Chapter 0011

I leave the club and head back to the packhouse. The entire way home, I try to think of a way to fix this. It never occurred to me that Cara Nelson was my mystery girl. In my mind, Cara was a shy, reclusive girl that spent all her time looking after her father. Why hadn't I put two and two together and realized that as a Guardian and a daughter of not one but two Guardians she would be one hell of a badass?!

And how had I never noticed her before? She and I are the same age. We must have been in the same class our entire life and I'd only just noticed her a few days ago. Of course, she wasn't one of the flock that was constantly surrounding me, seeking my favor, trying to get in my bed. No, she'd obviously saved her favors for Liam. And he'd happily accepted what she was willing to give him.

Kai snarled in my head. 'She ours, not his.' I was in total agreement.

When we reached the packhouse, I didn't even go inside. Instead I ran to the tree line and without waiting to strip, shifted into my wolf form. I let Kai take over and we headed to the Nelson's home. I opened my mind-link and listened to my patrols. They only patrolled the periphery around Cara's home, so I was clear. No one would see me.

Their house was about 5 miles from the packhouse. I slow

as I approach. I can smell her scent around the house. It looks like they have their own obstacle course, weird jungle gym looking thing and weight training area set up in the back of their house. There was another structure not far from the house and I wondered if that was an indoor training area. Well, this would explain why I'd never seen her at training. Her father was apparently training her.

Kai stayed on the edge of the forest as I looked at the dark house. I listened in and only heard one heartbeat in the house. Cara wasn't home yet.

Kai began pacing, a low growl erupting from him periodically. 'Kai, let's not alert her father to our presence. Keep quiet or I'm going to shift back.' He grumbled at me, but kept quiet and laid down to wait.

After a couple hours passed and she hadn't returned, I began to wonder if she'd stayed the night with Liam at his pack. Would Mr. Nelson allow his underage daughter to stay with the Alpha of a neighboring pack?

I started to settle in, ready to wait it out. I needed to see her. I needed to confirm that I had made the biggest mistake of my life, and then start planning how to fix it. Up ahead, we saw lights flash through the woods, coming down their long driveway.

I watched as Liam's truck pulled up in front of the house. Liam gets out of the car and walks around to open the passenger door. As soon as the door opens, I catch her

scent, vanilla with a hint of lavender. It's mouth watering and Kai stands up, growling softly.

Liam's head snaps in our direction and I force Kai to cut it off. 'Dammit Kai, you almost gave us away.' He's snarling in my head, much louder than usual because we are in our wolf form and he has more control in this form.

I watch as Liam wraps his arms around her and tells her he meant every word he said to her. What did he tell her? That he loved her? He had to know she wasn't 18 yet. He would know that she can't identify her mate. Does he plan to have her commit to him as soon as she turns 18, rather than giving her time to find her mate? Does he only want her because she's a Guardian?

It would be a strategic move on Liam's part. He already has the largest pack in the country. He is a very strong alpha and ensures that his warriors are well trained, making his pack also one of the strongest. If he were to take Cara as his mate and Luna, it could tip the scales for the Shadow Falls pack making them the strongest pack in the country as well.

All of this is going through my mind until I see him kiss her. She is responding to his advances, and when he pulls back, I realize it's not just her, but also both of their wolves. They have a bond. There is something more here than just strategy in order for their wolves to be taking part. There are feelings there as well. On both sides.