

## Chapter 161

One day until I graduated and as much as I wanted everything to be perfect it wasn't. I wanted us all to come together and celebrate but I wasn't sure if Alanna and I were on speaking terms.

I said what I had to, and I still stand by it.

I was getting ready to meet Ryan in town. Jake had left early this morning, a pack meeting but I didn't need to attend. At first, I thought that was a little strangeac but the more I thought about it the more I'd rather not be there anyway.

It's not like he would let me do anything.

I hadn't heard from Lana, but I wasn't surprised. She was dealing with some stuff, and I was giving her the time to sort it all out. If someone had told me this was how my life was going to turn out I would have laughed in their face.

I thought I would be off to university living my best life, riding out the last of my teenage years. Instead, I was mated to an Alpha werewolf, pregnant with his child and had no idea what lay ahead.

A sigh fell from my lips as I slipped my arms through my jacket. I was in a funk, and I couldn't shake this feeling off. It's not that I wasn't happy because I was. I knew this was where I was supposed to be but sometimes, I couldn't help the little what if thoughts entering my head.

What if we never moved to Texas?

How different would my life had been if I was still in Florida?

Would my gran still be in my life?

I had to get out of this house before I fell into a slumber of depression.

Just as I got in the car he texted and cancelled. He was too hungover to meet for lunch, he was sorry, and he would make it up to me. Instead of going back inside I clipped my seatbelt into place, turned on my engine and drove off downnd the street.

I would take myself to lunch and maybe even cheer myself up with some shopping.

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I ended up at the beach.

It wasn't beach weather, but it was always my go to place when I needed time on my own. I didn't realise I needed time on my own until Ryan cancelled. I just couldn't be bothered with anyone right now. I didn't want to talk I didn't want to socialise.

Right now, all I wanted was to sit in my own company and forget about the world.

Reaching the beach shack, I ordered a coffee with extra milk and took a seat so I could watch the view. The sound of the sea soothed my soul. It made me relax and it made me think of home.

I made a face. Home. This was my home. Florida was so long ago or so it seemed. I guess everything that I have been keeping to myself was coming to the surface. Feelings that I buried, the drastic change to my life that I just went along with.

These pregnancy hormones were suffocating me.

I didn't like how emotional or vulnerable I felt. Even now I could feel the tears in my eyes. I was crying at nothing. It just happened without warning.

I frowned when a cupcake was placed in front of me. "I didn't...".  
"It's from the girls". The server nodded to the left.

Alanna, Lacey and Lana.

I cried more. To the point where I was sobbing.

It was then I realised I needed my friends now more than ever.

"We're sorry". Lana spoke.

"Yeah, we fucked up". Alanna added.

"I'm just here for support". Lacey grinned.

A laugh fell from my lips. I missed them all. I missed our laughs, hanging out, sleep overs. I missed everything.

"I'm sorry". I spoke. "I haven't been myself lately".

"Because you're pregnant". Alanna grinned.

What was the point in trying to keep it a secret if they already knew. There was no point in denying it because I know she would continue to hassle me if I said I wasn't.

"Yeah". I chewed my bottom lip. "We're having a baby".

"I knew it". Alanna laughed. "I knew your scent had changed. I can't believe I'm going to be an auntie".

"Amazing news Leah I'm so happy for you". Lacey spoke.

"You'll be a great mom Leah". Lana added.

I was the one that wanted to keep it a secret, but I felt so much relief after telling them. Keeping a secret this big was hard especially from your best friends. Jake on the other hand, I wasn't sure how he was going to react to me telling them.

"How far along are you?". Lacey asked.

"You must all promise me that you won't say anything. Jake doesn't know I've told you".

"Great". Lana huffed. "Another reason for him to hate me".

Eh?

"Not this again". Alanna sighed. "She thinks Jake doesn't like her".

"Why wouldn't he like you?". I asked.

She shrugged. "Just a feeling I have".

She was being ridiculous and if Jake didn't like her, she would know for definite. He wasn't shy when it came to people he didn't like. In fact, he wasn't shy about anything. If he had something to say best believe he would say it. Good or bad.

"Well, your feelings are all wrong because if my brother didn't like you, he'd tell you to your face".

She hit the nail on the head with that one. But I didn't want this to turn into a bickering match between them. We all know how much they loved to argue with each other.

"So, can I count on you all to keep my secret?". I asked.

They all agreed to keep it hush hush. I wasn't worried I trusted them. We stayed a little while longer catching up. Drinking coffee and eating cakes.

"Can I ask what the pack meeting was about today?".

I didn't miss the look Lacey gave Alanna. The look of you need to answer that because I've got nothing, and I'll tell her the truth.

"Boring as always". Alanna sighed. "I mean it's the same rubbish every time we have one. You didn't miss much trust me".

Hm. It scared me a little at how good of a liar Alanna really was, but I didn't push for the truth. I would find out eventually.

"I've missed this". Lacey smiled. "I've missed us all hanging out together and to think this could be our last time".

Thinking about that made me sad.

"No, we still have the graduation party my mom's throwing for us". Alanna spoke.

"Have you decided on what you're going to do yet?". I asked.

Maybe it wasn't the right time considering what happened between us last night, but I still wanted to know.

"Lana lets go for a walk along the beach". Lacey suggested.

"Eh no its freezing".

"Then come with me to the bathroom".

"I'm going with him. We leave Monday".

"And you're still not happy about it?". I frowned.

"I'm leaving my family behind, my pack behind. I don't need to be happy about it Leah. But". She paused. "I can't live without him, and I know if I don't go, I'll be miserable".

"He doesn't want to go". I spoke. "He feels like he has to. There's so much pressure on him to do the right thing. I want him to stay but he has to make the decision on his own, you both have to make the decision".

"We did and we decided to go. Weem talked last night, hashed everything out and came to the agreement that we would try it. I know we've always got a place here if it doesn't work out".

I felt like I owed her an apology. I may have overreacted a little last night and I didn't mean to shift into my wolf.

"I'm sorry about last night". She spoke.

"No, I'm the one that should be apologising. I treated you badly and I shouldn't have gone about it the way I did".

"He's your family and you worry about him. I get it. If the roles were reversed, I would have done the same". She smiled.

I knew it.

"So, we're good?". I asked.

"Always. You're my bestie". She grinned.

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It wasn't late when I got home. I couldn't wait to get into my pjs and curl up on the couch with some food and a good film. But of course, Jake had other plans. The music was blaring, and the smell of alcohol hit me as soon as I walked through the front door.

The living room was empty, so I turned the music off and headed out back. Jack and Pete were here but there was no sign of Jake.

"What's going on?". I asked.

"Hey baby". Arms circled my waist as he kissed the side of my head. "You good?".

I turned in his embrace. "I'm good, are you?".

"Always". He smirked. "We're just having a catch up".

Was he drunk?

I looked between Pete and Jack. They didn't look drunk.

"Are you drunk?". I asked.

"A little tipsy". He grinned. "I missed you". His lips found mine.

"Can we go to bed?".

Wow.

"I think you need to go to bed".

"Only if you come too". He giggled.

A six-foot Alpha werewolf giggled. Giggled like a schoolgirl.

"Hm, you smell good". He nuzzled his head in between my neck and my shoulder and that's when I felt the pinching of my skin.

Did he just bite me?

A laugh fell from his lips as I felt the wetness of his tongue.

Oh shit.

"A little help please".

"We got him". Jack spoke.

I had never seen him like this before and what worried me was how much alcohol had he drank to end up like this. The kitchen was a mess. Food and empty beer bottles everywhere.

A sigh fell from my lips. I just wanted to go to bed.

"He's out cold". Pete spoke. "We'll clean the mess".

"Did something happen?". I asked.

"Everyone has to let off steam occasionally. Even the Alpha".

That didn't answer my question. Once they left, I headed upstairs and opted for the spare room for the night. I think a conversation was needed in the morning.