on me and petitioned Alpha Inga’s father to have me banished, but Alpha Inga saw through their lies and backed me instead. After a while the truth came out but by then I had already decided on my path, and that was to be by his side. When he offered me the position of Beta I was shocked as it was supposed to go to his cousin, but he wanted someone he could trust and he knew I would always have his back.” Beta Edward says.

“That’s sweet. Its nice to know that he has always stood for what he believes in. So, if you weren’t Beta what would you do?” I ask.

“Travel, I would love to travel the world.” Beta Edward replies smiling at me.

“Travelling is amazing. Some of the places I have been are amazing.”

“Where have you been?” He asks me.

But before I can answer our food arrives, and I know this is not very ladylike but as soon as it was placed on the table I tucked into the pasta as I am starving. The flavours that hit my mouth with every mouthful and bite are amazing, there are seasonings in the pasta that I don’t think I have ever had before but they taste delicious.

I look up and see that Beta Edward is also tucking into his pizza, and it looks delicious. It is deep pan and is bigger than the plate, Beta Edward looks up and smiles at me with a mouth full of pizza which makes me chuckle.

We continue to eat our food I silence until the plates are empty. I sit back in my chair as I let the food go down my stomach, I feel sluggish now I have eaten but satisfied. The food was out of this world.

“That was delicious.” I say.

“There’s dessert too if you want some?” Beta Edward asks smirking at me, knowing full well I cannot refuse dessert. specially after a delicious main like that.

“Good job I have a never-ending stomach then.” I laugh.

“Yeah, and good job I earned myself an appetite from training today.” Beta Edward jokes.

Once the plates have been cleared and fresh drinks delivered, we pick up the desserts menu and browse it. The double chocolate nut sundae does look delicious, topped with salted caramel sauce. Yum. Well, I have made my decision on what I am going to order.

“So, erm... how am I doing?” Beta Edward asks me, peering over his menu nervously.

“You are doing fantastic. The date is amazing, and if you were my mate we wouldn’t be having dessert as I would already be in your arms. Whoever your mate is, is going to be one lucky person.” I reply, smiling at him.

“What a relief.” Beta Edward mutters under his breath. I have the feeling that Beta Edward already knows, or suspects, who his mate is for this sudden request to have come out of the blue. But is he treats them the same way he has treated me this evening then there is nothing he has to worry about.

Just as we are about to get the attention of the waiter to place our order for desserts, I hear someone stomping in the direction of our table. I look up and I am surprised at who it is.

“What the hell is going on here?” Alpha Inga demands, looking angrily between his Beta and me.

“Well...” Beta Edward begins but he quickly closes his mouth.,

“We are on a pretend date.” I interject before Alpha Inga can shout at us again, wanting to calm down the situation and a very angry Alpha.

“Pretend?” Alpha Inga asks surprised.

“Pretend. Beta Edward here wanted to see how he would be able to wine and dine his mate when he finds her, he wanted to make sure that he knew what to do. So, he asked me here and we pretended like it was a real date.” I explain, but clearly using the word ‘real’ was a mistake as Alpha Inga quickly became angry again. He started to shake with anger, his hands at his sides turning into fists.

“Real? As in kissing and hugging?” He asks through gritted teeth.

“Just hugging, once when he picked me up.” I say, omitting the small fact about the kiss on the cheek and the flowers. I don’t think that would help right now.

I expect the conversation to either keep going or for us to sit down and finish our meal, but what I do not expect is for Alpha Inga to pull me into an embrace and deeply inhale my scent.

“What the hell was you thinking Beta?” Alpha Inga growls.

“I wanted help. And I wanted to help you. Two birds one stone.” Beta Edward replies, smirking.

I turn my head to face him, “What do you mean?” I ask, but I get no reply.

Just as I am about to demand an answer, I feel Alpha Inga release me and grab my hand. It is tender yet firm, and warmth fills me again.

Alpha Inga pulls me out of the restaurant and through the pack grounds back towards the pack house so quickly that I don't even have time to blink.

"Emma, I need to talk to you about something." I could make him stop in his tracks, but his words surprise me, why does Alpha Inga need to talk to me? And why is Beta Edward standing at the restaurant door smirking at us?