## Jay-la POV

Jay- la sat with Nate on his bed, the girls were bathed and in bed, as was he. He'd been quiet since Nathan had been here, though she too, was a little confused about their last interaction as well. He wanted her to know Sophia had never been in this suite, or any other woman. Part of her doubted that last part, to be honest. He was Alpha blooded and would have needs of a woman in his bed, but she shrugged it off, to be dealt with another time.

Nate needed answers and she also wanted answers from him.

She had questions herself now about a few things. "Ask your questions Nate."

She saw him look at the door. It was closed. "Where is he?

"Likely in his of ce." She told him "He knows you don't want him in here for this conversation. So isn't going to be." though that did surprise her to be honest, she'd thought he was going to insist on it. She had gotten the distinct impression in the kitchen he had been going to, then that last conversation; that came out of nowhere, out in the hallway, stated he would let her do it on her own, surprised her more than a little.

"Why won't he answer my question?"

"He doesn't know how to. Told me that himself." She answered him.

Saw Nate frown at her "I don't understand."

"It is dif cult to answer. You might not like it, it could make you dislike him even further or it could just confuse you even more.

He is con icted as to how to explain it to you, the right way. I guess you could say."

"Going to lie to me."

"No, just wolves, are different to humans. Very different from how you've grown up. Let me try and explain it to you."

Saw him nod.

"As a wolf, you have an inner beast, that when your old enough you can shift into it right."

"I know, Kora is a wolf. You are human."

"Yes, That human part, can chose to love who they want to. Be with who they want for a time. But your wolf does not get the same choice, is given what's called a Mate, a wolf just for them. Made for them by their goddess."

Saw him frown now "like a soulmate." She elaborated "Usually wolves ind their Mate and that is it, they will be with no other. Like being married. Fiercely loyal to each other."

"Okay."

"So, Nathan, your father, his wolf has one too, a Mate of his own."

## Saw Nate nod slowly.

"Nathan and I, we were together, we the human parts of us liked each other. But were not Mates

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"Like you and Tim?"

"Yes, we were. Then he met his Mate and well." She sighed.

"He left you." Nate muttered.

"Yes, but for the one made for him. It's how it works. It doesn't always feel nice to the one being walked away from, but it is what happens. I knew he was not my Mate, knew it was bound to happen at some point. I prayed a lot that it

wouldn't, because I loved him, but it did happen. I didn't try and keep him, let him go, had to. He had a Mate. I respected that, it's what you are taught here. To respect the Mate Bond. I also didn't know I was pregnant with you and your sisters when he met her. Neither did he."

"You never told him, did you?"

"No, I did not." She admitted "I didn't feel like I ever could."

"Why not? Where is his Mate now?"

"Why not? That is the hard question, I will tell you. But what I need is for you to try to understand that wolves are different from humans. Okay."

"I'm not going to like it, am I?"

"No." she admitted, and took a moment to think how best to phrase it, the nicest way she could for him. "Nathan sent me away; his Mate did not like me. She hit me that day and Kora hit her back full force. So, he told me to leave, not to ever come back." She said softly, tried to keep the pain from her voice.

"lleft, found out about

you and your sisters after I left. I didn't tell him ever; I didn't think you'd be safe from his Mate."

"Why not?"

"Wolves are possessive and aggressive creatures. He's the Alpha Wolf. The boss, is the one in charge and his rstborn child, which is you, Nate. Would be the heir to the Pack. His Mate, would want her child to be the heir. To take over, not you. Do you understand?"

"Not really." He shook his head.

She sighed "It's hard to understand," she nodded at him, could come back to the heir thing "I was scared of her, scared for you and your sisters, thought she would harm you, harm me for that matter.

So, I never said anything to anyone. When I left, I stayed away As was told to. But I never once talked to even my own family, cut myself off completely from this place. To keep you all safe from her."

"You really thought she wold hurt us?" he frowned "like really hurt us."

"Yes, more than hurt us, because here in this world, that is what happens, and Alphas Mate would not stand for him having children. She already didn't like me, wouldn't have wanted you three around at all. It was my job as your mother to protect you from her."

"So, he would have let her hurt us?"

"No, he would have tried to protect you, but..." Jay- la shook her head "He would not be able to, even as the Alpha Wolf, he's not here all the time. But the Luna, that is what they call the Alpha's Mate, rarely leaves the pack. Looks after it when he's gone. So, every time he was not here, you, your sisters and myself, would have been in danger, from her. That is what I believed. So, I told no one, not even my own mother and father."

"Where is she now?" Nate looked up at her, troubled now.

"Gone, they didn't work out. Like divorced I guess." Shook her head a little, still didn't understand how what he'd said, could happen.

"So...she's not here anymore?"

"No, not for years apparently. I didn't know that until a few days ago myself. Last Friday, to be exact."

"Are we safe here?"

"Yes, you and your sisters are perfectly safe here."

"Are you?"

"I am,

"But I saw it on the news, they said he was the one who hurt you."

"When did you see the news?" Jay- la asked him, she was curious about that.

"At grandma Laurens, she and grandpa Tony were watching it, discussing it. Didn't know I was there. But I saw his picture on the TV and heard them all say he was the one to hurt you, did that to you, was trying to cover it up and blame others for it."

"Nathan actually never laid a hand on me, Nate. I got into a ght with the men who took me, a very big ght and that's how I got injured."

"But he had you kidnapped?"

She sighed and nodded her head, couldn't deny that "Yes, but again it's different with wolves. As part of his pack, which I still was. He, as the Alpha Wolf, had the right to bring me in. I refused to come back. W orried about you and your sister's safety, knew I couldn't bring you or your sisters with me. He sent for me. No harm was supposed to come to me. Though I did not know that, I woke up in a dark van with strangers and so fought the men bringing me in. I was scared for you, for myself to be honest."

"That's how you got hurt."

"Yes." She nodded. "It was not pleasant, but I wasn't the only one to get seriously injured either. I am a good strong wolf. They were not expecting that. Two of them were seriously injured by me.

» She did not tell him about the one she killed. He was too young for that.

"So, he won't hurt you, now that you're here?"

"He will never hurt me. His wolf was granted a second Mate.

Kora is his new Mate."

"That's why we're here?"

"Yes." Jay- la nodded "and Kora loves Havoc."

"Havoc?"

"Nathan's wolf, that's his name."

Saw him sit quietly for a minute, then look up at her. "So, why wouldn't he tell me?"

"Like I said, he didn't really know how. Telling you that he sent me away, and told me not to ever come back. Is not something I guess he wanted to have to say to you. I don't think he was expecting you to ask it either. Kind of expected you to just be happy about having a dad like your sisters."

"Why? I don't know him."

"I know, it's a wolf thing. Most wolves' children, pups they're called."

Heard him giggle now "Pups? like a dog?"

Smiled at him, "I guess so." Was glad he could nd something to make him smile right this minute. "Werewolf pups will recognise their own parents near instantly, like your sisters did, it's a family bond, or connection you just kind of feel or know. When you see them for the rst time."

"I felt it, just" Nate shrugged.

"Had questions you needed answers to."

Saw him nod his head at her..

"And now, what do you think?" she asked, knowing Nathan was going to ask that question himself, about how this conversation had gone.

"I still don't know him."

"Fair enough. Do you have any more questions?"

"Not for you?"

"Alright, then how about you get some sleep now. Try to play nice in the morning." She leaned over and kissed him on the forehead, and tucked him in, stepped out of the room and turned the light off, closed the door all bar an inch like she did with the girls, stepped away but heard him mutter softly to himself "I'll play nice when you do." And near groaned out loud.

Well, she had done all she could do at this point, seemed he understood most of it, felt a little safer, didn't seem to have any y real hate for his father, just wanted answers was all. So, that was a good thing, though he still had questions, but not for her. That was interesting. Seemed he was going to talk to Nathan at some point.

Kora was settled and happy with Nates' responses, seemed she was of the opinion that he was going to come around and be okay with his father as well. Though they still needed to do that crash course in wolf mating, might have to get the Luna to do that. She was supposed to be good at things like that. Would have to ask her tomorrow.

Nathan still wasn't back yet, Jay- la strolled around and actually looked at the Suite, a proper look at it and what was in here, found he had an of ce in here, pushed into it and walked around it, looked like he didn't use it, not much in here, just a desk and chair. Opened a few of the of the draws nothing at all. Sat herself down and turned the computer on that was on the desk.

It was her home, he'd told her that, also seemed he never used this place. She could use it for her of ce, for now. Saw the password login appear and sighed didn't have that, new little about him since leaving wasn't even going to hazard a guess at it. Sat for a full minute staring at the screen.

Mind-linked to him 'Nathan your suite of ce may I use

it?'

'Of course Jay- la.' Came his reply.

(The computer has a password, are you willing to tell me that or do I need you to come and set me up to have my own?'

41 don't use the suite of ce, the password is simply password, change it to what you like.'

Shook her head and typed it in 'Thank you.'

'Have you nished talking to Nate?' he asked.

'I have, he has more questions, though not for me. He'll ask you when he's ready, I guess. Seems alright, Kora is happy with the outcome.' She told him, gured that should solve his concerns, if Kora was happy, he should be.

'Out of curiosity, what are you doing in the of ce?'

'I'm going to start drawing up the Prenup for Rae- Rad and

Michael.'

'Alright. Do you need me there to answer any questions yob have?'

'No, it will favour Rae- Rae. You just need to have Michael sign it when I am done.'

'Jay-la?"

'Nathan? You didn't even think one was necessary. Michael will never cheat or leave her, so what does it matter in the long run?

What is in it?'

Heard him sigh heavily 'It still has to look like a human world document.'

'I know that, is what I specialise in, the human world and its divorces and prenups, so it will, the Hills will be real happy with it.

Michael will be getting nothing and Rae- Rae getting everything, including any and all children, cars, half his estate and what not.

How much is the pack worth currently?"

'Nothing to him, it is my pack, he just has access to whatever funds he wants. Via a pack card.' He muttered.

(I'll need a statement of accounts of what he's spent in the last ...' thought about that 'say the last three years and I'll average it out from there as a salary. That includes cars he's bought or been given, any vehicles for that matter.' Smiled to herself. 'Or you could just tell me a salary and I'll use that.'

'I'll have the accountant get you those things tomorrow.'

'Alright.' She cut the mind- link and smiled to herself. It would be real on paper, it would have to be the Hills would never allow Rae- Rae to marry without one, unless they were willing to cut her off and disinherit her, which she doubted they were willing to do.

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