

Chapter 73 - The Guardian Wolf and her Alpha Mate

Nova POV:

After running for an hour Kia skids to a halt outside the council building and quickly shifts so I can dress in the clothes that have been placed out for us.

“Have I messed up?” I ask turning to Luca and Jax.

“No” Jax says immediately, “it’s time you showed everyone exactly what you are capable of. You have been hurt, betrayed and suffered through a lot which others have so far been oblivious to. It’s time Nova.”

Turning to look at Luca I see the inner turmoil in his eyes as he offers me a small smile, “you should never have had to hide who you truly are in the first place, there are others out there as you well know that will want you for power. That’s why I’ve always been apprehensive about your emergence, but Jax is right. It’s time.”

With a deep sigh I slump down on the step as I gaze out across the fields in front of us, “I have no idea what I’m doing” I admit.

“Does anyone?” Jax asks. “Everyday people have to adapt and change their paths, their plans and their hopes. It’s part of life. When I became Alpha, although I had been trained by my father my entire life, I still sat there in that office chair and had absolutely no clue what to do at times. But you have to trust in yourself, in those around you that are there to help and in our pack and most of all, Kia..she is so wise Nova.”

Nodding I stay quiet for a moment. “I can’t believe he ripped our mother’s heart from her body” I quietly sob as Luca wraps his arm around my shoulders, tears silently rolling down his face.

“It explains why we could only see their faces before the burning” Luca mutters grimacing at the memory.

“You didn’t know? Who dealt with their bodies?” Jax asks surprised.

“Elder Frost as he was on a council visit at the time, a border patrol alerted us however Axton and I at the time were in an important meeting and had our walls up. Luca got there before we did” I whisper as the memories come flooding by.

“So was Frost with the border patrol?” Jax asks.

“He was running solo on his way to the neighbouring pack, Elder Bernard had gone on ahead, it was thought to be a safe route” I explain.

“Elder Bernard has come to our pack before” Jax mutters.

“He heard the attack and the nearby border patrol joined him, by the time we got there there were only a few hunters left fleeing, Kia was furious and killed them. All but Caroline” I admit. “But Frost had covered our parents bodies at that point as he said he didn’t want to upset us further and as an Elder of the Council we naively trusted him.”

“So I assume no one saw him kill your mother. Did their bodies not get looked at before the burning?” Jax asks in confusion.

“I assume so. Two border patrol members were also killed though so maybe they did see something and that’s why they were killed, or they died fighting. We won’t know now. The bodies were examined by Frost and a council Doctor who arrived 2 hours after the attack, due to it involving hunters they took the lead and Axton, Nova and myself concentrated on ways to better protect the pack. Working kept us distracted and had us not focusing on the loss we were feeling. We thought that’s what our parents would want. I felt the family bond snap at the time of the attack and knew they were gone so I immediately got involved in the fight” Luca answers solemnly.

“So the doctor could be the third traitor” Jax says looking between us both. “How long does it take to get from the council building to your pack Luca?”

“Roughly 3.5 hours” he says as his eyes grow wide.

“The doctor got there quickly. We need to find out if that was a coincidence or if he knew he needed to be there relatively fast” Jax muses.

“Fuck” I exclaim throwing my hands up, “I didn’t even think of that.”

“You had no reason to suspect them both at the time Nova, don’t focus on that. Which doctor was it?” Jax asks.

“Dr Norton if I remember correctly. Nova you need to speak to Elder Martin” Luca says jogging his knee as he thinks.

“Either the doctor is a traitor or he was commanded not to say anything” Jax says as he looks deep in thought.

“Nova” I hear being called behind me as I turn to see Johnathon rushing outside. “Are you ok?”

“No” I whisper.

“My dear” he says quietly as he pulls me in for a firm hug. “The trial is paused for today, the verdict will be said in the morning as I think we have all the information we need, but I suggest we travel back to your pack immediately after that.”

“Ok” I say simply.

“What you did in there..as brutal as it was, was the right thing to do. You have not only exposed another traitor but because of you commanding Alpha Jacob you have exposed a lot more information than we could have possibly hoped for” Johnathon says with pride.

“And exposing myself? I released my full aura in there Johnathon” I stress rubbing the back of my neck absentmindedly.

“It was time Nova” he says quietly. “I think you know that, you have been hidden for too long. The evils in this world are only growing and the threats to yourself and your loved ones are increasing by the day. You have to show how formidable you are and do what the Moon Goddess destined you to do. You can’t do that hiding your true identity.”

“Nova you were absolutely magnificent in there love” Jax says as he comes to hold my waist and look in my eyes. “I am so proud of you and Kia, we all are.”

“I’m nervous” I admit.

“Good” Jax says, “it shows you’re normal.”

“So what now?” I ask looking at him for answers.

“Now, we go back in there. Speak to Elder Martin and head upstairs for the night, Johnathon could we also speak to you about Guardian Wolves a bit more to keep ourselves busy” Jax suggests.

“Of course” he says with a reassuring smile. “I’ll bring dinner up to your room, how about we all eat together.”

“Thank you, I’d like you to come see Elder Martin with us also” I say softly smiling. “Luca can you join us this evening?”

“Of course Nova” he says looking shocked I’ve even had to ask.

“I think Alpha Axton should also join us” Jax says quietly.

“You do?” I ask furrowing my brows.

With a sigh he nods, “yes. He knows of Kia, he knows of the attack on your parents and may, as the Alpha, have some more knowledge he can share. But also, as much as it pains me to admit it, he is your friend and your supporter and you had years where you experienced life together, and

I won't ever get in between that or be able to truly understand it as I simply wasn't a part of it. As you couldn't with my past. We don't know what's going to happen in the future against the hunters, but I have a feeling we need allies. Plus, I know how much you love me..I can feel it."

"Jax is right Nova" Luca pipes up after a moment of me looking at Jax in shock.

"You're amazing you know that" I tell Jax who simply smirks at me. "Ok, well Luca you speak to Axton and we can meet for dinner at 6:30pm. How is that?" I suggest quietly.

"It's a plan" he says before hugging me tightly, "see you this evening Jax, Elder Johnathon." With a bow of his head he turns and slowly makes his way inside

"I feel bad for him" I admit quietly.

"I know" Jax replied as he holds me close to his side, "but you also lost your parents."

"But I also have my parents still alive" I point out.

"And Luca is Sophie's mate, after everything his biological parents did for you do you really think Kingsley won't do the same for Luca?" Jax asks raising his brow.

"That's a very good point" I say with a little smile.

Softly kissing my lips he steps back and takes my hand, "come on. Let's go find Elder Martin."

Next Step

Chapter 74 - The Guardian Wolf and her Alpha Mate

Jax POV:

"Thought you'd be coming here" Elder Martin says as he's stood waiting outside his office, "come in."

Feeling Novas nerves pulse through the bond I clasp her hand in mine and rest my hand on her lower back keeping close to her.

"I'm sorry about the way I handled things down there Elder Martin" Nova says as we take a seat.

"Why?" He says confused.

"I killed an Elder" she mumbled looking down at her lap.

"No you killed a traitor" he counters raising a brow as she looks up in surprise. "You only did what we would have ended up doing anyway. I admit we could have done with some more information yes..but I don't fault you for what you did."

"I exposed myself" she says watching for his reaction.

"You did" he shrugs. "But is that necessarily a bad thing? I don't think so. There have been council members who have taken advantage of the fact you haven't exposed yourself earlier and look what's happened. I don't think you should hide your true self anymore dear, the world needs to know you're a Guardian Wolf."

"I can't believe that man, did you know he was my mums first mate?" Nova asks.

"No" Martin sighs, "and I want you to know that if I had any idea of the anger he felt towards her I would have ensured it was another council member who carried out any official visits to the White Mountain Pack."

Nova nods her head in acknowledgement before shifting her eyes to look out the window. "Elder Martin, we have reason to believe Doctor Norton could be the other traitor" I begin. "Nova and Luca informed me that it was Frost who dealt with the attack on their parents, but no one knew her mother had had her heart ripped out..that's a very wolf like way to kill someone, not the method of a hunter. So for that to stay under wrap it must have been agreed upon by the Doctor. Now we don't know for sure if he is the traitor or if he was commanded to hide that fact from others."

"That makes sense" he murmurs as he looks to Nova sadly.

"Also Luca informed me the doctor arrived around 2 hours after the attack despite being based at the council building here which is a 3.5 hour journey. Was he visiting another pack at the time and it was simply a coincidence or was it because he knew he needed to get there fast?" I question.

"I've had someone send for him" Martin responds. "They are all questions we need answering, I will handle this one and I've asked someone to gather Alpha Axton and Beta Luca to be witnesses. You need to take some time to yourself Nova."

"Thank you" I reply as she smiles In agreement.

"I know we didn't get to speak to you today at the trial Alpha Jax, to be quite honest I don't think we need to" Martin says thoughtfully, "but I would personally like to know about this spell involving you and Rose?"

"I don't know" I shrug, "Kia says I won't be affected by anything, it's a form of protection."

"That's impressive" Martin says with awe as he leans forward on his desk, "so you weren't affected at all?"

"I mean I didn't have a drink but no, I wasn't" he reply.

"May I speak?" Johnathon asks quietly from the corner before Martin gestures for him to proceed.

"I'm not sure you're aware Elder Martin but if a Guardian Wolfs mate dies then so do they, it's their biggest weakness" he says throwing me an apologetic glance. "Protecting Alpha Jax from any other form of influence is to protect them both."

"Oh my goddess" Nova says as she turns to face me looking panicked. "What if they waited for me to turn 25 because then I would have a mate. They could be targeting you to get to me.."

Offering her a small smile I squeeze her hand reassuringly, "to be honest Nova it is something I've been thinking of since you told me."

"Doesn't it worry you?" She asks quietly.

"No" I say clearly. "I would do anything for you Nova and if they come after me they have another thing coming, I'm a force to be reckoned with also you know" I add on with a playful wink.

"This could be why you gain some of my gifts in times of need" she points out.

"Exactly" I say with a smile. "But trust me Nova, I can protect myself. I'm an Alpha for a reason."

"He's right Nova, the Midnight Sky pack is one of the most formidable packs as I'm sure you're aware. But the reason they're not spoken about is because of order and peace that Alpha Jax has been able to maintain throughout the last few years, conflict doesn't come to them for a reason" Martin says turning to address Nova. "He has formed treaties with other packs that have been successful and relations are very positive, the finances are very high and continue to grow. He is invested in many businesses in both wolf territory's and humans. Plus he has aided the Alpha King on numerous occasions to help bring peace to the northern packs as they struggled with vampires."

"Why didn't you tell me?" She asks looking at me with admiration.

"Because it's what any Alpha should do" I say, "why brag about something that you take on responsibility for when you become an Alpha."

She stares at me lost for words for a moment before her face splits into a large grin, "seriously...amazing" she winks as she repeats her earlier words.

“Elder Martin whilst I’m here I’d like to request travelling back with my niece when they go home tomorrow” Johnathon says after a few moments of comfortable silence.

“Granted” Martin says without hesitation.

“Thank you” Johnathon says bowing his head.

“Elder Martin I think it’s relevant we inform you of some important news” Nova starts as she glances at me. Knowing what she is about to reveal I nod in silent agreement before she continues speaking, “my father..he’s alive.”

“He’s what?” He asks sharply.

“He’s alive..and he’s a Guardian Wolf” she says as his eyes grow wide in surprise.

“Hang on..your brother is alive?” he asks turning accusingly to Johnathon.

With a grimace Johnathon nods, “I swear I didn’t know where he was. I knew he was alive as I still had the family bond with him but I had to protect him. You know I mentioned the Moon Goddess visited me.”

“I know, relax I can tell you’re telling the truth” Martin says waving his hand, “I’m just surprised.”

“He had another daughter, my half sister Sophie who is 20. She is Lucas mate” Nova admits with a smile.

“3 Guardian Wolves?” He exclaims.

“No Sir, just 2” Johnathon interjects.

“How did you know?” I ask him, “we’ve never mentioned her wolf to you?”

“You only get one Guardian Wolf between siblings, and it’s not necessarily the first born as I can attest to” he explains. “It’s the one the Moon Goddess believes is more deserving of that blessing.”

“More deserving?” I hear Nova ask.

“It just means some have a better natural ability to be leaders, to be fair, to be strong and many other attributes. I myself am a good warrior but even if I trained day in day out I wouldn’t be strong enough for that of a Guardian Wolf” he shrugs.

“Sophie has never shifted, she believed she was wolfless” Nova continues, “but she smells of a wolf so I didn’t know at first. But Kia has explained that her wolf has been bound, we need to find a way to break that.”

“I can help with that” Johnathon says immediately, “I have done it before.”

“You can?” I ask in surprise.

He simply nods in agreement before Martin speaks, “this is a lot of information. But Johnathon most definitely needs to travel back with you and help your sister.”

He suddenly pauses as his mouth falls open in shock, “your mother” he gasps.

“Is alive” Nova says quietly.

“Oh that poor woman” he whispers. “Ok I have an idea...I’m going to contact the Alpha King.”

“He will help” I say without hesitation.

“He will?” Nova asks surprised.

With a smug grin I chuckle, “I’m good friends with Alex. I saved his life once, and that of his mates..long story but ever since we have kept in touch. After I’ve helped him and his pack, he owes me. But he would help anyway, if he believes the cause is right he will always get involved.”

“Wow” Nova whispers.

“I’ll mention you” Martin says as he smiles at me. “Let’s keep up to date and...be safe. You mean a lot to me Nova, I hate seeing you hurt” he admits.

“I know” she says as she stands and walks round to kiss both his cheeks, “thank you.”

“Right..we will see each other for the verdict, but I will speak to you before you leave” he says as he tries to hide the emotion he is feeling.

“Thank you Elder” i say extending my hand for him to shake.

Distraction

Chapter 75 - The Guardian Wolf and her Alpha Mate

Jax POV:

“It feels like we’ve lived a lifetime in the last few days alone” I chuckle as I walk out from having a rinse. Nova is laid on the bed in only a tank top and some panties with her eyes closed tracing circles on her arms methodically as she appears lost in thought.

“Tell me about it” she sighs.

“We need to distract her for a bit, her mind will be exhausted” Zeus mutters to me as I hum in agreement.

“Laurence has called by the way, everything is good. No sign of suspicious activity, although I think Evan and my dad has a little bit of a do this morning” I grimace.

“Oh really?” She says opening her eyes and quirking a brow. “About?”

“Training, Evan has ran a few sessions for Theo as he had been organising border patrols and running extra training sessions. Even offered to cover today so Theo could help Florence and Andrew get settled back in their suite. Pa saw the way he was running things and didn’t approve” I shrug.

“In front of people?” Nova asks.

“Yes..which I’m not happy about. I don’t think Evan took too kindly to being referred to as a pup” I sigh before lying down on the bed.

“Hmm” Nova says.

“Say it” I say with a chuckle.

“I don’t agree with disputes like that in front of the pack if it can be helped” she says quietly, “I mean it will make Evan potentially doubt his training methods or he will become defensive because he feels like he is being insulted. Also to have you father verbally disagree with him in front of pack members shows his doubt in his own son who is there to help. It only takes planting a seed you know.”

“I said that to Laurence” I agree.

“So what happened?” Nova asks.

“Evan finished the drills he had started then had Axel come and ask him to help with a patrol so my father could also lead some training and avoid it escalating” I explain.

“”Smart of Evan I suppose” Nova agrees.

“Hmm” I sigh, “I believe he said it was too early for conflict with pa but he didn’t like having to keep his lips shut and find a peaceful solution. His alpha wolf was offended.”

“We need to be wary of that Jax” Nova says after a moment, “it’s all well and good Evan avoiding conflict with your father and finding a peaceful solution for now, but it was slightly submissive so he’s not going to be happy about having to do that. If it continues it won’t end well.”

“Goodness don’t I know” I sigh. “Mila is back this week, I’m going to have a family meeting.”

“Can’t wait” Nova smirks.

Rolling over I end up between Novas bare legs looking up at her amused face. “Hmm I like this view” I grin at her with a wink.

“I bet you do” she replies rolling her eyes. Pushing myself up so I’m hovering over her I glance down at her full breasts pushing against her tank top.

“I always like the view” I whisper before leaning down and claiming her lips hungrily. Sweeping my tongue in she moans into my mouth as our lips move together passionately. Pulling away Nova looks up at me through lust filled eyes.

“Someone’s eager” she teases as she reaches a hand down to palm my shaft through my joggers.

“Seeing you in all your glory today has had me ready for you constantly” I admit with another smirk. “It was truly magnificent.”

Reaching my own hand down I push her panties to one side and run my fingers through her folds. “So wet for me” I moan as my cock twitches eagerly. Rubbing her nub lightly with my thumb she bucks her hip as she glares up at me.

“Don’t tease me Jax, I need you to fuck me” she says as I smile widely at her.

“And you said I was eager” I tease before plunging two fingers deep into her core and pumping them quickly making her moan as her eyes flutter closed.

“Eyes on me” I command making her eyes snap open to meet mine. “I love seeing the effect I have on you. How do you want me to fuck you love?”

“H..hard..ahhh that feels good” she moans as I curl my fingers slightly grazing her pleasure spot.

“What was that?” I whisper as I reach down and free my shaft from my joggers.

“Hard” she orders looking at me. I lower my mouth and latch onto one of her nipples sucking and leaving my mark as I grind my shaft into her thigh hinting at my readiness.

“Ah y..yesss” she moans as I rub her clit harder and bite gently on her nipple. “I’m going to cum Jax” she warns as I see her eyes begin to glaze over in pleasure.

“Cum for me” I demand as I reach down and lightly suck her mark, with that her body shudders under mine as her walls tighten around my fingers and her eyes roll back in pleasure.

“Ahhh Jaxxxx” she moans loudly as I slowly move my fingers inside her. Lifting them from her she groans at the loss of contact and watches me with hooded eyes as I lift my fingers to my mouth and suck them, “so sweet” I growl before lifting myself and flipping her so she’s ass up on the bed making her squeal in surprise.

“On all fours” I command as I lift her ass up and pull her to the edge of the bed. Standing up I pump my cock a couple of times as I take in the view of her glistening core coated in her juices as she has her tits squished into the bed, her ass up tempting me with the curve in her back

“So sexy” I growl as I run my fingers through her folds before running them along my shaft coating it in her arousal. With a whimper she shimmy’s her ass making my eyes flash, grasping her hips tightly in my hand I plunge deep inside her tight walls as she gasps at my entrance.

“Fuck you’re tight” I grunt as I pull back slowly before slamming back into her. Hearing her moan lightly in response I begin to pound into her at a relentless pace knowing it’s what she needs.

“She needs to know we are the one in control in the bedroom” Zeus growls to me as he watches through my eyes.

“Mine” I growl to Nova as I splay a hand on her lower back before raising my other and with a firm smack I hit her ass.

“Yes JAX” she screams as she pushes her hips back into me revelling in my actions.

“Again” she moans as I smack her once more leaving a satisfying red mark on her round behind. Holding her hips with one hand I reach round with my other and knead her breast, pinching her nipple and twisting slightly as I do.

“Oh my Goddess” she moans as she throws her head back. Feeling her body start to stiffen as my balls begin to tingle I know she’s as close as I am. Moving my hand down I roughly circle her sensitive clit as she bucks back into me again.

“So. Fucking. Hot” I grunt with each thrust as I pull slightly on her hair to force her to look back at me.

“Cum with me” she whimpers as her legs begin to quiver, seeing her bite her lip to try keep her loud moans at bay I pump into her powerfully a couple more times before she screams “JAXXX” as she hurtles over the edge.

Her core clamps around my shaft as her juices squirt from her making my eyes widen in amazement, “you squirted..little minx” I growl. Seeing that makes my cock twitch and ropes of cum spurt deep inside her core. Pumping slowly as we ride our highs i slowly bring my

movements to a halt before we collapse to the bed in bliss. Pulling out I lean forward and kiss her shoulder blade softly, “let me clean you up.”

After wiping her off she grins at me with a soft blush as I pull my joggers up. “What?” I smirk.

“You look pleased with yourself” she murmurs.

“I am” I grin. “Just the thought of having made you squirt makes me want to go again.”

“You’re always ready to go again” she laughs as I lie down and draw her close to me.

“And you aren’t?” I tease making her laugh.

“I won’t deny that I am” she murmurs as she lays her head on my chest her eyes fluttering closed.

“Have a nap before dinner love, we have an hour” I say kissing the top of her head as I rub circles on her lower back.

“Ok” she murmurs already half asleep making me chuckle.

Ally

Chapter 76 - The Guardian Wolf and her Alpha Mate

Nova POV:

"Love it's time to wake up, they'll be here with dinner soon" I hear Jax say softly as he sits down making the bed dip.

"Do I have to" I groan into the pillow making him chuckle.

"Yes" he says in his deep voice.

Glaring I point my finger at him as I sit up, "I blame you" I say before stifling a yawn.

Chuckling his mesmerising eyes hold amusement as he looks at me, puffing his chest out he replies cheekily "well i take it as a compliment, now get your ass out of bed."

Throwing the first thing I grab at him he ducks before picking it up off of the floor and holding it up with a look of disbelief, "a pillow Nova? Really?"

"That was pretty pathetic" Kia murmurs as she joins in Jax's amusement.

Huffing he chuckles before reaching down and pulling me up, dropping a kiss he points to some relaxed clothes on the end of the bed. "I got some stuff out ready for you, don't know if it's alright but this evening we need to relax. It's been a hectic day and I don't plan on us leaving this room if we don't have to."

"Thank you babe" I say smiling at his thoughtfulness.

As I finish pulling my hair into a messy bun after getting dressed I hear a knock on the door as Jax heads over to open it.

"Jax" I hiss quietly making him pause as he looks at me. "The room will stink of sex!"

His chest rumbles as he lets out a deep rumble, "I knew you'd say that so I opened the windows babe."

"Oh" I say spinning and realising they're open as the curtains ripple slightly in the breeze letting in the warm air, "so you have" I add on sheepishly.

Opening the door I see Luca with Axton close behind him.

"You look rough" I comment to Luca as I walk to give him a hug.

"Yes thank you dear sister" he says sarcastically, "it's been a long ass day and you know what I'm like when I have little sleep."

"I know" I murmur as he kisses the top of my head before stepping further into the room.

"Hi Alpha" I say smiling at Axton as Jax shakes his hand in greeting.

"Ah no Alpha please" he says grimacing, "can we forget about that just during dinner at least..you know skip the formalities."

"No problem" Jax says, "not really necessary in here is it."

"Thank you" Axton sighs as he collapses into a chair in the corner.

Looking between Axton and Luca I see the stress in their eyes making me nervous, "you both ok?"

"Not really" Axton says looking out the window. "Today has been a lot to take in, and that asshole of a Dr has gotten on my nerves. Did you know he had access to all our medical files at the pack hospital for the past 5 years?"

"WHAT?" I exclaim loudly, "that's a breach of patient confidentiality!"

"I know" Axton growls, "we saw all the files he had accessed throughout that time and do you know who's he looked at?"

"Mine?" I ask with a sigh.

"Not just yours, also mine and all ranked positions. He didn't look at any others" he growls tapping his knee.

"Why though?" Jax asks confused, "and how did he get that allowed?"

"He didnt" Luca says with a pointed look.

"Ah" Jax says as he takes another chair holding out beers to everyone from our mini fridge.

"We saw his access records which the idiot didn't even bother to try and hide, he really thought he wouldn't get caught. But there were also notes he made on his phone which was sent to an unknown email address" Luca says.

"We need that" Kia growls to me angrily.

"I'll get that email address and get Axel on the case" Jax immediately says as if he read my mind.

"Already got it ready for you" Luca says holding a piece of paper out to Jax who's nods in thanks.

"So what was he looking for?" I ask again.

"To see if we were expecting pups" Axton admits quietly making me blanch as Jax's head snaps up to meet mine.

"W..what?" I stutter before I take a gulp of beer.

"Pups Nova" Axton says with a sigh, "he even made notes on when you took the shot and who administered it."

"Did he get involved at all with the administration of the shot?" Jax asks reluctantly.

"No" I reply quickly shaking my head, "I'm a qualified doctor remember. I administered it myself at the time but always had another nurse present just to witness."

"Makes sense" he says as he looks at me nervously.

"I can see what you're thinking Jax but Nova and I never planned to have pups" Axton explains as Jax's shoulders visibly relax at his words.

"Can I ask why?" Jax replies.

With a pained expression Axton nods, "please don't be upset with anything I'm about to say."

"I won't, the past is the past" Jax assures him.

"Nova was saving herself for her mate, her true mate which I supported. So at first it wasn't a possibility anyway. But I also promised to never betray Nova whilst in our chosen mateship so I never went near another either, after 6 months we caved. I don't want to upset you but we did grow to love one another, nothing like you both clearly but enough to trust one another and be there for one another's needs I suppose" Axton says quietly glancing at me quickly as I smile slightly in agreement for him to go on. "But we also could never have a pup and them grow up with parents who separate because they found their true mate, not only that but that's something we both believed our fated mate deserved. You deserve to be Nova's pup's father, not me..it was fated that way and we weren't going to oppose that."

Seeing Jax's eyes soften as he looks at me he smiles affectionately, "thank you..both of you."

"It was only right" Axton says with a shrug.

"So why were they checking for that?" I ask.

"Because you're a Guardian Wolf Nova, if you had a pup it could well have been another Guardian Wolf" Luca points out as I slam a hand to my head in realisation.

"Oh shit" I exclaim.

"He was keeping an eye out in case he needed to terminate a pregnancy" Luca spits out as his eyes flash with those of Reed as I feel nauseous at his words.

"That's awful" Jax says with disgust.

"Fucking hunters" Axton snarls angrily. "The level they sink to is repulsive."

"It is" Jax agrees as he looks at me nervously.

"I'm not pregnant Jax" I say quietly as he smiles softly.

"I know" he murmurs, "and as much as I want a pup with you, after hearing that I agree even more with our decision to wait."

Offering him a sad smile I lean back with a sigh as I take a sip of my beer.

"So what's happened to him?" Jax asks.

"He's going to be executed for treason, he also did forge the reports on our mother" Luca says with a pained look in his eye. "He never reported to the hunters directly but he worked for Frost and was aware who he was relating information to."

"Do you think there are any more traitors?" Axton asks suddenly.

With a growl Jax frowns, "I hope not. It's hard to know who to trust around here."

"What are your plans after tomorrow Axton if you don't mind us asking?" Jax asks after a moments quiet.

"Gain my packs trust back, work my ass off to gain back the money that bitch spent and hopefully find my fated mate" he says with determination.

"Will you be our ally Axton?" I ask him as he looks at me in shock.

"Ally?" He repeats.

"I don't think it's going to be easy against the hunters and goddess knows what they have planned. If we need extra support would you be happy to offer it?" I ask looking at him closely.

"Nova!" He exclaims shocked, "you shouldn't even have to ask that. Of course we would, fucking hell this brute would never let me live if I didn't. But despite that I would offer my support for you whenever you're in need..you know that" he finishes with a frown.

"I know" I say offering him a slight smile, "but it could be dangerous."

"Well yes, but that's just life" he says like it's obvious. "Jax I'll even put it in writing for you man, you will always have a tie to the White Mountain Pack with Luca and Sophie being the Beta pair plus Nova being the ex Luna. We might as well make it official" he shrugs.

Jax looks at him silently for a minute before he offers a genuine smile flashing his pearly whites, "we can sort that on our way home then, why don't you both stop at our pack and we can get it in writing."

"Finally" I hear Luca whisper as he rolls his eyes at me.

Hearing another knock I leap up to answer the door, "she knows he's bringing food that's why she moved so quick" I hear Jax murmur making the other two chuckle.

"Johnathon" I exclaim as I swing the door open to be greeted by a stand full of amazing food. "Oh you're my favourite uncle" I squeal making him laugh.

“I’m your only uncle Nova” he points out.

“Still my favourite” I reply with a wink as I help him roll the stand in. “Let’s eat and then chat.”

Verdict

Chapter 77 - The Guardian Wolf and her Alpha Mate

Nova POV:

"So I know you mentioned about your mate gaining your gifts in times of need and I'm thinking you haven't had chance to read through all of the information I have?" Johnathon after we had finished our food.

"No, it was something I read briefly before we had to leave" I said as I sit beside Jax on the sofa.

"Well I can tell you more about it" Johnathon says as he passes everyone another beer, "if you don't mind the others being here that is? I can also tell you more on our journey to your pack, less potential ears that way."

"No, these two are fully aware of what Kia is and also with Luca being family I would tell him anyway" I chuckle as Jax does the same.

"Just checking" Johnathon also chuckles. "So there have been 3 recorded instances of gifts between a Guardian Wolf and their mate being shared or transferred as it was also referred to."

"Transferred suggests it leaves the Guardian Wolf without them?" Jax asks.

"It happened once, the complete shift of gifts from a male Guardian Wolf to his mate. He found her being attacked and she was too weak after her past treatment to defend herself. So..he marked her on instinct, instead of leaving her feeling tired as is normally the case it invigorated her and the gifts were transferred" Johnathon says as I sit back in shock. "He was strong due to the size of his wolf and together they were successful in getting away from the attack."

"Were the gifts transferred back?" Luca asks intrigued. "What were they?"

"Yes they woke and everything was back to normal, but she did gain strength and health back quicker than an average wolf. The gifts were that of a healer and visions. She learnt their plan of attack seconds before it happened and shared it through the mindlink, that's how they got away..it was against vampires" Johnathon answers.

"So other times it's just been shared?" I ask.

"Yes but like I said there is only 2 recorded times of that happening so I can't tell you if the transferral is rare or if it's just what the circumstances made happen at the time" Johnathon says. "I'm sorry I know it's not very helpful but there isn't that much information regarding that available. Also in those cases the mates were weak..Jax is far from that if what I have heard about him is correct. So I can't tell you if it would happen between you."

"To be honest I don't need it to" Jax says, "it was just interesting."

"But it would be nice to know it was an option" I point out.

"Well it's a possibility" Jax shrugs. "But it's not something we should rely on."

"What are your gifts Nova?" Johnathon asks intrigued.

"I don't know" I say quietly to which he looks shocked by, "but your birthday..your emergence?" He asks.

"I've had increased senses and my strength has grown considerably, but other than that I haven't noticed anything different" I shrug.

"You know what..you are incredibly strong both mentally and physically maybe you don't know because you haven't had to yet. Ask Kia" Johnathon suggests.

"Ki?" I ask her quietly suddenly nervous.

"They'll come" she answers.

"Nothing more?" I scoff.

"If I knew more I'd say Nova, you know that" she retorts.

"She just said they'll come" I reply, "nothing more" I add on shooting everyone a look to say don't ask.

"Then they will come" is all Johnathon says with a smile, "trust in Kia."

"Thank you" I say softly.

"Fucking hell Nova" Axton says as he lounges in his chair, "I thought I had a lot to think about. Nothing compared to you."

"Tell me about it" I sigh as Jax chuckles shifting me onto his lap so I'm wrapped in his strong arms. Resting my head on his chest I feel the tiredness seeping through me, "I think I need to sleep."

"If you wanted us to go you could just tell us to fuck off" Luca says smirking.

"Smartarse" I say rolling my eyes at him.

"We get it, get some rest sis" he says playfully rubbing my hair as he did when I was younger making me glare at him.

"Night guys" I say through another yawn as everyone files out.

"Come on, let's get to bed" Jax says as he stands keeping me close to him. Feeling the comfort of the bed envelop me I let the heat from Jax's body and his even breathing lull me to sleep.

All too soon it's morning, the sunshine starts to filter through the curtains making me wake slowly from my sleep.

Seeing the time is 8:30 I shoot out of bed wide eyed realising we had 30 minutes to get ready, "JAX!" I shout shaking him awake.

"What?" He asks leaping from the bed in a panic as I rush off to the bathroom.

"Look at the time!" I call out at him as I hear him swear in realisation and start to rush around the room. 15 minutes later we are stood by the door looking at each other before bursting into laughter.

"Well you look beautiful" Jax says as he opens the door for me, "good to know you can get ready quickly unlike my sister."

"Let me guess she says it takes time to be perfect" I laugh.

"How did you know?" He asks.

"Women's intuition" I giggle before we reach the doors leading to the room.

Taking a breath as the doors are opened I grasp Jax's hand and we stride into the room side by side. As we pass the council members they all bow to me causing me to pause and look to Elder Martin questioningly.

"That's new" I comment.

"Their wolves respect Kia and yourself, get used to it" he says also bowing.

Seeing others in the room do the same Jax smirks at me, "your power is radiating from you now, Kia is done hiding."

"About time she can show her true self, but that will take some getting used to" I admit quietly before we take our seats as Luca simply smirks at me.

"Shall I bow?" He teases.

"Don't you dare" I growl.

Seeing Rose be dragged in Kia's hackles are immediately up as she growls loudly in my head, "bitch" she snarls as I strongly agree. Looking at her I see resignation in her features as if she has accepted what her fate will be, whilst her body looks frail and dirty like she hasn't bothered to look after herself. "She's given up Kia, she has no fight in her" I say to my wolf.

Feeling anger pulse through the bond I look at Jax, "she deserves everything she's going to get" he snarls viciously his protectiveness of me coming out strongly as he glares at her.

"She does" I agree calmly turning my attention back to the front.

"Good morning everybody" Elder Martin calls to gather everyone's attention. "We are here today to reach the verdict on Rose Brown. After yesterday's events we have heard enough and do not require more information for a sentencing. So with the council in agreement the verdict is as follows.

Rose Brown, you have committed a series of serious crimes against Alpha Axton and Luna Nova. Due to your actions in forcibly breaking a mate bond and working alongside hunters, I Elder Martin, on behalf of the entirety of the council sentence you to death. We show no mercy to those who have betrayed their own, you worked directly with hunters even if it was not to your knowledge I'm sure you knew it was wrong what you were doing. Alpha Axton was within his rights to kill you for what you did, but his thinking of requesting a formal trial had led to more information becoming known to us which we are thankful for."

Hearing that I don't even flinch knowing that was the only possible outcome after her admissions yesterday. Looking at Axton I see his face hasn't changed from the furious glare he has had on since her appearance.

"Due to you, Alpha Axton, being marked we will break the bond after this has concluded to ensure you feel no pain. The matter of how she is executed is however your decision" Elder Martin says addressing Axton.

Standing he holds his head high his wolf present as he addresses the room, "she is not worth my time, after the bond has been broken I will wait until her execution has taken place to witness her death however the manner in which it happens I do not care for. My priority is my pack." Seeing Rose's eyes fill with tears at his words her head drops to the floor as her body slumps. Axton simply looks at her before looking away showing no sign of remorse.

"As you wish" Martin says with pride in his eyes at his words.

"On another related matter, I would like to disclose that due to what was said yesterday Alpha Jacob will also be standing trial in the coming days. He was removed from the position of Alpha this morning and his pack has been notified, Elder Angela has already travelled to his pack to

ensure everything is in order in his absence and to ensure the transition is as smooth as possible for the pack members” Elder Martin says making me sigh in relief. “Thank you for attending, if you all could now make your leave.”

“I’m ready for home” I say to Jax as we stand and look at one another.

“We will wait for Axton and for the execution to have been confirmed and then we can go love” he says kissing me softly. “Let’s call Laurence and update them.”

[Heading Back](#)

Chapter 78 - The Guardian Wolf and her Alpha Mate

Jax POV:

"She's being executed as we speak" I let Laurence know as I've called to tell him we will be home this afternoon. "After everything she said yesterday it was a given, I'm surprised Axton didn't want to do it himself to be honest but I get why."

"Yeah, it's definitely more humiliating for her if the council does it due to the actions of her mate, forced mate..whatever you want to call it." Laurence says, "if Axton had killed her for her actions at the pack the information she had we wouldn't know but also there would be no public humiliation. She has shamed her pack, her father has also, in front of the entirety of the council. That's not something to be thought of lightly, execution by the council is one of the highest orders."

"True" Nova says, "plus at the time of the decision he still had the mark on his neck, perhaps the emotions were a lot and he just thought the quicker it's done the better."

"So we shall see you soon?" Laurence checks.

"Give us 3 hours" I reply relieved to be travelling home soon.

"See you boss, Luna" Laurence says before I disconnect the call.

"All done" we hear Luca say from behind us. Turning we see him looking pleased, "no more of that deceitful bitch taking up too much of our time."

"Throat slit" was Axton's words as he appears looking like a weight has been lifted off of his shoulders. Rubbing his neck absentmindedly where his mark used to lay he offers us a small smile. "Time to move on."

"It's for the best" Luca says patting his shoulder.

"Definitely" Axton replies confidently, "well at least we have Sophie to pick up on some Luna roles."

"I'm just relieved no one asked about my mate mark" Luca chuckles, "although maybe that means I'm boring."

"You are" Nova shrugs turning away to hide her grin.

"Thanks" he scoffs before laughing, "but I know when you're lying lil sis, I'm the one that taught you."

"Hmmm" she replies narrowing her eyes making his smile falter, "sure you do."

"Well shit" he mutters as he walks to their car.

"Nova, Alpha Jax!" We hear being called as we turn to see Elder Martin approaching us quickly.

"Elder Martin" I say politely.

"I just wanted to inform you that the 3 traitors are also going to be executed, we are going to interrogate them again this evening and they will be executed once we have as much information as we can gather. We will of course keep you updated with the findings. You're welcome to stay of course" he says.

"Thank you Elder Martin" Nova says from beside me, "but we think returning to the pack is the most sensible solution."

"I thought you might. It's been a pleasure seeing you both, I hope in the future it is in better circumstances. I have also spoken to the Alpha King, he will be contacting you to arrange a visit" he informs us.

"Always a pleasure..despite the circumstances" Nova says with a small smile as she politely kisses his cheek before I step forward and grasp his hand.

"I have a message for you Alpha Jax and it's that your hard work will pay off in time..it will all come clear soon" he says looking me in the eyes as my brows furrow in confusion. "Thank you for your help in this trial the both of you, and thank goddess you noticed about Johnathon. I've nearly spilt that information far too many times" he chuckles as I smile proudly.

"Thank you Elder Martin, we will contact you soon" I say as he bows slightly in respect and we do the same.

Turning I lead Nova to our car as we see Johnathon join us with freshly washed hair.

"You killed her?" I ask quietly.

"I needed to get justice for my niece, it's not the first time I have done so" he mutters as he throws his bag into the boot. "Let's be off shall we?" He asks smiling widely at the prospect of seeing his brother.

"Let's" I smile.

Starting the engine I check to see Axton and Luca are ready behind us and set off thankful to be driving home sooner than we had hoped.

"Well your visit was certainly exciting" Johnathon laughs from the back seat making Nova giggle.

"When isn't it at the moment" she drawls rolling her eyes at me.

"I know you mentioned discussing more on the drive home but I thought it may be more beneficial we discuss it at the pack. My Beta knows more than we do and he has a great interest in history and gifted wolves. Plus Kingsley will be present, I think that may help" I suggest.

"I thought the same after I suggested it" Johnathon laughs, "we could talk now if needed but what's the point in repeating myself if you're happy to wait."

"I waited 25 years, I can wait a few hours" Nova chuckles.

The closer we are to the pack the lighter my body feels as the tension and worry of being away from them is slowly lifted. Seeing Nova smile as she looks out the window I speak "you feel it to don't you?"

"I was anxious to be home and know everyone was safe, I'm starting to feel less on edge" she admits meeting my eyes.

"So the Luna ceremony.." I start as her face lights in excitement. "Any more thoughts?"

"Well I'm sure your mum will have lots of ideas but I did have a couple myself" she says excitedly.

"Such as..?" I prompt enjoying her happiness.

“Well I know what dress I’d like, I’m going to suggest Alice help make it or find one we can make suitable alterations to. She has a great knack for things like that but I’m not going to tell you the design. I want that to be a surprise” she smiles.

“Hmm..me too” I reply huskily making her noticeably shiver at my tone of voice before glancing in the mirror to see Johnathon dozing in the back.

“Music.. I heard Theo and Flos cousin Annabelle I think it was? Anyway she was playing with a couple of others the other week and I can’t get my mind off of it, I think I’d like them to perform” she suggests.

“That’s a brilliant idea” I agree, “they’ve played for a few pack nights I’ve organised in the past and I’m sure they would be honoured.”

“Great” she exclaims.

“How would you feel about naming your own Beta and Gamma at the ceremony?” I ask.

“What?” She gasps in surprise.

“Well I’ve been thinking of something Axton said, you’re more of an Alpha than we are..just not by blood. I think as Luna and as a Guardian Wolf it would be fitting that you name your own Beta and Gamma” I suggest.

“Naomi and Alice” she says immediately.

“I think that’s the best solution, they’re already mated into the roles but I imagine once you become more known you may end up with quite a few extra responsibilities, I of course will be there to share them but Laurence, Theo and Florence already have their roles. I suggest we make it more of a team effort..?” I put forward.

“I like that idea” she says smiling softly, “they’ll be over the moon.”

“I’m glad you approve” I smile as she leans over and kisses my cheek.

“Life is going to be different isn’t it” Nova suddenly says nervously.

“Yes..but that’s part of life. We will get through it and come out of it stronger” I assure her as Zeus puffs his chest out in agreement.

Seeing Zeus presence in my eyes she reaches a delicate hand out to cup my cheek gently, “how about we let Kia and Zeus have a run this evening? They also need their time.”

“Yes” Zeus growls eagerly pushing forward.

“I daren’t say no” I joke to her, “I think that’s a plan.”

“Thank you” Zeus says to me happily.

“Anytime buddy, when things calm down we can organise it more ok” I reassure him.

“I’d like that, we both would” he agrees as Kia also links me to say “thank you Jax.”

Reuniting

Chapter 79 - The Guardian Wolf and her Alpha Mate

Nova POV:

“Home” Jax sighs as we pull up outside the packhouse before he jumps out and runs to open my door.

“Thanks, I don’t mind opening my door you know” I say squeezing his forearm as I stand close to him.

“Only being polite” he winks before taking my hand and leading us to where Laurence and Naomi are waiting.

“Oh we’ve missed you” Naomi whispered as she pulled me in to a tight hug. Feeling a movement against my abdomen I gasp as I pull away and look down.

“May I?!” I ask as she nods and pulls my hand to rest on her growing bump. Feeling the wriggles beneath I giggle, “they are some strong pups!”

“They’re happy their Alpha and Luna are home” she chuckles, “Jax..would you like to feel?”

“You sure?” He asks his eyes brimming with excitement.

“Yes” Laurence chuckles from beside her, “the future Betas are in there after all.”

Reaching his hand out tentatively Naomi rests hers over reassuringly as his face spreads into a wide smile, “that’s amazing” he breaths as I smile at the longing I feel through the bond.

“Soon love” I link him as he smiles at me happily.

“I’m nervous for when they get bigger” Naomi admits pulling a worried face.

“They’ll be here before you know it” I smile. “How was your appointment yesterday?”

“Everything is going perfect, I just need to make sure I get enough rest” she says with a soft smile, “can you please attend the next one?”

“I’d love to” I grin.

“Thank you Luna” Laurence says with a smile.

“How are you both? How’s the pack?” Jax asks after introducing Johnathon to them both.

“Very good, everything went smoothly in your absence which you’ll be pleased to know” Laurence says with a smile before excusing himself upstairs briefly.

“Where’s my dad?” I ask as we all take a seat in the lounge.

“He’ll be here shortly, Sophie and him were training but they should be on their way back now” Naomi says shooting a reassuring smile to Johnathon.

“Alpha I have the treaty drafted if you and Alpha Axton would like to have a look at it?” Laurence says reappearing from the office a few moments later.

“Thanks Laurence, Alpha Axton if you would please come through to the meeting room with me” Jax says standing up and motioning behind him.

“Yes please after you” Axton replies politely.

After they’d left I turn to see Naomi looking at me with an unreadable expression, “how did you do it?”

“Do what?” I ask confused.

“Jax and Alpha Axton? They seem to be getting along and even making a treaty?” She says in disbelief.

“Oh..that” I chuckle, “well I didn’t do anything. Rose tricked Axton, he was as much a victim as I, despite him being in pleasure at first it was all fake and twisted. With Axton and myself we always agreed to step aside for fated mates respectfully, and that’s exactly what he’s doing” I shrug. “He knows Jax is my life, my soul mate but it doesn’t mean he’s forgotten all we accomplished together. Plus his Beta may have a problem if he didn’t offer to help” I smirk winking at Luca who is looking anxiously around for Sophie.

“Well it’s a good ally to have” Naomi smiles in relief as she caresses her bump.

“Nova” I hear being squealed behind me as I turn to see Alice and Theo making her way over. “I’m so happy to see you” she exclaims as we hug.

“How you feeling?” I ask as I take in her glowing complexion.

“Much better, no tears now” she chuckles as Theo nods.

“Thank the goddess” he says dramatically making everyone laugh as she playfully hits his arm.

“You’ll be showing soon” I smile as she rests her hand on her stomach.

“I can’t wait” Theo whispers quietly as he rests his hand on top of hers.

“Flo and Andrew?” I ask Theo quietly.

“Upstairs waiting to see their Luna” he grins.

Hearing my dad and sister chatting as they head inside the packhouse I look across at Johnathon who is sat opposite me. “They’ve just come inside” I say to him as worry crosses his features.

“He’s going to be happy, relax Elder” I say making him relax at my teasing.

“Oh Nova, thank the Goddess you’re safe” I hear my dad exclaim as he walks in with Sophie right behind him, “how did...”

He stops abruptly lifting his nose and taking a deep inhale, “what..” he whispers to himself running a hand through his hair. “Why do I know that scent?” He murmurs to himself in confusion.

“Hey dad” I call gaining his attention, “I’d like you to meet Elder Johnathon.” With that Johnathon stands and steps beside me before turning around and meeting my father’s confused gaze.

“Hello little brother” Johnathon says from beside me nervously as my father pauses gaping at him.

“Little brother?” He gasps.

“You won’t remember me..” Johnathon starts before my dad interrupts.

“Your eyes” he states as he stares at them hard.

“Just like yours” Johnathon says quietly as my father doesn’t move.

“I don’t understand, I always thought my parents left me at the orphanage aged 2, I didn’t have any siblings”he says frowning.

“What?” Johnathon asks cocking his head. “No..the Beta of the pack left us there when our parents were killed..I was 2 and you were almost 1. We were separated within 2 months of being there.”

“Wait if you thought you were 2 but actually it was Johnathon that was 2 do you think that was told to you on purpose?” I ask looking between the two.

“I think so, I was taken in by an old lady who I later learned was a witch. She was the most kind person to me growing up and without her I wouldn’t be where I am today” my dad admits still staring at Johnathon. “She had visions..” he trails off as realisation crosses his face.

“Do you think she knew what you were?” I ask tentatively.

“I think she will have” Johnathon suddenly says, “Guardian wolves have helped witches In the past, it is likely some still know a lot about them and wish to protect them. It’s in one of the books..I imagine she did it to protect you.”

“I have a big brother?” My dad chuckles nervously.

“You do” Johnathon says taking a tentative step forwards. My father does the same before they come together clasping each other tight as they try to hide their emotion.

“The family bond” my dad murmurs as he steps back. “I always thought it was a parent, but it was you.”

“It was” Johnathon says quietly. “Why don’t we go for a walk? I have a lot to tell you and I’d love to hear more about my brothers life.”

“Of course” my dad agrees immediately.

“But first..Sophie?” Johnathon asks looking behind him as she steps forward her eyes wide in shock.

“Hi Elder” she says quietly.

“Johnathon is fine, I don’t need to be called Elder by you” he says with a small smile. “It’s lovely to meet you.”

“And you...I’m sorry I’m still in shock” she says with a nervous chuckle.

“As am I” he admits, “but to know I have two nieces and not one has made me happier than you know. Congratulations on your new mateship, what a blessing.”

“Thank you” she whispers with tears filling her eyes before she lunges forward and pulls him into a hug making him freeze in surprise before gently wrapping his arms around her.

“Family” she whispers happily as she meets my eyes over his shoulder.

“Family” I repeat.

Fathers Doubt

Chapter 80 - The Guardian Wolf and her Alpha Mate

Jax POV:

Treaty done, training reports up to date, hotel and restaurant invoices, orders and payments made, pack finances all in order and new shifters have their first run tonight planned.

“Organised” Zeus says proudly as I file the paperwork away breathing a sigh of relief.

“Yeah thank the goddess I have a very capable Beta who can step up when I need him to” I mutter to him.

“This pack runs smoothly because of you, and Laurence works so well because of how he was trained and helped..by you” Zeus points out with a wolffish chuckle. Hearing a knock on the door I stride over and open it smiling in greeting.

“Morning Kingsley, Elder Johnathon. How are you both?” I ask as I gesture for them to take a seat.

“Well yesterday was not what I expected” Kingsley laughed “but to know I have a brother is a gift.”

“It certainly is” I say with a broad smile. “How have you settled in Johnathon?”

“The room is lovely and your pack members are very welcoming. It’s been a pleasure” he says politely.

“Good” I say before sitting up and leaning forward in the desk, “so the reason I’ve called you here may not be the nicest topic to talk about but I think it’s high up on our list of things to figure out. Laurence spoke to you about Caroline didn’t he Johnathon?”

“Yes he did” he says with a scowl, “the hate I feel for that woman is incredibly high.”

“Well that’s something we all have in common” I say grimacing, “well I’ve heard from the Dr this morning that he will be happy for me to speak to her after lunch today. I want to focus on

finding Novas mother, I for the both of you Kingsley. The thought of her potentially suffering over the years is extremely unpleasant and although I know Nova thinks what we are doing is right I also don't want to hold off finding her just because we don't know everything. Unfortunately I don't think this is a situation where we can know everything we need to before tackling the problem and I know Nova is in agreement after speaking to her this morning. She's aware of this meeting."

"You're right, there has been too much going on for years now that none of us were aware of" Kingsley says with a pained look in his eyes.

"Exactly. I'm hoping or rather I'm banking on Caroline giving us information regarding Novas mother, but I think we should also be aware that it might not be up to date as she has been in a coma for over a year" I say pulling on my neck slightly at the thought. "Kingsley I assume you need to go to your pack?"

"Definitely" he says immediately, "I'd like to see you speak with Caroline and I'd also like to speak to her before I go."

"Of course" I agree, "but no violence. I know you harbour a lot of feelings towards her and they are all warranted that's a given. But we can't let our emotions lead us so I guess I'm just saying..control yourself."

"I am a Guardian Wolf" he smirks, "but yes of course Jax. I understand I can't react, her death although it will happen, I know it can't happen just yet."

"Glad we agree" I chuckle.

"I have also spoken to Axel and Evan this morning, they are going to return to my uncles pack today but only for a day before they go on scout missions they have arranged. I have seen the plans they have drawn up and I have to agree they are meticulously thought out so I have given them a go ahead" I inform them as they smile approvingly. Handing them both copies of the plans for them to read over I continue, "I do have a suggestion for you though Kingsley if you would be interested?"

"Oh yes?" He asks looking up with raised brows.

"I know I haven't had time to learn more about the rogue pack you lead but I wondered if you had some pack members you would like to accompany the groups on the different scout missions? It would increase the efficiency of the missions and also increase their strength if they did run into any problems, which I'm hoping they don't" I explain. "How do you feel about that?"

Putting the papers down he leans back and smiles widely at me. "I think that's a brilliant idea. My pack operates just like any other but there are some major differences. As you know I took over from the previous Rogue King who was a brute and made his members do awful things. Truly awful. So I have a different system in my pack, I have those I trust with my life, many are

rogues similar to me who were made rogues through no fault of their own. I then have rogues who have made past mistakes but have taken the oath of course and are working on righting their wrongs. But I also have rogues who are on the turn of going feral, I have realised that living within a pack reduces the feral rates and also increases the moral of those who join. But we still have rogues who are too far gone, they are kept in the cells and monitored 24/7, if they are feral they are killed.”

“That’s interesting” I say genuinely intrigued. “It was a lot to take on?”

Throwing me a look he nods, “you have no idea. My pack is a lot safer than it used to be, the changes I have made have made a difference but it takes time for such dramatic changes and it’s only been 2 years. There were ones that refused to align with my new rules and hopes for the pack. I call those wolfs wanderers and they are free roaming belonging to no pack. If I come across them they have the opportunity to sign up and make changes but they have to perform the oath. If they fail they then die you see. But if the wanderers refuse..I put them down.”

“It’s what any of us would do” I shrug. “It sounds like a good system if I’m honest.”

“It’s brutal but necessary for all packs safety” he agrees. “But I definitely have pack members who I trust with my life, I would happily organise for them to join the scout missions.”

“Great” I smile. “They are your copies to keep, I’ll speak to my brothers before they go and their contact information is on there. I’m going to leave it to them to handle, they are more than capable and it’s time they showed everyone their skills.”

“Everyone being your father” Kingsley says quietly.

“Yes” I shrug.

“I saw how he was when you were gone, those men are patient and did well to not react” he says making me look at him curiously.

“Tell me” I say sharply.

“Permission to speak freely?” He asks knowing he’s speaking about not only my father but the previous Alpha.

“Yes” I say after a moments hesitation.

“He doesn’t trust them and it shows. I saw him ask pack members after training sessions they helped in or led if they did a good job and if they helped. They organised a drill for a group of trackers which he then complained about to a few older pack members quite openly which both Sophie and I overheard as well as a few juveniles” he says looking at me as he’s careful with his words.

“Fuck sake Pa” I growl slamming my hand on the table.

“That’s not all” Kingsley admits as Johnathon looks shocked by what he’s saying.

“Go on” I groan.

“He complained about the Omegas, he was unhappy with his suite and he said the standard of food had dropped since he left” he admits. “Sophie had to console an Omega she found crying in the bathroom after breakfast which she had taken to your parents suite for them.”

“Why didn’t he say these things to my Beta?” I wonder aloud.

“Can I now speak?” Johnathon asks quietly.

“Sure” I agree.

“Your father was a great alpha as you know, I met him a few times on official visits and he helped the pack begin to thrive. But I did have to report him once on the treatment of Omegas as I saw him threaten one once” he admits.

“WHAT?!” I shout standing in shock. “How did I not know this?”

“I’m sure he was harsh bringing you up at times as he wanted you to be successful, but I have to admit you’re a very different type of Alpha to him. Your pack members respect you because they want to and because you have earned their trust and have their best interests at heart. The pack members respected your father because of how he made the pack successful, not necessarily because of the way he did it” he continues. “He knows you’re a different Alpha, but he also knows you’re a better one than he was and I imagine it doesn’t sit too well with him. It sounds like he is making small comments that he thinks won’t get back to you to attempt to put doubt into pack members. But I will also say your brothers have had outstanding reports made about them from your uncles pack. Nothing to suggest they aren’t brilliant warriors and leaders in their own right.”

“Shit” I mutter slumping back down. “My Beta would have said if he knew this was happening so I fear you’re right.”

“I don’t think your mother is aware either” Kingsley says quietly. “She mentioned the pack nights they started were her idea at the time and she was so happy you had continued them.”

“I always thought they were my father’s idea, he most certainly took credit for the idea. But my mother won’t know, he would never show her up like that in front of pack members. She loves everyone and would do anything to help, so she would never agree with the things you have said he’s done” I say absentmindedly twirling a pen in my fingers.

“You’re a good leader Jax, show him” Johnathon says with a small smile.

“My own fucking father” I growl shaking my head in disappointment. “I thought it was just me and my brothers.”

“What?” Kingsley asks confused.

“Nothing” I say shaking my head and sitting upright. “Thank you for speaking to me gents, I will be keeping up to date with the scout missions and I suggest we have a daily video call to talk over developments. Meet me at the hospital at 1pm?”

“I’ll be there” Johnathon says before standing and bowing his head, “thank you for speaking with me Alpha Jax.”

“And me” Kingsley says standing and shaking my hand, “you’re perfect for my daughter” he says with a proud smile.

“Thank you” I reply.

Anger

Chapter 81 - The Guardian Wolf and her Alpha Mate

Nova POV:

“It felt good to train again” I sigh rolling my shoulders as the emotions I’ve been keeping check feel lighter than they have in a little while.

“I bet” Theo laughs, “how are you coping with everything?”

“As always, head up and get on with it” I chuckle.

“It wouldn’t hurt to talk about it Nova” he says pausing in what he’s doing to look at me with care.

“What do you want me to say? I have grandparents who are that fucked in the head they have purposefully gone after my family, they wanted to kill my parents and me when I was born, never mind what my parents dealt with before. I’ve had people betray me and cause me emotional and physical harm from the person who I loved at the time, I’ve seen my sister harmed and taken. I’ve learnt I have a whole family out there I haven’t known about for 25 years! It’s just crazy Theo” I sigh. “That’s not to mention whatever the hunters are getting up to.”

“It’s a lot” he agrees quietly. “But if anyone can deal with it it’s you.”

“Thanks for the faith” I chuckle.

“I mean it” he replies shrugging as if it’s obvious.

“You have your mate, and he will only strengthen you. Goddess help the hunters when you finally are on to them” he smirks. Rubbing his arm he winces as I see a bruise is forming. “Shit Nova you hit hard” he laughs.

“That was me?” I gasp running to check it. “I’m so sorry Theo I thought I was holding back.”

“That was you holding back?” He asks in amazement, “correction...the hunters are fucked!”

“If only it was that easy” I smirk as he laughs at himself. “I am sorry though.”

“Don’t be, it’s training” he shrugs again.

“I’m going to take Flo some food, coming along?” I ask as we head back to the packhouse.

“Definitely” he replies before we head into the pack kitchen and grab a tray of breakfast for Flo.

5minutes later we are knocking on her door hearing her cheerily call for us to enter.

“Morning” I sing, “you look happy today.”

“I am” she smile, “I feel good. Back to normal just waiting for the go ahead to train.”

“Andrew?” I check.

“Back this morning, but he went to the gym that’s why you probably didn’t see him” she says smiling.

“Well I’m glad to hear it, I know how good training makes you feel” I exclaim. “We can train together!”

“I’d love that” she grins.

“You might regret it” Theo smirks playfully at Flo making me thin my lips as I glare at him.

“Why?” She asks looking over her shoulder as she take a look at the food.

“Because she hits harder than anyone I know” he grins as he motions to his darkening bruise.

“Damn Nova” she gasps as I grimace.

“That’s her holding back apparently” Theo teases as he elbows me in the side.

“It was” I pout pulling a sad face.

“Hurts like hell” Theo says purposefully as he still has a wide grin on his face.

“You’re a werewolf get over it” Flo shoots at him.

“Flos probably not the best person to speak to for sympathy after recent events” I point out making Theo’s face fall as he realises his mistake when Flo bursts out laughing.

We chat for 20mins minutes before I start to feel waves of anger through the bond making me tense in my chair.

“What’s up?” Theo asks noticing my change in posture.

“Not me, Jax. Sorry both of you but I have to go” I rush out, “see you tonight for the pack run?”

“Definitely. Go..go!” Flo says motioning for me to leave the room.

“Bye” I shout over my shoulder as I head towards his office.

Knocking once I push the door open to see Jax stood by the window, anger rolling off of him in waves as his fists are balled tightly into fists.

“Jax..?” I ask quietly reaching his side and resting a hand on his arm.

“Nova” he breaths as he turns to me his eyes softening slightly but the rage still simmering.

“Care to explain?” I ask softly guiding him to his chair and sitting on his lap before lacing my fingers in his hair.

“My father was more disrespectful than he led everyone to think whilst we were away” he growls as his fingers tighten against his chair his knuckles turning white.

“Hey..relax” I murmur, “what’s he done?”

“Only complained about his suite to others despite telling us before we left his room was lovely, disrespected my brothers to other pack members when they organised specific drills for the trackers here, asked pack members behind their backs if the training they were providing was helpful and complained the standard of food has dropped since he was Alpha oh and made an Omega cry” he lists off.

“Seriously?” I ask pausing in my movements momentarily.

“Yes, your father told me today after gaining my permission to speak about father. He was polite with how he said it..I spoke to pack members and the effect he has had is more than I thought” he admits closing his eyes in frustration. “He’s undermining me as the Alpha and I won’t stand for it. Laurence is gaining the information as we speak, he’s not happy either. I left him in charge and my father has tarnished that.”

“So what are you going to do?” I ask quietly.

“Tell him to step down, he’s no longer needed for help in this situation and if he breaths a word of what is going on I will have to consider more” he replies strongly anger still lacing his tone.

“Your mum? I’ve asked her to help with the Luna Ceremony” I point out.

“Oh she won’t have a thing to do with this, I don’t think she will even be aware” he says as I rub his neck to relax him, “I need to tell you more about my childhood.”

Moving so I can look at him he looks slightly nervous as I search his face for clues, “ok..?”

“He was tough on me and my brothers, but when i got to about 12 he became more aggressive. If i didn’t perform well enough in training I was punished his Beta at the time was the one who administered the physical punishments, my father was more verbal” he admits.

“What punishments?” I ask in horror.

“Oh all sorts but it was never visible if I wore my day to day clothes, he was careful about that. It went on for a few years but once I got to 18 I hit back, since then he backed off and my father and I have gotten on pretty well. I didn’t allow for him to ever let my brothers suffer the same and maybe that’s why he has a thing against them at times. I thought we’d put the past behind us” he sighs.

“But why?” I ask

“It was the way his father was, then he wanted to be the same but my mother would never have agreed so yeah..he threw me into pack duties and made me help with paper work instead of going out” he explains.

“That’s harsh for a child” I say, “even an Alpha.”

“I know, but honestly he made changes in the last few years, I’m disappointed now” he says as he rubs my thighs absentmindedly.

“Let’s go” I say surging to my feet.

“To?” He asks standing up slowly.

“To speak to your father” I growl leading him from the room.

Confrontation

Chapter 82 - The Guardian Wolf and her Alpha Mate

Jax POV:

Seeing Novas determined face as we march to my parents suite has Zeus puffing his chest out in pride of his mate.

“Her protectiveness of her mate is coming out, combined with the nature of Kia it’s magnificent isn’t it” he says in awe.

“It is” I agree.

Seeing her step slightly behind me as we reach their door I appreciate her knowing this is for me to handle.

Knocking 3 times I hear shuffling behind the door before it opens and my mother’s welcoming face appears.

“Oh Jax, Nova! What a pleasure” she beams, “come in come in. I’ve been meaning to find you.”

“How are you ma?” I ask gently not giving away my inner anger.

“Better for seeing you” she replies cheerfully as she embraces Nova in a hug. “I have some ideas for you, do you have time to look through?”

“Is pa around?” I ask quickly as Nova shoots me a look.

“He will be back in 15 mins love if you can wait?” Mum asks her eyes hopeful.

“Of course ma” I smile my heart softening as her face splits in a wide smile.

“Brilliant” she says with a clap, “come have a look Nova. I think you’ll like what I’ve come up with, I’ve spoken to the ladies and they all seem to agree. They’ve been most helpful!”

“Great, show me I’m excited to see” Nova says flashing her white teeth at my mum as they take a seat.

Sitting there i watch as my mum and Luna chat enthusiastically about the Luna ceremony, their excitement evident from their expressions. After a few moments of them chatting Zeus puts an

idea forward for me and I sit upright as I ponder it over. Coming to a decision I lean forward with a slow smile on my face and look between the two women.

“I know that face” Ma says as she catches me watching. “What are you planning?”

“Well it would be more appropriate if we say what are you planning” I chuckle. “Life has been crazy recently and I would have liked the Luna Ceremony to take place already, she’s been my Luna for a while now in my mind. How would you feel about organising it for this weekend?”

“This weekend?” Nova gasps in shock as my mum beams at my words.

“Yes..in 3 days” I specify.

“Is that even possible?” Nova asks

“Oh goddess yes, I can get it done” my mum replies confidently. “In fact I can start right away, Flo isn’t back to full duties she will be the perfect help and Naomi and Alice are always eager if I mention the word ceremony.”

Nova stares between the two of us for a moment before she chuckles as a blush tinges her cheeks, “if you think you can do it..then let’s do it. I can’t wait to be the Luna.”

“Perfect” I smirk.

“I’ll make those adaptations you mentioned Nova and speak to Alice about the dress. The idea of naming a Beta and Gamma for Nova was brilliant Jax, I’m proud of you. It’s very fitting for Nova” my mum says patting my hand reassuringly.

Hearing footsteps approach I meet Novas eyes and stand abruptly walking over to the window in their living area as the door swings open.

“Hello everybody” my dad’s deep voice says as it resonates around the room.

“Hi dear..” my mum says standing and giving his a quick kiss.

“Hello David..” Nova says politely with an unreadable expression.

“Jax..” he says turning his piercing gaze to me.

Not saying anything I simply study him as he begins to falter in his confident gaze. “Everything ok?” He asks looking at me with furrowed brows.

“You tell me” I shrug not giving anything away as my mum steps back in shock.

“Jax hunny?” She asks questioningly.

“This isn’t about you ma, I’m sorry I didn’t want to spoil your excitement” I say gently softening my eyes as I look to her as she nods in understanding before stepping to the side closer to Nova.

“What’s this about son? Spit it out” my father says turning to pour himself a glass of whiskey.

“Your actions whilst we were away” I growl as the memories of what I’ve been told flash through my mind.

“I did as you asked?” He says turning round with a raised brow.

“Don’t play innocent to me father. I most certainly didn’t ask you to undermine me in my absence” I growl as my mum gasps turning to look at her mate in shock.

“David?” She whispers.

“I did nothing of the sorts” he growls back at me before Zeus snarls coming forward in my mind making his mouth abruptly close.

“Questioning Axel and Evans training when they organised impressive tasks specifically designed to improve the trackers we have here is not what I asked” I remind him. “Asking pack members after my brothers had ran sessions or helped if what they had done was helpful is not what I asked. Not to mention the pack members i have just spoken to mentioned how you were questioning if what I did as Alpha was enough for this pack. Do you have any idea how successful I have been?”

“Son that’s not what I was doing” he says as a tear rolls down my mother’s face.

“Oh no, you were complaining about your suite despite us checking it was suitable before we left, you complained about the food saying it had gone downhill since you were Alpha which resulted in the omega who brought it crying in the bathroom” I growl angrily taking a step closer. “You, my father, have questioned MY pack.”

“But the food is lovely, the suite is perfect..” my mother whispers in confusion.

“I know” I say looking at her, “father is trying to sow seeds of doubt when there isn’t any to begin with ma.”

“Son..” he starts.

“Dont” I snarl my anger rising and becoming evident. “You lack trust in your sons and that is clear, I put your pasts actions down to the stress of being Alpha as you’ve seemed lighter the last few years and we have gotten on better. You’ve been more approachable and more father like, this has disappointed me and made me doubt you intentions.”

“But..” he starts.

“I didn’t say for you to talk” I cut him off abruptly. “I am taking away your new responsibilities I have requested of you. You are officially back in retirement. Only you” I add on throwing my mum a look to know she isn’t involved in this. “Also if I hear you say one word about the situation we are in you will regret it. Don’t hesitate to think you will escape punishment just because you’re the previous Alpha.”

“Jax..” my mother gasps.

I continue to look at my father as he glares at me before moving his gaze to my mum who looks heartbroken.

“Is it true?” She asks my father.

“No of course not love!” He exclaims defensively.

“I should point out I can smell your lies on you David” Nova interjects with a cold tone. “It’s coming off of you in waves.” This makes him glare at Nova with growing hatred at her admission in his eyes.

“How dare you” he growls before she steps forward and emits her aura.

“This is not my fight but don’t you DARE growl at me when you’re the one that’s fucked up David. I gave you a chance when you apologised previously..this is about your son and I will protect my mate at all costs. Do you hear me?” She snarls looking him in the eye making him look away in submission.

“David..”my mother whispers covering her mouth in horror.

Lowering his head but not before shooting me a look he hesitates before speaking, “it’s true” he says hoarsely. “I wanted to ensure my pack was still successful.”

“But David.. you can tell that just by looking around. What Jax has done is nothing short of incredible” she exclaims her temper rising as she feels the need to protect me.

“You know the money you made the pack father..I’ve tripled it in the past two years alone through investments which I decided with the aid of my beta. The one you went behind the back of when I specifically left him in charge. We have more elite warriors than ever before and all pack members are trained to a high standard now, not just the men. I have made some noticeable differences father I just don’t flash them in people’s faces” I snarl as he looks shocked by my admission.

“What was I to do?” He asks in defensive.

“TRUST YOUR CHILDREN” my mother roars as Nova smiles slightly in approval of my mother’s tone.

“Exactly” I snarl.

“Does ma know?” I ask father my voice deceptively calm.

“Know what?” She asks turning to look at me as my father’s face falls behind her.

“I’ll take that as a no” I chuckle at him. “You need to speak to your mate ma, if he doesn’t come clean then come to me and I will tell you” I say as I motion for Nova for us to leave.

“I have Theo coming to stand by the door if he’s needed ma. Maybe ask why his devoted Beta decided to abruptly leave the pack once I became Alpha.” I suggest calmly. “You should remember it’s because of ma I decided to try and work on our relationship pa. And ma..don’t forget I love you” I add on before closing the door behind us.