

Chapter 114

"I don't want to go home".

"We don't have to but I'd recommend you maybe try and phone him. He'll beac worried".

I snorted. "I'm pretty sure Derek covered that part. I can't pee without someone telling Jake".

"You are his mate Leah. He'll always want to make sure you're safe".

"He won't answer".

"Humour me".

"Fine". I sighed.

I tried and what do you know it went straight to voicemail.

"Told you". Riding back into town in a comfortable silence I kept my gaze on the views we passed.

"What you thinking about bear?".

"Nothing. Can we go to the beach?".

"Where do you think I was headed. I know how to cheer you up". He winked.

..

Carter took me to the beach but stayed in the car.

I cried, for the first time in days I broke down and sobbed my heart out. I missed my gran, I missed her presence, I missed the comfort I felt around her.

I couldn't come to terms with her leaving me, abandoning me. We had been through so much together, she was the only

parent I had.

She gave me advice when I needed it. Made me feel better when I was poorly. Heck she even taught me how to throw a good right hook.

A part of me felt empty and I was afraid it was always going to feel like that. Rubbing at my eyes I lifted my shoes before getting to my feet.

I never thought moving here would turn out like this.

Taking a few steps until I felt the coolness against my feet I stared out into the ocean. It always brought me peace being out here. The calmness of the waves soothing.

It gave me the timeout I needed. No worries, no stress, just the peace and quiet. Taking out my phone so I could snap a picture my mouth became dry when his name flashed on my screen.

I knew I had to answer it. Maybe there was a chance he would in fact be worried and we didn't need him sending out a search party.

"Hello?"

"Where are you beautiful?"

He sounded calm which made me a little nervous because I wasn't sure if it was the calm before the storm.

"At the beach. I needed a time out".

"You coming home soon?". He asked.

"In a little bit". I chewed the inside of my cheek. I really missed him today. I didn't like not seeing him or speaking to him.

"You doing okay?"

"I'm okay Jake".

"Okay baby I'll see you when you're home".

My heart was racing.

Ending the call I held up my phone taking a quick snap before putting it back in my pocket. Reaching the car I removed the sand from my feet the best I could before getting in.

"Feel better?". Carter asked starting the engine.

"A little but I still don't want to go home yet". I wasn't afraid to face Jake and he wasn't the reason why I didn't want to go home.

"Could always come back to grans. We could hang out there for a bit. Watch movies, eat junk food, we can do whatever you want".

"Order Chinese food and watch crappy tv?". I smiled.

"Whatever you want bear".

I appreciated Carter so much for today. It didn't quite take my mind off everything but it helped. He didn't push me on things I didn't want to talk about. He didn't ask me to fix things with Jake.

He was just there for me.

As he pulled into the drive way I noticed Alanna's car parked further up.

"She moves fast". I teased.

"Just the way I like". He smirked.

"You're disgusting". I unclipped my seatbelt and got out.

"Head inside I'll go pick up the food".

I wasn't sure how this was going to go after the last time we spoke. She did seem pretty worked up about Jake. Opening the front door I made my way into the living room.

"Peace offering?". She held up the bottle of wine.

"We're good". I smiled.

"Should we crack the seal anyway?".

"Go for it".

"I'm sorry about snapping earlier. Jake's a pain but I still worry. His wolf is very powerful".

I grabbed two glasses sitting them on the kitchen island. "He seems to be in a better mood". I took the wine from her filling them up.

"That's all down to my mom".

"What calmed him down before?". I asked walking back into the living room and sitting on the couch.

"You really want to know?". She sat on the chair by the window kicking off her shoes.

I furrowed my eyebrows. Something told me I wasn't going to like the answer.

"He would go out, get blind drunk and bang anything insight".

"I guess that would get all his frustrations out". I took a sip of my wine. "Talking about being blind drunk. I thought werewolves didn't get hangovers?".

"Depends on how much we drink".

"Right". We fell into a comfortable silence but it wasn't

awkward. Reaching for the remote I turned on the tv for some background noise.

"How did your coffee date with Lana go?"

"It was good. We haven't really been hanging out much lately".

"She's all loved up". She smirked. "Bet you never thought you'd see that".

"Never in a million years but I'm glad she's happy. She deserves it". Lana didn't have the best childhood and her teenage years weren't much better. Could say my gran kinda took her in.

We were very much inseparable.

"So". She paused. "Prom".

I shrugged. I wasn't really bothered about it. Another dress, another dance. It wasn't a big deal.

"You're goingnd even if I have to drag you. Besides you can't miss your last ever prom".

"I don't have a dress". And I didn't have money to waste on one either.

"You do". She grinned.

"I don't". I made a face.

"The dress you bought for the ceremony?"

"Oh yeah". I forgot all about that. I may as well put it to use seeing as it cost a fortune.

"So you do have a dress and I'm pretty sure you have everything else to go with it as well".

"You're right but-...".

"No buts". She cut me off. "And Jake wouldn't let you miss it".

"Right because he missed his".

"Exactly". Just then the door opened and I instantly smelled the Chinese food. My stomach rumbled.

"You two kissed and made up?". He grinned.

Rolling my eyes I checked my phone for the time. It wasn't late but it was getting there.

"You alright?". Alanna asked.

"Yeah was just checking the time".

"Dying to see that brother of mine". She winked.

She wasn't wrong. I couldn't wait to see him.

"He told me the full moon is soon".

"Ah". She smirked.

"No, nope. I don't want to hear any of that". Carter made a face as he passed me my plate.

"Then don't listen". Alanna glared.

A laugh fell from my lips just as there was a knock on the front door. As Carter went to answer it I glanced at Alanna.

She shrugged. "So the full moon".

"I couldn't think of a worse timing than now". I sighed.

"Come on how long have-...".

"Bear". Carter interrupted.

I noticed the envelope in his hands. "What's that?". I nodded my mouth suddenly dry.

"That was grans lawyer". He scratched the back of his head.

"This is for you".

Gran had a lawyer?

"What is it?"

"It's sealed Leah".

"Then open it".

"It's to be opened by you and only you". I took it from his outstretched hand.

I knew I would open it but not yet. I had somewhat of a good day today and whatever was in that envelope was probably going to change that.

I sat my plate on the floor my appetite gone.

"Bear".

"What do you think it is?". I asked.

"No idea".

"Since when did gran have a lawyer?". I sat the envelope next to me.

Carter shrugged. "You know her better than anyone Leah. Do you want to open it?"

"I will but not tonight". I glanced at my phone again. "I think it's time I went home".

"I'll walk with you".

"No I'll be okay". I got to my feet zipping up my jacket.

"I need to see Jake before my patrol tonight anyway so it'll save me going back later".

"Okay".

I said goodbye to Alanna as we headed out the front door. She had roped me into going to the training ground tomorrow.

Another shot at trying to bring out my wolf.

"Princess".

I didn't realise I was staring at the ground until he said my name.

"Hi". I was anxious as hell.

"Carter". He gave him a nod. "Mind if I steal her?".

My eyes locked with his.

"I'll catch you guys in a bit". He smiled.

"Come here". His voice soft he held out his hand for me to take.

I didn't hesitate.

Slipping my hand into his I tried to calm my rapid heartbeat. I didn't know what to say to him. It wasn't awkward between us but the elephant was definitely in the room.

Those three little words still fresh on my mind.

The guilt I felt for not saying it back.

Was he even going to bring it up?

Hand in hand we started walking home.

"Baby-..".

"I missed you today". I cut him off.

"I missed you too". He squeezed my hand gently.

"I don't like not seeing you or talking to you. In fact I hate it. I

hate that you were already gone before I got up. I hate that you didn't sleep in our bed last night. I hate-...". He pulled me against him my words suddenly lost.

Brushing his nose against mine he placed a gentle kiss on my lips. "Breathe baby, your hearts racing". Our eyes locked. His beautiful big brown eyes staring into mine.

I could hear how fast my heart was beating.

I was an idiot for not saying it back. I loved him more than he would ever know.

"Jake about last night-...".

"You're not ready to say it back and that's okay". He kissed the end of my nose. "Let's go home".