

Chapter 168

My cheeks hurt from smiling.

His mom leaped out of her chair and pulled me in for a hug. It was exactly the reaction I wanted. I knew they would be happy for us. I was pregnant with their first grandchild.

It was a massive thing apparently.

"Oh, shopping. You have to let me take you shopping". Charlotte grinned. "Oh, and a baby shower. Would you like a baby shower Leah?".

"Charlotte, darling". His dad gave her a soft smile. "Maybe we just let them breathe a little first. Let them get used to the idea of becoming parents".

"Nonsense". She huffed. "That's my grandbaby in there".

I loved that she was this excited and making a fuss. I didn't have parents to share the news with or anyone else in my family except Carter and he already knew.

So, if she wanted to throw me a baby shower then I wasn't going to stop her.

"It's fine". I smiled.

"How far along are you? Are you keeping well? Have you been sick?".

"Mom". Jake sighed. "Calm down just a bit please".

"I'm sorry I'm just excited. Our first grandchild, the future Alpha". She grinned. "We need to celebrate with champagne".

Champagne that I couldn't drink.

"Mom Leah can't drink".

"Oh, right. Never mind the Champayne we'll celebrate with cake".

Now cake I could have.

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We had a good night, and it was good to catch up with them both. Of course, we were invited to Sunday dinner. Another celebration but with everyone before Carter and Alanna left.

We didn't mention that they already knew about the baby.

"I'm stuffed". A yawn escaped my mouth as I clipped my seatbelt into place.

"So, no ice-cream?".

"I still want ice-cream". I grinned.

A chuckle fell from his lips as he reached over taking my hand in his. "How about we go for a walk along the beach and then I'll drop by Walmart on the way home?".

I wasn't really feeling the beach anymore. I wanted the biggest tub of ice-cream there was, and I wanted to eat it in bed watching tv.

"Can we just get ice-cream and then go home?".

"Tired baby?".

I nodded.

"But you're feeling, okay?".

"Always".

"I mean with the baby".

"Well, I don't feel sick anymore if that's what you mean".

"Are you scared?"

Was I scared? I wasn't sure how I felt about it all. I'm not sure it had properly sunk in yet. I couldn't really believe it was happening.

I shrugged.

"I've got you Leah always. We're going through this together. I want to be involved as much as possible. Every appointment, every scan. I just want to support you". He brought my hand to his lips placing a kiss on my knuckles.

"I know". I whispered.

"The last thing I want is for you to feel alone".

I squeezed his hand. "I'm okay I promise but I will lean on you when I need to. You'll be the first one I come to if it's all getting too much".

"We could go to the cabin for a few days seeing as you now own it".

Eh?

"What do you mean I own it?". I frowned.

"Shit". He sighed. "It's your graduation present from my parents. I forgot they hadn't told you yet".

"They gave me their cabin?"

"They know you wouldn't have accepted cash, and you already have a car". He shrugged. "If you want to, we could go up on Tuesday and come back Friday?"

"Hold up they gave me their cabin as a present?"

"Yeah".

"That's crazy". I sighed. "But you know we can't go next week. I still plan to visit my dad".

"Have you called him yet?". He pulled into the parking lot of Walmart and cut the engine. "He could be busy Leah".

"Busy for his own daughter?".

"I never said that but maybe you should hold off for a few weeks and then plan it. Talk to him and find out when he's available".

"No because if I leave it a few weeks I will never go. I'll keep putting it off and then I'll start making excuses. I'm going to call him tomorrow and plan to go up on Tuesday".

"Fine babe it's your decision but I'm still coming with you".

I didn't want him to come with me. I wanted to meet my family on my own. I wanted them to like me for me and not because I was mated to the next Alpha. But I was dreaming because he would never let me go on my own.

"Are you coming in or are you staying here?". He asked.

"Staying here". Another yawn escaped my mouth. "Can you get me some flavoured water as well".

"Aye babe".

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I know I shouldn't, but it was right there.

His phone and it was vibrating every few seconds. I trusted Jake 100% and yet I felt the need to go through his phone.

I lifted it but instantly put it back. I couldn't and I wouldn't. Going through his phone wasn't trusting him, right? And then it started vibrating continuously. Someone was calling him.

Unknown number.

I grabbed it answering straight away.

"Hello".

Nothing.

The line went dead as soon as I said hello. But now that I had his phone, and it was unlocked. I bit the inside of my cheek and before I knew it, I was reading the messages that had just come through.

I knew instantly that the person messaging him was Jessica. The number wasn't saved, and he had never messaged back but the context of the messages was obvious.

She still believed there was a chance with them.

Begging him to let her back into the pack so her and her family could return home. Embarrassing herself by sending dirty messages. I wasn't angry with him but again it was something he hadn't told me.

Imagine that was me?

I quickly put his phone back as I caught sight of him leaving the store. How long had she been messaging him?

"Two big tubs of ice-cream and two bottles of flavoured water". He placed the bag in the back seat before getting in.

"Okay". I turned my head away from him and stared out the window. I wonder what else he hadn't told me or was keeping from me.

This was how fights started. Why couldn't he just be honest instead of hiding it from me? I would eventually find out anyway.

The car ride home was quiet. I was having an argument with myself on whether I should mention it or keep it to myself. If I brought it up, then that would start a whole new argument because I went through his phone.

"Babe you, okay?"

"Yeah, just tired".

"Close your eyes baby. I'll wake you when we're home".

I closed my eyes. Still his phone went off, but I said nothing. I was too tired for an argument tonight.

I woke just as he was pulling into the driveway. I wasn't in the mood for ice-cream anymore. I just wanted to climb into bed and go to sleep but we needed to talk.

I still wasn't angry with him but the more I left it the more I thought about it. I was making myself anxious, overthinking things that hadn't happened.

"Good little power nap?". He smiled.

"We need to talk".

If I didn't mention it to him now and left it to brew, then I knew it would only be a matter of time before I lost it.

"Yeah, babe we do".

Huh?

I turned my head so I could look at him.

"You want to talk about Jessica, right?"

"Why is she messaging you?". I asked.

"So, you looked through my phone".

"It wouldn't stop vibrating when you were in the store, so I

answered it. I saw the messages she sent you”.

“I didn’t message her back”. He spoke.

“Why does she think she still has a chance with you?”.

“I’ll tell you everything Leah but once we’re inside”.

I said nothing in response. My stomach felt unsettled, I felt uneasy because I had no idea what the truth was. Was there still a chance for them? I frowned. I was his mate not her and I wasn’t going anywhere.

“Stop”. He sighed as he reached over and took my hand. “You’re overthinking something you know nothing about. This stems from years ago Leah but I’ll explain it all”.

I tried my hardest not to react or say anything out of turn. So, I chewed the inside of my cheek and turned my head away from him.

Maybe finally the whole Jessica situation would be explained.