

Chapter 146

Jake wasn't home yet. I was sat in the living room with Alanna. My idea didn't go as planned. Lacey got upset and bailed well she went home.

"She's not having the best time of it just now". Alanna spoke.

I think I made things worse. I offered her my house and she flat out refused. She didn't want a handout which is ridiculous because we're friends and it wasn't a handout.

The house would lay empty when Carter leaves. My gran isn't coming back and I'm not moving back in. I thought about selling it, but I didn't have it in me. It made sense to give it to someone who needed it.

"I should have kept my mouth shut". I sighed.

The last thing I wanted was to make her upset.

"Could you talk to Jake?". She asked.

"About what?".

"Get him to talk to Jack".

"I don't think that's a good idea".

It wasn't any of our business and I didn't want to meddle in their relationship. I for one know what that feels like. And this was serious. They had to fix it themselves. Hash it out and fight for what they have.

"Well, someone needs to talk to him".

"No, they don't and don't you do it. Leave it be because if you stick your big nose in, I guarantee you'll make it worse".

"Hey". She frowned. "I don't have a big nose".

I rolled my eyes. "I'm being serious Alanna. Lacey is our friend, but this is none of our business. They need to fix it together".

"I hate seeing her like this".

"Me too but she knows we're here for her and until she asks for our advice, we stay out of it".

"Fine". She sighed.

"Will they stay together". I asked.

She shrugged and that didn't fill me with confidence. I thought mates were forever? Surely, the love they shared was enough? Having kids was a big commitment. You can't force someone into wanting them.

"Do you want kids?". She asked.

I nodded. I wanted them but not right now. As selfish as it sounds, I wasn't ready to share Jake with anyone else. I wanted to keep him to myself for a little while longer.

Besides we had all the time in the world to have babies.

"I'm not ready to share him". I grinned.

A laugh fell from her lips. "Carter and I haven't talked about kids yet. I'm not even sure he wants them".

"I'm sure he does".

The back door opened but Jake was by himself.

"Carter is waiting out front for you". He went straight to the fridge for some water. "Get some sleep because you're on early patrol tomorrow".

Oh.

A sigh fell from her lips, but she kept quiet. She hated morning patrol and he only ever put her on it if she pissed him off.

"See you tomorrow Leah".

"Bye".

I watched him. I wasn't sure the run worked. He still seemed tense, and his mood wasn't any better than before. Unless something else has happened.

"I'm going to lock up and then shower. You ready to go up?". He asked.

"Has something happened?". I asked.

"No, why?". He frowned.

"You've put Alanna on morning patrol".

He smirked. "A little goodbye present".

I shook my head. "She'll hate you". I got to my feet and stretched out my arms. "You know how much she hates doing it".

"Oh, I know". His smirk was even bigger. "That's why I changed it".

While he was in the shower I got into bed and made myself comfortable. I turned on the tv and started looking through Netflix. As usual I spent more time looking than picking. I settled for the vampire diaries.

It was more for background noise because I couldn't concentrate. I couldn't stop thinking about Lacey. She wasn't having the best time recently and there was nothing any of us could do about it.

This was something she had to fix on her own.

It wasn't until I felt the bed dip that I realised he was finished showering.

"You hungry?". He asked.

I shook my head.

"Anything you want to talk about?". He fixed his pillows before pulling me closer to him.

"I offered to give my house to Lacey and Jack". I lay my head against his chest my hand resting flat against his stomach.

"What did she say?".

"She got upset and then went home. Are they going to be alright?". I lifted my head to look at him. "She's really not okay".

"It's not our business Leah".

Of course, that would be his answer. I knew it wasn't our business, but they are our friends, and I was worried about her. I could see the hurt in her eyes every time I looked at her. She was struggling to cope with the pressure of Jack wanting a baby.

"Do you think they'll break their bond?".

"It will never come down to that".

"What if it does?".

"It won't. He loves her too much to hurt her like that".

I sat up resting my back against the headboard. "He's already hurting her with this whole baby situation".

"He wants kids". He shrugged. "But again, it's none of our business".

"What if she doesn't?".

"Are you trying to tell me something without actually telling me?"

"She isn't ready for a baby. He can't force her, right?". I don't know why but my stomach was in knots.

"We're not fucking monsters Leah". He pushed the covers back and got out of bed. "Jack would never force her to do anything she didn't want to".

Jack was his best friend, his beta. But maybe Alanna was right. Maybe someone did need to speak to him. The more he pushed the situation the more she would distance herself.

"Why are you getting angry over this?"

"Jack's my best friend. He would never do anything to hurt her. She's his fucking mate".

This wasn't going the way I thought it would. He was already riled up because of last night and I think I might have made it worse. But still, I did have a point in what I was saying.

"Get back into bed". I sighed.

There was no point in getting into an argument over something that had nothing to do with us. Although for some reason I seem to have hit a nerve with him.

"You really think he would force her into having a baby?". He sat on the edge of the bed. "Do you think I'd do that?"

Wow.

We weren't talking about us. This conversation wasn't about us having a baby.

"Please, get back into bed".

"I've known Jack all my life. We grew up together. He would never

hurt Lacey or force her into doing something she doesn't want to do".

"Has he talked to you about it?"

"He's distraught over it. He thinks she doesn't want to be with him anymore".

"Because she's not ready for a baby?". I frowned.

He nodded.

"She's eighteen Jake. Not everyone is ready for a baby at that age. You need to talk some sense into him before he forces her hand". I would hate to see them end their relationship.

Mates are forever. A bond that isn't supposed to be broken. But I strongly believe everything happens for a reason. Maybe this rough patch will bring them closer together.

"I'll talk to him".

I wasn't expecting that reply considering 5 minutes ago he told me it was none of our business. Which it still isn't but I would hate to watch it all crumble.

"Why is he so desperate for a baby?"

He shrugged. "I'm going to get a beer. Do you want anything?"

I shook my head and turned my attention towards the tv. "For the record I know you wouldn't force me into anything". The door closed but I knew he heard me.

When I woke the next morning, I had a text message from Lacey. She wanted to meet for lunch or coffee. I was to choose. Jake was snoring his head off beside me. I wasn't sure what time he came back to bed at.

I messaged her back inviting her over here instead of going out.

I wasn't feeling great. My head was throbbing, and I felt a little sick. I put my phone away and pulled the covers up and around my neck.

"Babe". His arm snuck over my waist as he pulled me to him.
"It's too early to be up".

"I know". I moved myself closer until I was resting my head against his chest. It didn't take long for my eyes to grow heavy. I swear it didn't matter how much sleep I got I still felt exhausted.

"Do something for me?". His voice was rough, groggy. He was still half asleep. Which means he probably won't remember this conversation. "Leah".

"Hm?". I was almost there, I could feel my breathing slowing, my body relaxing. Whatever he wanted me to do he could ask me later.

"You need to take a test in the morning. Your scents changed".