

An Hour

## Chapter 93 - The Guardian Wolf and her Alpha Mate

Jax POV:

"Hi Alice" I say to gain her attention as I walk into the pack house.

"Alpha Jax" she says with a warm smile as turns to face me.

"How are you?" I ask gently as I see her caressing her slight bump.

"I'm good thank you for asking, just feeling a little tired" she admits.

"I'll have to make sure Theo gets you to rest, I'm grateful for everything you're doing but please know your health and that of the pup is more important" I say making her smile.

"Oh I know, thank you Alpha" she says happily.

"I just wanted to see how the preparation for the ceremony is going? I'm sorry I haven't been of more help" I start to say before she shakes her head to stop me.

"Don't apologise, I'm in my element and your mum bless her, she was born for this" she chuckles. "Everything is going well and you have nothing to worry about."

"That's a relief" I say with a little sigh. Seeing her eyes crinkle at my words I have an idea come to me. "I wondered if you, Naomi, my ma and sister would like to have massages and get your hair done on Sunday before the ceremony? I know moving here has been different and you haven't seen Nova as much. I know she definitely wishes she could see you more so I thought as a thank you and as a reminder of how important you are to my mate, and now me, it would be a nice thing for you all to enjoy."

She holds her hands over her heart as my words sink in, "that would be lovely Alpha. I was going to ask if I could borrow her for an hour in the morning of the ceremony just to make sure the dress fits her also. It should do as I know her measurements inside and out but I want it to be perfect for her."

"Be my guest Alice" I say with a warm smile.

"I'll see you at dinner shortly, everyone enjoyed the run" she says.

"Brilliant, thanks again Alice" I call as I start to walk downstairs.

"Where did you go?" I link Nova.

"In our room darling" she links me back quickly.

Pausing mid step I glance at the clock and see we have an hour before the late dinner I've organised. "Join her" Zeus says eagerly making me turn on feet and jog upstairs.

"Where are you?" She asks a moment later. Not replying I smile slightly before opening the door and seeing her stood in our closet ready to change.

"I'm here" I say as she laughs.

"And just what are you doing here?" She asks with a knowing smile.

"Hmmm well we have a little time before dinner " I say slowly walking over to her.

"We do" she drawls lifting a brow and cocking her hip.

"We do" I whisper before reaching for her towel and pulling it so it slides off of her. "That's better" I wink as I gaze brazenly at her bare body in front of me.

"Hmm" she says raising a brow and stepping in close to me. Feeling her hardened nipples press against my shirt I feel my hard shaft twitch in my trousers. Nova bites her lip looking up at me before trailing a hand down my chest before cupping my length.

Dropping to her knees I keep my eyes focused on her as she swiftly unbuttons my trousers and pulls my cock out. Seeing her eyes widen approvingly she wets her lips before looking up at me through her lashes and easing me into her mouth. Hollowing her cheeks she takes me further with every movement until she swallows me whole making me moan loudly in pleasure. Setting a steady pace she hums against my shaft making it pulse in her mouth, reaching a hand down she lightly plays with my balls as I fight closing my eyes to the pleasure wanting to keep watching my beautiful mate.

With a grunt I pull away so I don't blow too soon and pull her to her feet swiftly picking her up and taking her to the bed. "So sexy" I growl as I hold her legs open wide and move between them, lowering my head I lick through her wet folds before reaching her clit and sucking lightly.

"Fuck" she whispers as she bucks her hips eagerly.

"So ready for me" I smirk before plunging two fingers deep in her and continuing to suck on her swollen nub.

"Oh Jax yess" she moans happily as I continue to give her pleasure. Reaching a hand up I lightly pinch her nipple causing her to gasp and buck her core into my face. Increasing the pace I soon

feel her walls begin to tighten as her legs stiffen around me, "cum for me baby" I whisper before biting gently on her clit and curling my fingers causing her to release quickly with a light moan as her walls clench my fingers.

As her body relaxes I move up her before pushing into her gently, "I'll never get enough of this" I murmur in her ear as I start a slow pace moving deep inside of her.

"Then don't ever stop" she whispers back as she locks her legs around me holding me close. Kissing her softly I keep my slow pace enjoying the moment of being close to my mate as she responds with just as much love.

Feeling her fingers lightly scratch my back I begin to increase my tempo as she mews beneath me in pleasure. Lifting my body up I slide a hand between us to rub her swollen clit as her darkened eyes flash to meet mine showing the passion in them.

"Fuck Nova" I rasp as I hold her hips down and slam into her harder. Watching her breasts bounce with each thrust I feel myself getting closer to release, as Novas breath hitches I reach down and bite her mark lightly causing her to moan loudly as her walls clench my shaft and her juices run.

"Jaxxx" she whimpers as she shudders around me. Watching Nova has me come undone after a couple more jerky thrusts as she reaches up to bite my mark making me shoot my load deep into her with a guttural roar.

Rolling over I lay beside her as we both gather our breaths. "Feel better for addressing the pack?" I ask her rolling onto my side to meet her gaze already on me.

"Yes" she says with confidence, "they deserved to know and Kia deserves to be herself and not hide anymore."

"To be honest I think after the first pack run the pack members knew you were something different" I admit as I think of the admiration on their faces when they saw Kia for the first time.

"Probably" she agrees. "Do you think they understand our reasoning for keeping it quiet?"

"Yes I do" I say, "this pack trusts me as their alpha. Plus you have helped them more than you know since joining, people are meeting their training targets quicker than ever and people seem a lot more settled despite the incident with Flo. Laurence and Alex enjoyed being able to say a few words about you."

"Really?" She gasps.

"Yep" I grin, "so get that perky ass up and we can head downstairs to eat with everyone."

"Hey I would be down there already if someone hadn't come up to distract me" she says looking at me pointedly.

"Guilty as charged" I smirk pulling us from the bed, smacking her ass I gently push her towards the closet as I head to the bathroom.

"I'll bring you a cloth, go get ready" I say. Noticing she hasn't moved I turn to see her eyes trained on where my ass was.

"You like what you see?" I tease.

"Definitely, just something about a toned man's ass" she smirks as she licks her lips making my cock immediately harden.

"Oops" she winks before twirling and heading to the closet.

"Temptress" I growl out with a little laugh as her giggles reach me in the bathroom.

Ophelia's Curse

## Chapter 94 - The Guardian Wolf and her Alpha Mate

Jax POV:

"How was training love?" I ask as Nova walks into the office in her workout gear the following morning.

"So good" she exclaims happily, "I had a new group today and I have to say I'm impressed! Everyone was highly motivated and listened to my suggestions eagerly. Yeah...brilliant!"

"They like having you there for training" I comment as a light blush stains her cheeks.

"Really?" She asks shyly.

"Really" I confirm.

Hearing a knock on the door I stand up knowing it will be Alex and his mate. "Come in come in" I say gesturing for them to enter as I open the door.

"Hello Alpha Alex, Luna Ophelia" Nova says bowing politely. "How are you both finding your stay?"

"Lovely" Ophelia says happily, "the welcome package was delightful Nova, I could tell it had your touch. I forgot to mention it earlier."

"Welcome package?" I ask confused.

Throwing me a glance Nova chuckles nervously, "oh yeah..um I think it's nice for guests to have a little welcome basket for when they stay. You know, some wine, food, bath salts, movies..those kind of things."

"Thats awesome love" I say my heart warming at her gesture.

"It is..it's a Lunas touch" Alex comments as he crosses his legs and reclines in his chair. "The room is lovely though, and everybody at the pack has been delightful."

"Glad to hear it" I smile.

"I actually requested we come and see you" Ophelia says nervously wringing her hands together.

"Oh?" I ask confused.

"Yes, it's not common knowledge but as Nova discovered it at the sparring I wanted to address it fully with the both of you" she says nervously.

"Sorry am I meant to know what this is about?" I ask looking at Nova slightly lost.

"No love, I'm sorry but it wasn't up to me to disclose" Nova says softly her eyes looking to Luna Ophelia who is looking back gratefully as my eyes widen in understanding.

"Ophelia's wolf is dying" Alex says shortly, the pain evident in his voice. Hearing that I look at her in shock and then to Nova who is looking at them both with worry.

"Dying?" I repeat slowly.

"Yes" she whispers with tears silently falling down her face.

"Oh sweetheart" Alex whispers as he pulls her onto his lap and cradles her lovingly.

"I'm so sorry Luna" Nova says, her eyes full of empathy.

"Is there anything that can be done?" I ask quietly not wanting to cause more upset.

Alex sighs deeply in response as he takes a large breath in of his mates scent before stroking her hair and looking up to me. "She's been cursed by a witch."

"Shit" I exclaim, "but what witch?!"

"We haven't found out" he growls, his anger at the fact evident as his eyes flash with those of his wolf.

"We were visiting a pack a couple of hours from home just over two weeks ago and there was a rogue attack, they came from nowhere and Ophelia helped protect the young. She was taken for 4 hours and in that time she was subject to being beaten and then cursed by a witch" he explains his voice low and pained.

"Rogues?" Nova asks confused.

"I know what you're thinking, and after meeting your father I know it has nothing to do with him. They were turning feral anyway so I know for certain they are not under your father's rule" Alex says answering our unspoken question.

"So it was planned then" I comment as he simply nods in agreement.

"Definitely" Ophelia says looking at us with watery eyes. "I heard them mention "master will be pleased." Ever since it's happened I've been unable to shift and my communication with Zina is getting less and less."

"Master?" Nova gasps.

"Charles?" I growl at the same time.

"I fear so" Alex says slowly.

"But why have they targeted you?" I ask genuinely confused.

"I fear they have something big planned..what I'm not sure. But there is no way that they have been tracking Nova, have infiltrated the council, and attacked the Alpha King and his mate for no reason" Alex says.

"It's too much of a coincidence" I agree quickly.

"They're targeting the strongest" i realise suddenly after a few moments of silence.

"Explain" Alex says looking at me with interest.

"If you take out the strongest it leaves the weak, they fight amongst themselves, gain a new hierarchy and it is also easier for hunters to attack" Nova says playing with her hair as she bites her lip, lost in her thoughts.

"But why me? I mean I may be mated to the Alpha King but I'm no warrior, I can fight and I will always fight when needed to protect the vulnerable but it's not my strength" Luna Ophelia asks with confusion.

"You're Alex's weakness" I explain gently.

"Similar to why they may have waited for me to turn 25 and find my mate" Nova says quietly, "if Jax dies..then I die."

"You said two weeks ago?" I ask quietly.

"Yes, just over" Alex agrees.

Looking at Nova I see the understanding in her eyes. "No.." she whispers.

"No?" Ophelia asks.

"We found out we were true mates at that time" I say.

"So it could be linked" Alex says slowly as he looks between us.

"Fuck sake" I mutter. "Why does it just keep getting bigger."

"I'm sorry" I hear Nova whisper making me turn to see her lips quivering as she fights to stop herself crying.

"No love" I whisper as I move to crouch in front of her, "none of this is your fault. You are an amazing woman and our pack and I could not wish for a better Luna. What you have accomplished in your life is absolutely amazing, you're amazing. Please don't ever apologise again or feel guilty for this. It's the actions of others that are to blame, their decisions and their fault."

"He's right Nova" Ophelia says from behind me, "I would never blame you for this. I only met you recently and I know you are as pure as one can be. Don't let that guilt spread."

"Don't" I whisper as I look into her eyes. Nodding her head she squares her shoulders and takes a deep breath.

"You're right" she murmurs with an embarrassed smile. "I apologise I didn't mean to get emotional."

Pointing at the tears streaming down her own face Ophelia chuckles, "darling that was hardly emotional."

"Ophelia cry's at everything" Alex adds in with a wink at his mate who squeezes his arm.

"True, but do I need to tell them about Marley and me and a certain Alpha King?" She asks coyly lighting the mood slightly.

"Don't" he gasps as she laughs lightly.

"My lips are sealed" she whispers before they kiss one another lightly.

As Ophelia returns to her chair Nova looks at her curiously, "is there a way to lift the curse?"

"Yes" Alex says slowly.

"I'm sensing a but" I wince.

Nodding he looks at me sadly, "it can only be lifted by the one who cast it. We have spoken to our packs advisors and they are certain of that."

"Ah fuck" I curse quietly.

"I can help you" Nova says quietly.

"What?" Ophelia asks in shock.

Nova takes a deep breath before her eyes turn to that of Kia showing she has moved to speak.

"I may not be able to heal your wolf but I can certainly lend her my strength. It will slow down the effect of the curse and hopefully give us enough time to figure this out" Kia links us all as we all look at Nova in amazement. "I would like to speak to our uncle Johnathon before we try which we will do at the Luna ceremony, just to confirm it's safe for me to do so."

"How do you know you can?" Alex asks her curiously.

"I just know" she responds, "it's instinctual but im certain I can. Do you trust me?"

"We do" both Alex and Ophelia say immediately.

"Thank you Kia" Ophelia adds on softly.

"You are deserving" is all Kia says before she retreats and allows Nova to have control once more.

"Amazing" I whisper as Nova smiles shyly.

"Truly amazing" Alex agrees relief in his voice.

"We will get to the bottom of this" I say comforting them.

"We know" Alex smiles, "but for now we all should concentrate on your Luna Ceremony. We need some lightness in our lives."

"Definitely" I chuckle.



Night Before

## Chapter 95 - The Guardian Wolf and her Alpha Mate

Nova POV:

Humming to myself as I walk outside after finishing everything I needed to do today I feel the excitement at the thought of tomorrow grow. Standing and looking around the pack grounds I feel warmth spread through me as I realise this time tomorrow I will officially be the packs Luna.

Smiling and waving to a few pack members as they pass and say their greetings, I stretch and enjoy the peacefulness of the evening. "Home" Kia murmurs happily to me.

"Nova!" I turn hearing my name being called loudly to see Naomi running towards me.

"Whoa slow down mama to be" I laugh, "I'm here what's up?"

Taking a moment to gain her breath I smile at her as she blushes slightly from her eagerness. "I just wanted to run you through tomorrow before you head upstairs. I know you've had a ceremony before but if I don't Alice will be all over me. You know what she's like" she laughs.

"Let's go sit in the garden, we can relax for a bit. I think you've earned it" I smile as we link arms and stroll round the pack house.

"I love this view" she sighs as we take a seat. Nodding my head I can't help but agree as the orange hues of the setting sun cast a glow over the colourful garden.

"It's gorgeous" I smile.

"Are you excited for tomorrow?" Naomi asks with a big grin on her face.

"I am" I laugh, "I'm excited to be able to officially say I'm Jax's mate."

"He's like a child in a candy store today, I think he's very excited" she giggles. "Our big tough alpha all loved up."

"I haven't had chance to see him too much today, I know he's been trying to get as much work done as possible so not to worry about it tomorrow and I had the weekend training which was very popular" I say.

"Well I've never seen him so keen to work let's say that shall we" she giggles again. "And we both know why everyone is wanting to train with you" she adds on with a wink.

"True" I smile. "So how is tomorrow looking?" I ask as I stand to pluck a few flowers for my room.

"Perfect" she squeals, "Alice has finished your dress and it looks absolutely gorgeous! Food is organised, kitchen pack members are happy and relaxed which is a miracle in my opinion with the amount of food they are making. Guests will be arriving from 10am, latest arriving will be Alpha Axton at 2pm. All 30 guest rooms are prepared with the welcome packages you suggested to Alice all ready to be put there in the morning."

"Anything I can do?" I ask her wanting to be helpful.

"Umm, sleep so your beautiful self can relax before your big ceremony?" She asks with an innocent face. "Or is sleep a bit too far fetched when you share a room with Jax?"

Snorting I look at her biting back a grin, "shush you, I'm not the one with pups in my belly."

"Yet" she winks.

"Touché" I laugh.

"Amelia is very excited about the prospect of grandpups" she says slyly as I freeze at her words.

"She didn't" I gasp my mind flashing back to the office incident the other day.

"She did" Naomi says as a wide smile slowly spreads across her face.

Feeling my cheeks burn I bite my lip before taking a seat next to Naomi on the bench. "It was so embarrassing" I whisper to her.

"Don't be embarrassed, you're with an Alpha" she points out before looking at my blank expression, "Alpha is the strongest in the pack..in all senses."

"Oh trust me I know that" I say as I understand what she's talking about, "I'm reminded daily..multiple times" I giggle wiggling my brows.

"Well then Amelia has been there done that" she says matter of factly.

"Oh yes I know, no doubt" I say trying to not think of her and David, "but no what was most embarrassing was the fact she was with her twins."

Hearing that Naomi's jaw drops in shock as I feel the tips of my ears burning. After a moment of shocked silence she abruptly closes her mouth before looking at me. Seeing her lip suddenly twitch I burst into giggles as she soon follows me.

"She..she failed t..to mention t..that" Naomi gasps out between her giggles. Tears streaming down her face she bites her lip trying to stop her laughing.

"I don't know why I'm laughing it was so embarrassing" I moan as I push my hair away from my face before fanning my hand to try cool myself down.

"If you can't cry then laugh..or something like that" Naomi smirks. "Well I personally think that's a hilarious tale. But I hope you know once they know you more they won't let you forget it."

"Oh I know" I chuckle, "so I guess I'll just have to speak to Mila when she gets here and find out some dirt I can use on them when the time comes."

"Girl I like your thinking" she laughs. Rubbing her growing bump she smothers a yawn as we sit peacefully a bit longer.

"Come on you, time for these pups and mama to get some well earned rest" I tease as I help her stand. Turning to her with wide eyes I point my finger, "well that's if your Beta mate who I seem to recall has Alpha blood will let you."

"Damn you got me" she pouts as we head back in.

"Thanks for that Naomi, I don't get much time to just relax and have fun at the moment" I say gratefully.

"Oh me too, it will get better Nova" she says comfortingly.

"I know" I smile, "I've learnt to grow patient over the years. Life is all about the ride isn't it."

"And what a ride it can be" she chuckles.

"I'll see you bright and early, 10am Alice is meeting you to check the dress fits well, midday you have a massage and some lunch with the ladies. Then makeup and hair, with the ceremony starting at 5pm" Naomi reels off as I simply smile at her. "Oh and Mila is arriving 8am, her friend had a baby so she stayed a couple of extra days but she will be joining us tomorrow and staying."

"Great, I'm looking forward to seeing Mila!" I exclaim once she looks at me for confirmation. "Im sure Alice will have written me a note and it will be on my bedside table with times and plans etc."

"Really?" Naomi asks in surprise.

Shrugging I nod, "it's what she used to do whenever I had something important planned, although my memory is pretty good I didn't need them. But it's lovely of her all the same so I appreciate it."

"She's a great friend" Naomi comments.

"She is, and I have many new ones who are just as great" I whisper as I pull her in for a hug.

"See you bright and early" I wink as I pull away.

"Rested" she says one more time with a giggle before heading towards her suite.

Chuckling to myself I open the door to our room and gasp in surprise.

"Whoaaa" I whisper as I look around. The room is filled with flickering candles whilst there is a tray full of small delicious looking treats on the table next to a bottle of wine. Standing in shock I see a shadow shift off of the windowsill and turn my attention to meet Jax's bright eyes trained on me as he moves to stand in front of me.

"What's this about?" I ask breathlessly.

"Well I know how much you have had on recently and we haven't been able to relax and get settled into running the pack together, which by the way has not deterred you at all. You have been amazing" he says in wonder. "But I wanted you to be able to relax now and for us to be able to enjoy an evening together without having to think about what else we have going on."

"Jax.." I whisper as I move closer to him.

"Hmm?" He asks as he wraps his arms round me.

"Thank you" I murmur. "This is so lovely, and so thoughtful."

"You deserve it" he whispers before I pull his head down and capture his lips with my own. Moving softly together we hold each other tightly as our love pours through the bond. Pulling away after a moment I shift my eyes to the treats behind him.

"You want to eat?" He smirks seeing where my attention was.

"Always" I giggle softly as he pulls me gently to the table.

"Then let's eat" he says before pouring us a glass of wine each and sitting beside me.

"To us" I toast as we clink our glasses together.

"To us" he grins.

High Spirits

# Chapter 96 - The Guardian Wolf and her Alpha Mate

Nova POV:

“I know we’ve had a lot going on love but tomorrow is going to be amazing” Jax says as he feeds me a delicious dessert. Moaning in pleasure his eyes darken slightly before he clears his throat, “those sounds” he mutters as I giggle.

“I’m excited for tomorrow, as soon as I’d finished work today it’s all I’ve been able to think about” I admit. “I was just speaking to Naomi about it.”

“I asked her to hold you up” Jax smirks.

“Oh” I laugh, “well I enjoyed it. Was nice to just relax and have a chat, I used to make sure I spent time with Alice and other pack members. Having a balance is important isn’t it.”

“We can make sure you do here as well” Jax assures me.

“I will don’t worry, but at the moment we have more pressing matters” I say with a small smile.

“How are you feeling after this week?” Jax asks.

“Relieved, conflicted, worried but also confident in a way” I reply with a shrug. Seeing him raise a brow I explain a bit further, “relieved because we managed to find the traitors and gain some more information. Seeing Rose be convicted was a relief, but I have to admit I’ve been worried about my old pack. I’m conflicted because I’m aware of the danger I’m bringing to those around me but I know I couldn’t do this without you and many others. But confident because I know now that I have a family to support me, an amazing mate and a pack that will motivate me to always be my best.”

“Amazing mate huh” Jax says with a wink.

“I said all that and that’s what you picked up on?” I ask chuckling.

Smirking he nods before replying slightly more serious, “I get why you’re feeling all those emotions, plus I’ve been able to feel how you’re feeling remember. But it’s all perfectly understandable. You’re handling it amazing though love.”

“I’m worried about my mum” I admit quietly seeing his eyes soften at my words.

“I know” he says softly, his deep voice soothing. “Conditioning can be reversed though, don’t give up hope.”

“It’s not just that” I explain, “even if we can reverse the conditioning and get her true self back, what’s to say she’s going to forgive us? Even now we are putting off getting her..and for what?”

“So you’d rather go hunt for your mother blind and without any clue as to where she is?” Jax says with a pointed look.

“No” I sigh in defeat.

“Gaining information is important, not just for your safety but for everybody involved. Having some insight into what waits for us is better than nothing” he says resting his large hand over mine. Nodding my head I know he’s right but I can’t ignore the guilt I’m feeling.

“Nova your mother is alive, that’s more than what you ever imagined until a few weeks ago. We will get her back and then we can address if she is ready to forgive everything that has happened” Jax says quietly. “As much as I hate to say this I doubt it will be you that your mother will struggle with.”

“Dad” I sigh feeling sorry for him.

“Yeah” Jax admits. “We know he was tricked and it was done to hurt your mother, but as his mate she will feel betrayed. I’m sure in time she will come to realise, and if we can get proof of what your grandparents did to him it will help hugely.”

“You’re right” I say lifting my lips slightly at his logical thinking.

We sit in comfortable silence for a few minutes enjoying the wine before he speaks again.

“I do have one thing that’s been niggling me” he admits.

“What is it?” I ask.

“The spell Rose apparently had put on the tea for me..was that from the same witch she was involved with to fool Axton?” He asks with furrowed brows.

“We didn’t find out did we” I say with a sigh. “I can’t believe that slipped my mind.”

“Mine too” he says with a shrug. “What do you think though?”

Taking a breath I ponder over his question, Rose was desperate and naive. Going to lows that shocked me, but she also appeared to have multiple options depending on outcomes. “I think it was a back up.”

“It makes sense” Jax says slowly.

“Well if you think about it, Axton made it perfectly clear whilst we were there for that visit that he wasn’t happy with how she was conducting things around the pack. She must have sensed things weren’t going well and they clearly didn’t expect us to find one another so soon. The plan was for me to somehow end up with Alpha Jacob..not you” I explain. “So I think she needed to try and get between us.”

“Yeah I think you’re right Nova” he says with a small smile. “Either way she’s the past now. It was just something I realised we didn’t ask her.”

“Well let’s concentrate on the future for the time being” I say with a light chuckle.

“Oh it’s all I’ve been thinking about” he says with a wide smile as he leans back on his chair. “I can’t wait for you to officially be known as this packs Luna.”

“Naomi did say you were very happy doing your paperwork today” I say with an amused smile.

“I was” he shrugs, “knowing I have none to do tomorrow and instead we have the ceremony put me in very high spirits.”

Standing up I put the dishes to the side carefully and finish my wine as Jax watches me. Moving over I straddle him and grind myself slowly over him feeling him harden quickly beneath me.

“Care to show me how happy you felt today?” I whisper as I bite his lobe lightly making him moan slightly.

Pulling back I see his eyes dark as he grins at me, “do you really need to ask?”

Shrugging I bite my lip before leaning forward pushing my breasts into him. “I’m ready for you whenever, wherever” he says huskily as he holds my hips still so he can press his bulge into my core.

Whimpering slightly as I feel my panties grow wet he smirks before pulling me down and claims my lips with his own in a hungry kiss.

Pushing into him just as passionately he stands holding my ass as I wrap my legs around him. Lowering me gently onto the bed he hovers over me gazing at me with pure affection blazing in his eyes. “I’m so lucky you’re mine” he whispers as he slides my top off of me before sitting up and pulling his over his chest.

“Damn” I whisper as I stare at his broad shoulders and defined 6pack. Flicking my tongue out I wet my lips as I reach up and pull him back down.

“Tonight is about us” he murmurs in my ear making me shiver, “and I’m going to show you just how much you mean to me my Luna.”

With those words I surrender to his touch excited for the pleasure I know he’s going to bring me.

Surprise

## Chapter 97 - The Guardian Wolf and her Alpha Mate

Nova POV:

"Morning" I say through a yawn as a stretch.

"Hey love" Jax's tired voice rumbles as he buries his head in his pillow. "Too early."

"What happened to the Alpha who was always awake and at the gym at this time" I chuckle, "it's 6:30am."

He lifts his head to glare at me before slumping back down and pointing at me, "that was before I had a mate who kept me up all night."

"Oh so it's my fault" I smirk before he groans rolling over and sitting up.

"I think we can share the blame" he says with a little chuckle.

"Glad you agree" I giggle before swiftly getting up from the bed when I see Jax reach for me. "Nah ah, I have lots to get ready for today Mr."

Seeing him pout I smile apologetically, "I'm going to shower then head for some breakfast."

"Save water?" He suggests hopefully.

"Nope" I laugh as I walk away, "you're not getting me with that."

"Worth a try" he calls out as I lock the door behind me.

After spending 20 mins washing myself thoroughly, shaving and then lathering myself in lotion I step out the bathroom relaxed and ready to get dressed. Seeing Jax slumped on the bed face down snoring with his naked ass on show I hold back a laugh to not wake him. Quickly dressing in some jeans and a white blouse I dry my hair and pull some shoes on before kissing Jax's head and slipping out the room quietly.

Feeling Kia awake and excited I share in her feelings as I walk into the dining room to see Amelia already eating.



“Good morning Amelia” I say after getting myself some food.

“Nova” she says with a warm smile, “awake early as well I see.”

“I was too excited to sleep” I admit feeling myself blush.

“Oh me too dear” she agrees immediately as we share a smile. “Where is Jax?”

“Snoring into his pillow” I laugh as the image of him in bed comes to mind.

“It’s nice to see him sleeping more again” Amelia says after a moment. “After Genevieve he became so engrossed in work and being Alpha he never seemed to get enough rest. He was probably sick of me commenting on it after a while.”

“I didn’t realise” I said softly.

“Oh it wasn’t that he was hung up over Genevieve dear, he just didn’t want to let the pack down. I think he thought losing his Luna so quickly would make pack members distressed” she says sadly.

“Did it?” I ask.

“Oh goddess no. If anything it made them support him more, she was a nice woman on the surface but to tell you the truth I never liked her and I don’t think the pack was behind her” she says sheepishly.

“A few have said the same” I say quietly.

“I’m happy he’s found you dear and I am truly looking forward to the ceremony” she says gleefully.

We sit and chat for a little longer as the dining hall gradually fills with pack members all greet me excitedly.

“I’m going to check on the guest rooms” I say standing from the table.

“Ok Nova, Mila will be here soon so I’m going to check over everything for today one final time then meet her” Amelia says giving me a mothering hug.

With a small wave to the room I head upstairs and start checking the rooms, leaving the baskets that are already prepared on the tables. After half an hour I leave the rooms satisfied that everything is ready for our guests and I can now concentrate on what’s been planned for me.

“This feels much more exciting than our previous one” Kia says to me as she sits with her ears up in my head alert to everything that’s going on. Watching people bustle by me as they begin to prepare for today I agree with her.

“It’s because we always knew we may not stay the Luna there” I say to her softly, “but here..this is it for us. We are where we are meant to be.”

“We are” she agrees happily.

“Nova! There you are” I hear Alice squeal from behind me.

“Hey” I exclaim. “I thought I was meeting you at 10?”

“You were, but then I realised I also asked you to greet a few guests at 10. So do you fancy checking the dress now? Sorry it must be pup brain getting me” she chuckles embarrassed slightly.

“Oh of course” I say with a large smile, “I can’t wait to see it.”

“You’re going to love it” she grins excitedly. “I think it’s my best one yet.”

“Now I’m more intrigued” I say as we walk to her room. “How are you feeling?”

“Fabulous to be fair, I feel less emotional now and Theo is amazing” she says dreamily.

“He will be a brilliant father” I comment which she nods vigorously in agreement.

Opening her door she motions for me to go first and my eyes are immediately drawn to a sage green dress on a mannequin in front of me.

“Oh Alice” I gasp, “it’s gorgeous.”

“Isn’t it” she squeals skipping towards it.

Stepping forward I admire the slightly shimmery material which I vision will glow slightly in the moonlight. Alice has designed it with a modest sweetheart neckline which is my favourite style, the dress looks like it will hug my upper body before flowing slightly looser around my leg.

“It’s beautiful” I whisper as I hold the fabric softly in my hands.

“I think it’s perfect for you” she says proudly. “I’ve put a slight slit in the left side to allow for dancing and to hint at those gorgeous legs of yours. I think I know where Jax will be looking. Shall we try it on?”

“Please” I squeal as I quickly begin stripping out of my clothes.

Going to undo my bra I pause looking at her, “it’s got support in there to stop the girls bouncing too much” she says before I have chance to ask. Quickly dropping my bra I step forward into the dress as Alice holds it out and helps me in. As she zips up the side and steps back she gasps as her eyes grow watery.

“It’s perfect” she exclaims. “Come look” she says ushering me to the mirror.

Seeing myself in the mirror I freeze, the dress hugs my figure like a second skin and as I twirl it floats lightly.

“Oh you’re going to have everyone’s attention” she says happily as I admire the side profile of the dress. “Sexy but smart..a true Lunas dress.”

“It’s amazing Alice, better than I’d imagined” I say with a big grin at her. “You’ve impressed me for pulling this off on the time frame.”

“Wonder Woman” she jokes with a wink as she helps me back out of the dress.

“You are” I chuckle. Quickly dressing myself again as she carefully hangs the dress up I check the time. “9:30am already” I gasp.

“We can go downstairs together if you’d like? Theo said Jax is down there with Laurence waiting for guests” Alice suggests. “Mila is just seeing everything Amelia has organised and then will find us.”

“Let’s” I agree as we walk downstairs together. Seeing the start of decorations being put up I think of how proud I am of this pack for getting everything together so quickly.

“Nova” I hear Jax call his voice sending shivers down my spine. Turning I see him resting by the fountain with Laurence, Theo and Flo all stood with him.

“Hey” I call as we approach. “Oh my goddess it’s so nice to see you back up and about” I say hugging Flo.

“I’ve been cleared by the Dr and I am good to go” she says enthusiastically, “I’ll be patrolling this morning before joining you for ladies time.”

“Brilliant” I say happily before Jax pulls me into his chest.

“I missed you this morning” he rumbles in my ear.

“Oh really?” I chuckle, “you seemed quite happy snoring into your pillow.”

“Well I much prefer waking up to you next to me” he whispers.

“Me too” I say kissing him softly.

“Ooo first guest is here” I hear Alice say excitedly. Checking the time I see it’s only 9:40am.

“Little early isn’t it?” I ask but no one seems to be listening as they all watch the vehicle approach. Seeing it come to a stop I wait as a gentlemen climbs out the driving seat before

walking round to open one of the back doors. Seeing a long slender heeled leg extend before another joins a beautiful lady wearing shades and bright red lipstick steps out gracefully.

From the corner of my eye I see Laurence, Theo, Flo and Jax tense as she steps forward. Pulling her shades off her brilliant blue eyes shine brightly as her blonde hair cascades in perfectly styled waves down her back. Walking forwards she smiles brightly, oblivious to the growing tension in the air.

Stepping through the group she stops directly in front of Jax as he pulls me tight to his side. She smirks slightly at his actions not taking her eyes from his.

“Jax” she says softly in an attempt to sound seductive but her voice is nasally and high pitched.

“Genevieve” he growls.

Not Welcome

## Chapter 98 - The Guardian Wolf and her Alpha Mate

Jax POV:

I stand looking at my previous Luna in complete shock, hearing Zeus growl loudly in my head I look down slightly as I feel Nova stiffen in my arms.

"Are you going to introduce me?" Genevieve asks me raising her brow. As I narrow my eyes at her she chuckles slightly before turning her eyes to Nova, growing colder as she does so.

"I'm Genevieve, Jax's chosen mate" she says holding her hand out for Nova to shake. Seeing Nova look at her hand for a moment before chuckling she reaches out and shakes it lightly.

"I'm Nova" she says calmly her face unreadable.

"My true mate" I say causing Genevieve to smirk.

"Why are you here?" Laurence growls as he comes to stand beside us.

"I was invited" Genevieve says simply making my brows furrow.

"You were definitely not invited" I say coldly as she looks at me amused. "You decide to come here after not seeing me since you ran off and dare to say you were invited?"

"Oh Jax relax" she says patting my chest as I growl and shift away. "I thought it was time to come home."

"Home?" Laurence splutters out. "No Genevieve, your home is with your mate."

When she hears that her expression falters slightly before she shakes it off and giggles lightly, "oh Laurence you are as funny as I remember."

He turns to me with a face that reads what the fuck is going on and I shrug in response.

"I see the pack is doing well" Genevieve comments looking around ignoring the animosity that is directed at her from us.

"No thanks to you" I hear Florence mutter as Genevieve sends her a discreet glare.

"Why are you here Genevieve?" Nova asks again.

"Like I said" Genevieve replies her voice harsh, "I was invited."

"By whom?" I ask confused.

With a shrug she pulls her invite from her bag showing us, "surely you should be telling me that."

I see Nova look at her through narrowed eyes as she studies her body language. "Genevieve, why don't you come to the lounge and we can talk privately" Nova suggests gesturing to the pack house.

"We can discuss it here" Genevieve replies coolly. Seeing Novas eyes flash I bite my lip to not laugh.

"Oh.." Nova chuckles, "it wasn't a suggestion" She says coldly as Kia moves forward, making Rose startle slightly before she begins to teeter inside in her too high heels.

"Nova" I whisper as I grasp her hand, "I swear I had no idea. I haven't seen her since she left."

"I know" she replies calmly sending me a reassuring smile, "I have a feeling I know who's responsible."

Hearing those words I relax slightly before we all walk to the lounge in silence. We enter and watch as Genevieve helps herself to a large glass from the wine bottles we have ready for guests.

"Help yourself" Laurence says rolling his eyes before standing and crossing his arms intimidatingly. Tinkling a laugh Genevieve takes a seat and crosses her legs, her dress riding up purposefully to try tempt me to look.

Hearing Nova chuckle again beside me I look down at her to see her watching Genevieve's movements.

"Subtle" she links me making me snort out a laugh.

"So..?" Genevieve drawls. "What is the need to come in here?"

"We are waiting" Nova says calmly as I look at her in confusion.

"For?" Genevieve asks.

"If I'm correct the person who deemed it suitable to invite you" Nova says casually as I feel my heart sink.

Seeing Laurence look at Nova as she speaks I watch his face as he has the same thought I have.

"He wouldn't have.." Laurence links me before I shoot him a look.

"You sure about that? Anyway.. Nova has this covered" I reply as he nods in agreement.

Nova and Genevieve continue to look at one another as we all stand around uncomfortably.

"I'm surprised you're not saying more Jax" Genevieve comments turning her attention to me.

"What is there to say? You're not invited, as soon as my Luna has sorted this out you'll be leaving" I say.

"Oh so it's for Nova to sort out?" She smirks at me.

"No, but I can tell she wants to" I smirk back as Nova winks at me.

Hearing footsteps approach I breath in a scent I'm familiar with and growl in barely contained anger.

"David" Nova says coolly as my dad stands in the doorway uncertainty on his face.

"Oh David" Genevieve exclaims rushing forwards to embrace him which he returns rather stiffly under my furious gaze.

Growling again I step forward with burning eyes, "you thought it appropriate to invite Genevieve?"

"I did what I thought was best" he states.

"best because?" Nova asks incredulously.

"This pack needs a strong Alpha.." dad starts as Nova bursts out laughing from beside me.

"But not a strong Luna" she points out smirking at Genevieve as dad looks nervous.

"You're leading this pack astray" he defends angrily, "you are bringing danger to everyone and they are following you blindly. Can no one else see that!? This pack needs a lady like Genevieve who is kind and sweet."

"You're so wrong David" Laurence growls in defensive of his Luna. "Amelia was a strong Luna, one who everyone looked up to and believed in, and you know who I see in her..Nova. Not this flimsy blonde bimbo."

"Laurence" Genevieve gasps in shock.

"What?" He growls. "You left Genevieve, you left Jax and marked another leaving him in a critical condition for 2 weeks. You did nothing for this pack that was of any value, whilst our Luna here has helped in so many ways. She does finance work, paper work, helps training, I've even seen her help in the bloody kitchens never mind what she does to help Jax with his other businesses outside of the pack. I don't know what David has against her but I can tell you something, this pack is lucky to have been blessed with Nova as their Luna."

"Why are you back Genevieve? Where is your mate?" I growl as she looks at us in shock.

"Oh can't you tell?" Nova chimes in.

"What?" Theo asks confused at this situation. We watch as Nova steps forward and pushes Genevieve's hair to one side revealing the scar on her neck.

"Genevieve's mate has left her" she says softly.

"Why?" I ask confused.

With that I see Genevieve's eyes flit to my father before he clears his throat and speaks instead.

"Genevieve is here for a reason" he states.

"And that reason is?" I ask in disbelief.

"To challenge the Luna and get my rightful place back at this pack" she says lifting her chin in an attempt to appear confident.

I look at her for a moment before bursting into loud laughter as Laurence and my Gammas join me. "You think you can be Luna again?" I ask after a moment.

"Yes" she whispers.

"I will never accept you as my Luna again" I snarl stepping forward intimidatingly making her step back. "You left, you abandoned the pack and me and lied to us all in the process."

"She is allowed to challenge me Jax" Nova says quietly from my side. Turning to her in surprise I see the gleam in her eyes.

"You want her to challenge you?" I ask.

"Well it's a bit of a faff today. Alice is probably worrying about her schedule" she chuckles as Alice nods in agreement. " But if it has to be done then I will" she shrugs indifferently. "I'm not at all worried."

"She has the right to challenge you Nova" dad says stepping forward.

"I know I did just say that" Nova says simply.

"Oh you're so fucked Genevieve" Laurence laughs making her look at him in confusion.

"David.." Nova starts as she steps forward. "I can see what's happening here, you want Genevieve to become Luna because she is weak and not involved with the pack. She is easily controlled and wouldn't be as hard to bend to your will as I. You blame me for your family, your own mate, and others being upset with you when actually it's your own actions which have caused that to happen. You are threatened by the fact that I'm stronger than you and have been welcomed so nicely to the Midnight Sky Pack and I know you don't want me here. It is becoming abundantly clear that is the case. This is not going to help you though..you have invited the ex Luna, the one that betrayed the pack and its current Alpha to challenge the Alphas true mate knowing she wouldn't stand a chance against me. She hurt your own son! I really am beginning to wonder just what you gain from all this."

"You just can't let me be dad can you" I say quietly. "You're threatened by me, even more so with Nova by my side."

His eyes harden and his jaw clenches but he says nothing.

"Then fine, but let me fill you in on something. Once Nova has won I am sending you to Alpha Henry's pack, you are no longer welcome here as you have opposed your own son and his mate. I dread to think what ma would say to you if she was here right now" I growl.

"I'd tell him he is no longer my mate" I hear from behind me.

"What?" I gasp turning to see her standing with clenched fists.

"I returned to our home, i looked through your office David as soon as Theo linked me to say who had arrived. I just had this feeling.." she says coldly.



Holding up a piece of paper I see my dad's face drain of colour. "You know what I found?" She asks quietly.

"What did you find ma?" I ask stepping forward.

"An agreement with the council, your dad organised your mateship with Genevieve, it wasn't the councils idea..it was your dads" she snarls.

Broken Bond

## Chapter 99 - The Guardian Wolf and her Alpha Mate

Nova POV:

"So when the council approached me about a chosen mate it was already agreed and in motion because of you?" Jax asks in dad in horror.

His mother steps forward and puts a hand on his arm comforting him as I do the same.

"Why?" He asks hurt.

"You needed a Luna" David says, "one who could attend functions with you, raise your pups."

"So nothing of much value? A Luna on his arm only, a woman who would spread her legs for the Alpha but not bring anything else to the pack?" Amelia asks coldly. "You wanted someone who you could control and make Jax look weaker only to make yourself appear strong."

"It's not like that" David says.

"Isn't it?" Amelia shouts. "So you didn't lie to all of us about Genevieve then? You paid her father £2million pounds David! £2million! Why pay so much for someone?"

"You can't be serious?" Jax growls.

"Oh I am" Amelia says thrusting the paper to Jax for him to read.

"Father why couldn't you just have trusted me?" Jax asks hurt clear in his voice.

"Because you're not the Alpha I was, I had to ensure you continued my legacy and what I worked for. I knew after you had been Alpha for a year that I would have to keep my involvement in the

pack with the way you ran things, but you and Amelia were adamant I needed to step back" David snarls. "This way I could be a voice in an ear and keep close to the pack."

"No" Amelia shouts furiously. "He's far better than you ever were. He has achieved so much more than you but you are in denial. He runs this pack far better than you ever did and we both know it. You are no longer welcome here, as soon as my daughter in law has put this bitch in her place you can leave. Jax I'm sorry for this.."

"What?" Jax asks, "this isn't your fault."

"No" Amelia says softly shaking her head, "this..I, Amelia Haydes reject you David Haydes as my mate."

With that Amelia gasps in pain as she clutches at her chest, tears streaming down her face as Jax and I both hold her close supporting her whilst David drops to the floor his face white in shock.

"Accept it" she whispers brokenly, "it's too late."

"I, David Haydes accept your rejection" he whispers after a few moments as the bond between them finally snaps eliciting a sharp cry from them both.

"Ma.." Jax whispers as everyone looks on in shock.

"It needed to be done, that man is not the one I fell in love with" she sobs, "he has continuously betrayed this family and that is something I can never forgive. If he hadn't forced the council to mate you with Genevieve then you would never have had to suffer through that pain and we might not have worried about losing our son."

"Amelia you are so strong" I murmur as I hug her tightly.

"Kick her ass Nova" Amelia says passionately, "you are the true Luna there is no doubt."

"Oh I will" I say with venom. "If she challenges me that is."

Hearing that Genevieve's mask of confidence suddenly slips as she shifts uncomfortably.

"Umm..well...I, ah, I was only challenging because David approached me" she stutters out.

"Did he pay you?" Jax asks looking at his father in disgust.

Seeing her nod her head hesitantly I laugh, "oh brilliant. So I take it this isn't a challenge?"

"No...not anymore" she whispers.

"Good" I smirk before striding over and delivering a powerful slap to Genevieve's face making her head whip to the side.

"That's for daring to come back here after everything you put my mate through" i snarl before grasping her top and storming from the room dragging a stumbling Genevieve behind me.

As I pass members of the pack I see the proud smiles on their faces at what they're witnessing, slamming the front doors open I get to the top of the steps and throw her down leaving her in a sprawled heap on the gravel. Stalking down I squat beside her and lift her head by her blonde hair, meeting her terrified eyes I snarl "if you ever think about returning here I will personally make it my job to put you in your place. You are not welcome here..or wanted." After saying that I'm met with cheers from the pack members who have gathered.

"My Luna" Jax says huskily as I rise to stand beside him seeing his eyes bright with pride.

Seeing Genevieve stand shakily he turns his attention to her as his face sets in fury, "don't ever return Genevieve. Nova said it herself, you're not welcome here..or wanted." Hearing that tears begin to fall down her face as she whimpers and wobbles back to her waiting car before she falls into the back seat.

"Your dad.." I say to Jax quietly as we watch the car leave.

"Got what he deserved" he says calmly. "I don't understand the man and I doubt I ever will. He has no right to have involved himself so much in my life and to have made such decisions without my consent. Im surprised the council allowed him to."

"I'm not" I admit, "the council believe a pack needs an Alpha and it's Luna. If someone approached them with a suitable offer they would accept it."

"So much for blessed mate bonds" Jax snarls quietly to himself.

"I know" I sigh. "I only trust a couple from the council, I've never been sure of their intentions with anything."

"I wonder why" he replies sarcastically as we turn to head inside.

"Amelia are you alright?" I ask hurrying to where I see her curled up on the sofa.

"Yes" she whispers, "it hurts but I feel lighter than I have in a long time."

"Why don't you get some rest, breaking a bond takes a lot out of you and I imagine you don't want to miss the ceremony" Jax murmurs quietly.

"I will son" she assures him.

"Here..I'll help you upstairs Amelia" Theo says rushing forwards and helping her stand.

"Thank you Gamma" she says graciously. "I'm truly sorry Jax."

"Ma, I don't want to hear it. Go rest..that's an order" he says looking at her with concern.

"Yes Alpha" she chuckles before wincing as Theo helps her from the room.

"Fuck" Jax groans rubbing his head.

"What are you doing to do with your dad?" I ask quietly.

"I'm going to ring Henry and explain the situation, he can go there immediately with a couple of warriors whilst I decide what to do next. Either way he's ruined any relationship he would have had with me" Jax says with a shrug.

"I'll come" I say standing up.

"No" he barks, "you are going for a massage, I am going to greet the guests that have already arrived and apologise for missing them. This is your day and I want you to spend time with your friends enjoying what I've planned for you all."

"Is that an order?" I ask playfully.

"I can make it one" he smirks as I sashay up to him. Wrapping my arms round his neck I rise up on my toes and kiss him gently. "Florence will be back in 40 mins, Mila is in her room. Perhaps you could go and explain what has happened?" He asks looking at me hopefully.

"Of course love...You can order me about later" I wink before turning round to head upstairs.

"I plan on" he links me huskily making me shiver.

Milas Return

## Chapter 100 - The Guardian Wolf and her Alpha Mate

Nova POV:

"My mum rejected dad?" Mila gasps as I finish telling her what's happened.

"Yes" I whisper, "I'm so sorry hunny. I honestly didn't mean for your dad to hate me like he does."

"It's not your fault, my mum told me what he did growing up and to be honest I saw some of the beatings Jax took. I knew he was keeping it from mum to protect her but it didn't make it right" she says. "I just can't believe my father lacks so much trust in us all."

"I don't get it either" I shrug. "I mean Jax's accomplishments speak for themselves."

"It's because he's jealous" Mila states. "He can see how much more successful Jax is and instead of being a father and congratulate him, he tried to stir up shit within the pack."

"It was wrong" I agree.

"My poor mum" she whispers as I rub her shoulders reassuringly.

"She's resting now, Theo took her to her room. But she will be coming to the ceremony still" I say comforting her.

With a little chuckle she looks at me, "she wouldn't miss it for the world. I hate to say it but she's done the right thing."

"I know" I reply giving her a little side hug. "How have you been anyway? Happy to be home?"

"I am despite all that" she says waving her arms round, "I have a week left till Bruno's time is up, one more week of being tied to the bastard in some way and then I'll be free."

"Have you heard anything?" I ask.

"Not a peep" she says with a slight shrug of her shoulders. "6 days I'm due at the council building and he has been summoned also."

"Honestly it's crazy what some people do" I sigh as I feel sympathy towards her situation.

"It isn't it" she chuckles.

"Are you nervous?" I ask, she looks at me questioningly so I elaborate, "to see him again? See his chosen mate?"

"No" she says shaking her head. "When he demanded I became his mistress it was like a switch went in my head. Who does that to their fated mate? As soon as he demanded it Alia and I both knew we deserved better. Now it's easier. Plus if I see his chosen mate it would make it easier for me again I think, I can't help but hate her. But I also hate the situation."

"What I don't understand is why she's so happy with the idea of you being a mistress and bearing his pups" I say.

"Power" she states. "She would have the Luna title and I would be the shamed true mate turned mistress."

"Awful" I mutter as she sighs.

"But on to bigger better things" she says, "or should I say bigger better cock."

"Mila!" I exclaim as she giggles.

"I'm hoping for a second chance mate" she says more seriously.

"I have no doubt you'll get one" I say with a smile, "I'm sure the moon goddess would deem it fit for you to have a better second chance mate."

"Fucking hope so" she laughs before she stands from the bed.

"Amelia is asleep and I made sure she had a bit to eat and drink. Doctor has also checked on her and she is coping well with the broken bond, surprisingly well" Theo links me making me pause.

"Thanks for letting me know Theo, check in on her will you and keep me updated" I ask him.

"Yes Luna. The Doctor did say something interesting" he says slowly.

"Yes?" I ask.

"It's almost as if her wolf and her were content with the bond breaking, she said it can't have been a very strong bond otherwise she would be struggling more than she is" Theo admits. "Do you think David was a good mate?"

"I honestly don't know Theo" I reply, "but if it was weak then Amelia must have her reasons. Perhaps she will tell us in her own time."

"Maybe, well I will keep you updated Luna" he replies. "My lips are sealed" he adds on.

Looking up I see Mila watching me knowing I've been mind linking.

"Your mother has had some food and a little to drink, she's sleeping now and Theo will keep us updated" I say as her shoulders relax at my words.

"Good" she sighs. After a moments quiet I take a breath and look at her again.

"Was your parents relationship a good one?" I ask wincing as I do.

Seeing her falter as she looks at me she bites her lip nervously, "to the pack yes. But..I'm not so convinced."

"Really?" I ask sadly.

"I saw him hit her once" she admits. "I was 6 at the time and they told me it was a game, as I grew up I knew it to be more but I never saw it happen again so I thought it was a one time thing. I don't think he was physical again..but I think he was very controlling."

"That's really sad" I comment as she nods. "Theo said the Doctor checked her over and their bond appeared to be weak. It's as if she was already accepting of the fact the bond would break, both her and her wolf."

"My mum is a strong woman, fiercely protective and incredibly intelligent. She couldn't reach her full potential as Luna and I know she feels sad about that" Mila says. "But that's not her fault, and she did an amazing job as it was. But I know she would have done many things differently to my father."

"Maybe this is for the best then" I say quietly.

"I think it definitely is" she agrees. "Let's go for a massage shall we..I've been looking forward to it all day."

Jumping up I link my arm with her out stretched one and we make our way upstairs to Jax and mines suite. Opening the door my eyes widen in excitement when I see the massage stations set up and makeup artists busy in the corner with the vanity.

"Oh my goddess I'm so ready for this" I giggle as I hug Alice and Naomi.

"Relax those worn out muscles of yours" Naomi says with a gleam in her eyes.

"Dirty woman" I chuckle as she tilts her head back laughing loudly.

"I'm lost" Alice says looking between us.

"She finds it appropriate to comment on her Alphas sex drive" I say. Seeing Alice's eyes widen in interest I hold my hand up, "nope..not even going there Alice."

Her mouth snaps shut and she pouts at me, "I'd tell you about Theo."

"And as I've told you before, I don't want to know about my brothers shenanigans" I laugh.

"I'll second that" Mila laughs from where she's getting some drinks ready, "I heard enough from the twins growing up, let's not throw Jax in the equation."

"Thank you" I exclaim with relief as we all chuckle between ourselves.

"A glass of wine for us" Mila says handing me a glass, "and some sweet mocktail for you pregnant ladies" she adds on with a sad face.

Clinking out glasses we toast to today and then lie down ready for a massage, "if I fall asleep don't judge me" I hear Alice mumble already sounding tired.

"Wouldn't dream of it" I chuckle aware of how cranky she can be. "Time to relax ladies" I cheer quietly.

Making Arrangements

## Chapter 101 - The Guardian Wolf and her Alpha Mate

Jax POV:

After greeting the first guests that have arrived I quickly shoot up to my office to give my uncle Henry a call. "Laurence where did dad go?" I link him quickly.

"He's at the lake house, got 4 wolves watching and monitoring his movements as didn't know what he would do. Seems he is just resting at the moment" he links me back immediately.

"Can't believe that happened" I link him back.

"I'm kind of not surprised" he admits through the link making me pause.

"You're not?" I ask in surprise.

"She was pretty angry after their altercation the other day. Her mate has lied to her and hurt her pups amongst other things. I don't like to say it but I always felt like he held your mum back a bit" he links me quietly.

"Yeah it was always father's way or no way at all" I reply back with a sigh. "Ok I'm going to call Henry now, although he's probably on his way here already."

"Ok boss, just let me know if you need me to do anything else" he replies. "I'll keep handling the guests for now."

"Thanks mate" I reply quickly as I slump down in my office chair and retrieve my phone from the drawer. Finding my uncles mobile number I call him whilst rubbing my forehead to try and release the tension I feel.

"Jax my boy, checking where I am?" My uncles cheery voice says through the phone.



"Hey Henry" I say and I hear his breath immediately hitch when he hears my tone.

"Whats up? Is it Nova? Is she ok?" He asks his words tumbling out.

"Yeah yeah, Novas fine. Getting a massage as we speak curtesy of moi" I reply with a chuckle.  
"Unfortunately this is about something else."

"Oh, what's up?" He asks curiously.

"Ma rejected father" I say bluntly as he stays quiet on the other end for a moment.

"Well shit" he finally says as I stand up to walk to the window. Watching the pack members hurry around making everything look beautiful for the ceremony I nearly forget I'm on the phone.

"What brought that on?" He asks when I don't say anything.

"Ah man I don't even know where to start. His admittance of the way he treated us growing up, the methods he and his beta used, the fact he arranged with the council for me to marry Genevieve and his that from me. Or maybe it was the fact he invited Genevieve to the Luna Ceremony today for her to challenge Nova for the Luna position. That's not mentioning the doubt he has been trying to install in pack members about my brothers capability and my own" I rant.

"Fuck sake David" he growls, "I swear he never learns."

"Yes well it's done now, he accepted the rejection because he knew mum had had enough" I say.

"I think your mum had enough a while ago" Henry admits.

"Huh?" I ask confused.

"She gave him an ultimatum a few years ago, either step back and let you run the Midnight Sky Pack and be successful in your own right or keep doubting his pups and continue to cause tension in the family and end up losing her" he says quietly.

"Ma said that?" I check.

"Yes..we held an intervention" he admits. "His Alpha ego took a hit but it was a necessary one."

"I never knew" I say quietly.

"It wasn't for you to know" Henry says simply. "We knew what you were capable of, but your father was hell bent on wanting things his way. It seems he never truly got over it."

"It seems that way" I agree. "Could you take him in to your pack until he decides what to do? I don't feel comfortable him being here, ma needs support and also Pa really doesn't seem to be a fan of Nova."

"Really?" He asks now shocked.

"Yes" I reply, "he's unhappy with the danger she brings to the pack but I think he's just not comfortable with being around such a strong Luna."

"She's admirable not someone to be wary of" Henry observes.

"Exactly" I sigh.

"I'll take him yes. I have 4 warriors escorting me and they were due to travel back today, he can go with them. I'll have my Beta keep an eye on him until I'm back" he lets me know.

"Thanks Henry, I appreciate it" I say with relief. "So how long until you're here?"

"45 minutes, you best have some drink waiting for me" he laughs.

"I believe there is a bottle of whiskey in your room ready" I chuckle.

"You know me well" he exclaims.

"Wasn't me, Nova arranged some welcome baskets. I had a little look and yours has whiskey..maybe she thinks it's a family thing" I say amused.

"Well then, she's just gone up on my book once again" he says with a booming laugh. "I'll see you soon Alpha."

"Thanks Alpha" I say with a smirk at the sudden use of formal titles. Hanging up the phone I roll my shoulders happy to have sorted that small issue out.

"Let's go check on mum" Zeus suggests to me. Walking up to her room quickly I knock lightly but don't hear a response. Peeking my head in I see her small form curled up on her bed resting, feeling my heart swell when I see the sad droop of her cheeks even in sleep I lean over and stroke her hair like she used to for me when I was younger.

"They're strong" Zeus comments, "she will be ok."

"I know" I murmur back quietly as she sighs in her sleep. Standing up I get her a bottle of water and place it on the bedside table and drop a few flowers I pinched from a vase on my walk here. Taking one last look at her I let myself out of her room and quietly close the door behind me.

"I need a drink" I mutter to myself.

"Well let's go celebrate then" Zeus says to cheer me up. "Concentrate on today, your mum has put far too much effort in it to let this overcast it too much."

"You're right" I say making him puff his chest out proudly. Walking down stairs I see Alpha Brent has just arrived and I walk over to greet him.

"Alpha Jax" he says with a wide smile. "I was wondering when I would be getting this invitation."

"You did?" I ask amused.

"I could tell" he says smugly, "you two were meant for one another and I personally couldn't be happier for you. You've got yourself a strong mate there Alpha."

"Oh you have no idea" I comment. "Nova will be pleased to see you."

"Where is she?" He asks looking around.

"Ah the ladies are having some massages before getting ready, she deserves some time with her friends before I get to hog all her attention this evening" I laugh.

"A gentlemen I see" he says.

Seeing an Omega pass with some drinks I quickly take a whiskey and say my thanks. Holding my glass out to Alpha Brent he clinks it as I toast "to my Luna."

"To your Luna" he repeats with a smile.

Ready

## Chapter 102 - The Guardian Wolf and her Alpha Mate

Nova POV:

"Oh that was lovely thank you" I say giving the masseuse a wide smile.

"It's my pleasure Luna" she says holding out a card, "here's my details if you ever need to relax"

Taking it I grin knowing I will most definitely be using it in the future. Hearing a soft knock at the door before it's pushed open I turn to see Amelia walk into the room.

"Ma" Mila exclaims rushing to give her a hug. "How are you?"

"Sad but also happy" she admits biting her lip. "I'm sorry to have done that today of all days but I couldn't deal with it any longer."

"I know ma" Mila says into her ear. "You look lighter for it" she comments taking a step back and looking at her mother.

"I feel it" she chuckles almost guiltily. "It was time."

"Are you ready to some fun?" Mila says enthusiastically as she passes her a large glass of wine. Watching Amelia gulp it down I grin.

"If you keep this wine coming then definitely" Amelia says with a soft smirk.

"On it" Alice giggles as she grabs the bottle and refills the glass.

"Oh I love a drunk Amelia" Naomi exclaims clapping her hands.

"Life and soul of the party" Amelia chuckles slightly embarrassed but seemingly grateful for the ladies enthusiasm serving as a welcome distraction.

"Well call me intrigued" I giggle as I take a sip from my own glass. Hearing another knock on the door I open it to see Theo looking around in a panic, once he sees Amelia he visibly relaxes before blushing and clearing his throat.

"Apologies" he says scratching the back of his neck in embarrassment, "I just wanted to check on Amelia but it seems she is quite alright."

"Thank you Theo" she says giving him a kiss on his cheek, "let Jax know I am right where I need to be."

"I will..enjoy ladies" he says before quickly pulling Alice in for a passionate kiss and then dropping down to tenderly kiss her growing bump.

"Stay safe" he murmurs to Alice as she blushes.

"Always" she promises looking at him with love before he waves and closes the door for us.

"So sweet" I wink at her as she grins at me. "Who knew the little rat I looked after would grow into such a gentlemen."

"Rat?" Alice gasps before bursting into giggles.

"I called him it because he was obsessed with ratatouille the movie, honestly I don't know why but it stuck for a solid year" I say with a shrug.

"I'll have to remember that" she says smiling mischievously.

"Didn't hear it from me" I laugh as Flo walks into the room.

"Flo! You missed the massages" I say pulling a sad face.

"I did, sorry Luna" she says sheepishly.

"Border patrol?" I ask.

"Umm..yes..yes border patrol" she stammers as I look at her curiously. Seeing her blush I cock my head at her with a knowing smile. "Ok fine" she exclaims, "I was with Andrew."

"Say no more" I laugh, as her cheeks stay red she grabs her wine glass and takes a long sip.

"So I was thinking of doing a half up half down hair style for you, but place it over one shoulder to show off your beautiful mark Luna" the hair stylist suggests.

"I like that" I agree enthusiastically.

"Maybe leave some strands down to frame your face" she adds looking at me through the mirror.

"Perfect" I smile.

"And for makeup I think some gold shimmer on your lids. I just want to highlight your natural beauty, so maybe a little contour and blush but nothing heavy" the makeup artist says having a look over my features.

"That sounds great, I don't like too much on my face" I agree with her.

"Fab, we will get started then" the hair stylist says as I sit back and let them get to work.

"How are you getting on my Luna?" I hear Jax's deep voice say in my mind making me smile.

"I feel very relaxed" I reply, "your mum has joined us and everyone seems to be enjoying themselves."

"Good to hear" he replies quickly.

"How are you? How are the guests?" I ask quickly.

"Everybody is very happy, people are starting to come down now for some drinks. Everything is ready for the ceremony and I've told pack members to pause work or anything that needs doing to get ready themselves" he replies enthusiastically.

"Brilliant" I say, "but you didn't answer how you are?"

"Better now I've had a whiskey and all I can think about is how you're officially going to be my Luna soon" he replies making me imagine the big grin on his face as he says those words.

Not wanting to ask but knowing I need to know the answer I take a breath before asking him, "is everything sorted?"

"Yes" he replies quickly. "I spoke to Henry and Pa will be going back with the warriors shortly as they are currently picking him up from the lake house. They will keep Laurence updated because I want to enjoy this evening."

"Noted" I reply understanding he wants to enjoy himself after the events of this morning.

"Relax and have fun, I'll see you soon" he says, "love you."

"Love you too darling" I reply back.

Sitting back and closing my eyes so I don't see the artists at work I chatter happily with the ladies until I feel a tap on my shoulder.

"Ready to have a look?" One of my stylists asks quietly as I nod eagerly. "Ok...open up!"

Opening my eyes slowly I gasp as I take in my reflection carefully. "Oh my goddess you're both amazing" I breath as I twist looking at the back of my hair in the mirror.

"Thank you so much, I'd hug you if I didn't want to risk ruining what you've done" I say making them both laugh lightly.

"It was our pleasure Luna" the make up artist says. Holding out a light rose lipstick for me she says "for you to top up if needed."

"Oh Nova dear you look amazing" Amelia says as she comes to stand beside me. "Different to normal but just as beautiful."

"Thank you Amelia" I smile. Looking at her stylish bun and bold makeup I silently wow at her. "You look stunning" I gasp.

"I'm making a statement" she says with a bit of sass making me chuckle. Looking at all the ladies hair and makeup I grow more excited knowing we are nearing the ceremony.

"Everybody looks gorgeous" I say happily as they all cheer.

"Time for your dress" Alice exclaims before dragging me to the closet to dress. "I want to surprise them."

"Oh" I giggle. Holding the dress out she helps me slip it on as she whistles lightly.

"Damn Jax isn't going to know what's hit him" she exclaims before handing me a pair of stylish gold heels. Slipping them on I turn to look in the full length mirror behind me and stand frozen. Seeing the dress with the hair and makeup has brought it all together and I look worlds away from my normal day to day self. The slit hints at my legs with the heels making them appear longer and highlighting how toned they are. My neckline hints at my full breasts but the cut is classy and sophisticated whilst the dress hugs my waist line showing off the curve of my bum before flowing lightly.

"Ha..where's Nova and what have you done with her?" I ask Alice cheekily.

"Silly woman" she chuckles, "this just highlights how good you already look. All eyes are going to be on you tonight Luna."

"Thank you Alice" I murmur emotionally. Seeing her smile she motions for me to step out and as I do all eyes turn to see me.

Seeing everybody stand shocked I shift uncomfortably, "is it ok?" I ask nervously.

"Wow" Naomi breaths her eyes wide. "You look beautiful Nova."

"Amazing" Flo whispers as they both continue to stare.

"Amelia?" I ask quietly seeing her standing with tears threatening to fall.

"You look like a true Luna" she whispers emotionally as Mila squeezes her mums shoulder.

"Truly stunning Nova, my brother is going to be blown away" Mila exclaims as she comes to kiss my cheek. "Beautiful" she assures me as I take a deep breath.

"Ready to do this?" Mila asks with a smile as she checks the time. "Your dad is downstairs" she adds on.

Steeling myself I straighten my posture and take another deep breath to keep my sudden nerves at bay. "Ready" I say glad my voice is clear.