

Chapter 141

I could hear how fast my heart was beating.

I couldn't look away. I always thought I looked like my mom until now. My mouth became dry as his eyes landed on mine. He smiled and gave me a nod.

So, he knew who I was. I didn't want it to happen like this. I wanted to meet him on my terms not by accident. My stomach filled with nerves as he crossed the diner and went to the counter.

"You look like you've seen a ghost". Alanna spoke.

"That's my dad". The words felt strange coming out of my mouth. "We have to leave; I want to go". What if I wasn't what he was expecting? What if he didn't think I was good enough?

I felt sick.

"But you want to meet him, don't you?"

I nodded.

"Then go talk to him".

It wasn't as easy as that. I didn't know him; I didn't trust him. He was a stranger, and I certainly wasn't going to approach him in here. What would I even say?

"Do you want me to call Jake?". She asked.

He was right there. My dad was sat at the counter drinking coffee. The man I had never met, never knew was right there. I squeezed my eyes shut. My head felt like it was going to explode.

Question after question popping into my mind. Arguing with myself on what I should do. I wasn't sure I was confident enough to walk over there and introduce myself.

What if he didn't want to see me?

If he was in here, where was he staying?

"Hey". She placed her hand on my arm, and I opened my eyes.
"We can leave, or I can call Jake. Whatever you want okay".

I wanted to leave but couldn't. I felt I had to be here like I was compelled to stay. I chewed the inside of my cheek as I tried to calm my breathing. Nothing he could do or say could hurt me. I had nothing to lose by talking to him. He hadn't been in my life; he wasn't part of it. Whichever way this goes it's something else I can put behind me. I had to find out where I came from and who my family were. No one could tell me more than him.

"You can call Jake".

I always thought I wanted to do this on my own turns out I was wrong. I needed him here with me. For support, for peace of mind I wasn't sure but, I knew I wanted him here.

I couldn't stop my leg from shaking. I could taste blood with how hard I was chewing my cheek. I was nervous as hell; my stomach was in knots. I felt on edge, and I was extremely uncomfortable.

I knew he was staring. I could feel his eyes bore into the side of my head. I didn't dare turn to look. I would wait for Jake. It was times like this I wished I could stay out of my own head.

I couldn't help but overthink the situation.

"Can I sit?".

I took a deep breath before lifting my head and looking at him. It took me a few minutes before I answered. I was too busy taking him in. He was tall, well built, tanned skin and we had the same eyes.

"Sure". I frowned at the sound of my own voice. It was barely a whisper. Clearing my throat, I sat up straight and looked him

right in the eyes.

I could pretend to be confident right?

"You look exactly like her". He smiled.

The lone tear slid down my cheek. It had to be my period, my hormones changing. There was no other reason as to why I was crying. He was not the reason for my tears.

I was suddenly overwhelmed, his presence suffocating. My heart racing, I tried to regulate my breathing.

"I can leave Leah; we don't have to do this today".

"I played this moment over so many times in my head". I chewed my bottom lip. "I have so many questions and yet". I paused. I had drawn a blank. I couldn't form what I wanted to say. "Did you know I would be here?"

"I have waited so long to meet you. I come here every few days on the off chance I would bump into you".

I made a face. He had eighteen years to bump into me. Birthdays, Christmases. So, why now? That was the million-dollar question.

"How did I know who you were?". I asked.

"Your wolf, you're my bloodline Leah, my only child".

"And?". I frowned.

A small chuckle fell from his lips. "You sure are your mother's daughter. We're connected Leah, you felt my presence the minute I walked in, didn't you?"

"I don't know what I felt". Truth be told I felt safe in his presence. I knew he wouldn't hurt me; my wolf knew.

"You can trust me Leah".

"I don't know you". I wanted to trust him and deep within I knew

I could, but he had to earn it. We may be blood but I still didn't know him.

"I would like to get to know you if that's okay".

"I have so many questions". I knew Jake was close I could feel him. My head cleared my body relaxed. "But I don't think this is the time or place for this to happen". I wanted to meet with him, but I wanted it to be in a place where I was comfortable.

"I understand". He got to his feet.

"But I want to know you". My leg started to shake again, my heart beating faster than usual. I knew this was what I wanted. It could be the start of a relationship I never thought I would have.

A chance at maybe having a relationship with my dad.

He placed a business card on the table in front of me. "I would like that. Whenever you feel that you are ready to talk, please give me a call".

He had already left by the time Jake got here.

I was still a little overwhelmed. Did I just meet my dad?

"Baby?".

My eyes landed on his as he placed his hand on top of mine. I may be overwhelmed but other than that I was fine. This was good for me. This is what I wanted.

"I met my dad".

"I know baby. Are you okay?".

"I...Yes". I smiled.

Oddly enough it was like the weight had been lifted. I didn't have the burden on my shoulders anymore. I had nothing to fear nothing to worry about. I wanted to know more about him.

"That's good Leah".

"He gave me his number".

"Did he leave?". He asked.

"I told him it wasn't the right time to do this but I'm going to call him soon".

"I'm proud of you baby". He placed a kiss on my hand. "Are you ready to go home?".

"Yeah".

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He wasn't happy that I was going out. He wasn't not talking to me, but his answers were blunt. He didn't think it was safe for me to go out with everything that had happened with Jessica.

I of course told him I was going out whether he liked it or not. He didn't need to worry about me. I could take care of myself.

"So, it's just you and Alanna?". He asked.

"And a few friends from school that we didn't get to say goodbye to". Ryan being one of them, but he already knew this. The green-eyed monster was out on force tonight.

"You do know your underage".

"Really". My eyes narrowed. "Because that's never bothered you before". I may not be at the legal age to drink but I was sensible with it.

He shrugged.

"You're unbelievable at times".

"I can't keep you safe if you're out there now, can I?".

"I'm not a prisoner Jake and you don't need to keep me safe because there is no threat against me. Just admit that you're jealous and stop with the bullshit excuses".

"Fine I'm jealous".

I didn't expect him to admit it. I thought he would have flipped his lid, said something nasty and then walked out. The normal stuff. But this surprised me.

"You know I love you and you have nothing to worry about".

A sigh fell from his lips. "It's not you I'm worried about. It's everyone fucking else".

"I'm your mate, I wear your mark. I'm coming home to you. You have nothing to be jealous about".

"Can't help it babe it's in my nature".

"The alpha male gene". I rolled my eyes. "I won't be late. I love you".