

Chapter 169

I wasn't sure how I was feeling. My stomach was in knots, I wasn't sure what he was going to say. Did I have a reason to be nervous? I made some tea and was now sitting on the sofa waiting for him to start.

"Please remember that I love you, I want to be with you. You are my mate, my partner and one day you'll become my wife".

I frowned. But I was going to let him explain to me why Jessica was the way she was. For so long she believed that her and Jake were meant to be. Still does according to her text messages.

"Okay". I nodded. "And I love you". I added.

He smiled. "It'll always be you Leah".

And then he began to tell me his story, his past even.

"Jessica and her family have been a part of our pack for as long as I can remember. We kinda grew up together even though I'm older we all used to hang around together as kids".

I think I knew where this was going but I kept quiet and let him continue.

"I was meant to find you when I turned sixteen. You're supposed to find your mate when you turn sixteen, but I didn't find you until I was twenty-four".

"We lived in different states". I spoke.

"I know baby, but 8 years is a long time. I didn't think I'd ever find you".

"So, if you didn't find me you were to be mated to Jessica, right?".

It was all starting to make sense now. She hated me from the

minute I moved here. All the petty things she did, all the whispering and sly comments. She was jealous but more so upset because I ruined her chance to be mated to Jake.

How would that work if they weren't destined to be together? Surely, Jessica had a mate out there also.

"Our parents thought it was for the best. She's a strong wolf, it would have been the best move for the pack".

"And when was this supposed to happen?".

Like he said he waited 8 years to find me. 8 years was long enough for him to mate, to settle down, to marry even and yet he didn't.

"After she graduated". He spoke.

A laugh fell from my lips. "If I never moved here, you'd be mated to Jessica and playing happy families". I placed my hand over my stomach. I wasn't angry but I was a little annoyed.

Did I even have a right to be annoyed?

"No Leah it would have been for the benefit of the pack. I can't run the pack without a Luna. No happy families, no nothing. If I never met, you I'd be living an unhappy life with a girl I can't stand".

"But you slept with her".

"I slept with a lot of girls, but you must understand until I met you, I was never satisfied. I felt empty, I was empty. Having sex was a release for me".

"Lovely". The thought of him with other girls made me feel uncomfortable. I didn't like the idea of anyone being intimate with him but me. But everyone had a past, and he was giving me a little bit of his.

"I'm sorry if this is hard for you to hear but it's time you knew

the truth. I wasn't a nice person, Leah. I did horrible things to everyone, and I cared about no one. But I'm not that person anymore and that's because I found you. I found the one person that saved me".

"You'd have really mated with her for the sake of the pack? To be unhappy for the rest of your life?".

"The packs my family Leah".

"I'm your family".

"Before you baby. I had nothing to lose. I'd have mated with Jessica for the pack, but we'd have never been mates".

"She still thinks there's a chance for you two. All those messages, the phone calls-...". I paused. "She's a problem Jake".

She could also be dangerous.

"She's only a problem if we make her a problem. Her and her family aren't welcome here Leah and they are aware of that".

"And that'll stop her?".

"If she knows what's good for her, she'll never come back here again".

I hoped her was right. I wasn't afraid of Jessica but right now I was vulnerable. There was more than me to think about and I'll be damned if I let her hurt my child.

"I think I'm going to go to bed". I'd heard enough about Jessica for one night.

"Are we okay?". He asked.

"Always". I smiled.

He told me the truth I couldn't be angry with him for that. I now knew the situation he was put in back then. But that was his past and me and our baby were his future.

"I love you Leah".

"I love you too. Are you coming to bed?"

"Yeah, babe I'm just going to lock up first".

I was almost asleep when I felt his arm slip over my waist and pull me against him. Laying my head against his chest I snuggled closer and fell asleep to the sound of his heartbeat.

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I woke up in the same position I fell asleep in. It was still dark outside, so I knew it was early. Slipping out of Jake's embrace I grabbed my dressing gown and as quietly as I could I headed downstairs.

Making myself some tea I went about cleaning the kitchen and putting away the dishes. I wanted to go for a run today or at least a light jog. I wanted to feel the wind on my face and the adrenaline pumping through my veins.

I used to use running as a coping mechanism. A way to release my stress or anxiety but now, today, I just wanted to run for the sake of it. I took my mug of tea and a blanket from the back of the couch and went outside to watch the sunrise.

I swear there was nothing better although watching it by the beach will always be my favourite. I wrapped the blanket around my shoulders and took a seat. I loved early mornings, I loved how peaceful it was before the chaos of another day started.

Days that for me were long because I had nothing to fill them with. All my friends were moving on. School was finished, I had no routine and nothing to do with my time.

I was rarely involved with the pack and if I'm being honest, I wouldn't really know where to begin with that. Jake only ever told me what he needed to, and I was okay with that but I'm

sure there was people I had still to meet.

And then there was my dad and his side of the family. I had a whole other family out there that I didn't know.

Little droplets of rain fell from the sky and against my cheek. I smiled. I loved sunny days, but I loved the rainy ones to. I stayed outside until I finished my tea but before it got heavier, I went inside.

I washed out my cup leaning it on the draining board to dry. There was no movement from upstairs which told me Jake was still sleeping. I decided to use the main bathroom to shower and get ready.

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By the time I showered and changed Jake was up and making breakfast.

"Waffles, bacon and eggs. Sit".

I grinned. "It smells really good". I sat down as he poured me some orange juice.

"Are you going somewhere?". He asked.

"I was going to go for a run if the rain stopped". I could hear it battering off the roof. It would probably rain all day and I was meeting Ryan for lunch.

"I don't think the rains going to stop babe". He plated me up some food and sat it in front of me. "And should you be running?". He took the seat across from me.

"I'm pregnant Jake not dying".

"I know babe but...". He paused.

"Running and jogging is perfectly safe". I started eating my breakfast and said nothing else on the matter. He worried too much.

"What are your plans for today?". He asked.

"Other than meeting Ryan for lunch I have nothing else to do. I've never got anything to do hence why I was going to go for a run".

"The cabin idea still stands". He smiled. "A few nights away just us".

I suppose I could make plans to go visit my dad the week after and spending a few days away just us is exactly what I needed.

"Let's go to the cabin". I grinned.

"Yeah?".

A laugh fell from my lips. "Yeah, and this is really good. Did your mom make it?".

"Oh, ha ha". He chuckled. "Eat up I'm going to get showered and then I need to meet Jack at the training ground".

"Should I be worried?". I spoke.

"You never need to worry". He kissed the top of my head. "And be safe when you're driving to meet Ryan. The roads will be slippery".

"Always am". I smiled.