

9-Real Life will Hit you in the Face

Ari's POV

I pull back and go to the bathroom. Am I ready? Do I want my second chance? What about Kale? Can I just leave and pretend this isn't happening?

Juliet- Bet Kale understands. He is a great guy. But we have a mate! Our mate! We need to be running to him now.

Me-What about Kale?

Juliet- Bet he understands.

I pull out my phone, I just need to hear his voice.

"Hey, Baby, you okay?" Kale asks concerned.

"My second chance is here," I say quickly. "I don't know what to do."

Kale is quiet for minute and then answers. "Yes, you do. You know what to do. Go to him. Have your perfect moment. I'll move out tonight."

"NO," I say quickly. "No, don't leave me."

"Ari," he says my name and I want to vomit. I'm Baby, my name is Baby. "You know you want your second chance. You deserve that perfect moment. All I ask is that we can be friends."

"I love you, Kale," I say as a tear falls.

"I love you too. I love you enough that I want what is best for you. Your second chance is best for you. It's okay to go to him," Kale tells me.

"Don't move out, I mean, where are you going to go? I'll stay with my mate for now until next term," I tell him.

"Okay," I can hear he is about to cry.

"Goodbye, Kale," I say with a sob.

"Goodbye, Ariella," his voice cracks too.

We hang up and I sit on the toilet crying.

Juliet- It is really going to be okay. We get to have sex with tingles!

"Hello?" There is a knock on the door. "Is everything okay?"

I stand up and open the door to Beta Romona.

"Sorry, I had to break up with my boyfriend. I smell my mate," I tell her.

She pulls me into a tight hug and then wipes my face.

"Well, let's fix your make up then. Can't have your mate seeing this," She turns me to the mirror. I look like I am heading to death row.

Juliet- Well, that is a highway to rejection or true love!

Me- True Love?

Juliet- Any man willing to see past that mess, is a keeper!

Romona takes my hand and leads me up to her room.

"Thank you for this," I say as she helps me.

"I didn't find my mate until I was 30 and he was 37. The first time he saw me I was in workout clothes with messy hair," she tells me squishing her face.

"I was there," I tell her with a chuckle.

"You ditched class," she tells me with raised eyebrows.

"Sorry, I ran out of class that day," I give her a tight smile.

"It's no big deal, but can I ask why?" She sprays finishing spray on my face.

"Tonight, I will meet my second chance. I was rejected on the first day of term."

Her face falls. "I'm so sorry, Ariella. No one deserves to be rejected. The goddess has given you a second chance, so go claim him. And if you are smart, you will hold off on marking so your mate feels it. It's supposed to be even more intense when the mate finds their second chance."

I smile at the thought. I have my second chance. If I wanted revenge, I can have it.

Beta escorts me to the dining room and she is watching me closely.

Juliet- MATE!

When I see him, we both stop and stare. It's not like the first time where I was so scared I couldn't register what was

happening. This time the world disappears and it's just me and my mate.

He is wearing a button down and black pants. His black hair and olive skin set off his perfect jaw line and broad shoulders. He starts moving toward me and I forget everything.

Juliet- Sexy Man! MINE!

I move toward him. When we are close enough to touch, we reach for each other and fall into each other like two magnets that don't have a choice.

Our lips find each other. My arms around his waist, his arms wrapped around me, one on the small of my back the other behind my head.

My body is covered in sparks and tingles. I move my arms, so they are around his back.

His lips move against mine with expert precision. I opened my mouth a little and he deepens the kiss. I can't stop myself when he tries to pull away, I pull him back and I feel him smile. We deepen the kiss again, enjoying the feeling of euphoria being created between us.

My ears finally clear of the ringing. We can hear everyone cheering.

"Get it, Alpha," I hear someone say and I open my eyes to realize.

"Alpha?" I question. Please don't say Finch Conrad, please goddess, no, don't do this.

Juliet- That explains nothing!

Me- He can't be?

Juliet- His Wolf is all about us! Duke, his name is Duke!

Me- Our mate?

Juliet- My mate! His wolf!

We stare at each other, and I can't see the twins at all. Maybe this is a visiting Alpha? There is chance, right. He is older than me. How much older? He can't be old enough to have kids my age. 1

Juliet- So, I need to prepare you.

Me- Don't tell me.

Juliet- It's going to be okay. His wolf promises he will not reject us.

"Finch Conrad," he smiles. "I know you, Ariella."

I start to hyperventilate.

"Ari?" Beta Romona asks, seeing my face. "Are you okay?"

"No, no, no, no," I back away from him. "What kind of sick joke is this?"

"Luna?" Romona asks, this time using a Title!

I could have a title?

"Ariella?" Finch asks, holding my hand too tight for me to pull away. "Is it my age?"

 +15 BONUS

"YOUR SONS REJECTED ME!" I scream.

He drops my hand and I run away.

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