

## Chapter 35 Knox

What a fucking day! My Beta Jake, my Gamma Dan and two of our warriors Gabriel and Manuel had decided a drink was needed. We headed to our usual haunt The Black Star club not far from our offices, it was a bar/club that while it was in the human area was a regular place many werewolves would call in for drinks. And with it being within close proximity to our main offices it was a regular call off point for us when we had a shitty day, or just when we wanted a drink to kick back with.

“Holla at ya boys!” The doorman said as we approached.

The five of us looked at each other and rolled our eyes at the fool trying to act like he was a friend like he did every time we came to the bar but I replied “hey Steve”. It didn’t hurt to show some manners, meant we got in to club quickly and with no issues when it was busy, even when there was a queue.

The bar was mildly busy tonight which was bearable. But we went straight to our usual booth, Gabe and Manuel went to sort the drinks as the rest of us sat talking about the shit show our day had become. A business deal taking a lot more time and effort than it should have.

As we sat talking a girl with garish coloured hair and a figure hugging bright red dress walked past winking at Dan as she did, I couldn’t help but roll my eyes at Dan who was pretty much drooling on the floor at the girl as she strutted her way to the tables near the stage.

I noticed another girl with her, walking not quite so confidently, in a small black dress, her long blond hair hanging down her back. It made me smile to myself how the two couldn’t be further from being alike yet from how they interacted with one another they seemed to be close friends. I thought of what my Mum used to say that it’s weird how fate brings two opposites together as friends maybe to bring one what the other needs to complete them as a person in support and friendship or some shit like that she had told me growing up.

I watched them giggle together at their seats. The lights from the stage lighting up the blond girls features, her eyes were a beautiful aqua blue, like a swimming pool you could dive into, and they crinkled at the edges as she smiled what looked like a genuine smile and giggled at her friend, and her smile was beautiful- ok, not sure where that came from, don’t make a habit of staring at random girls in a bar. Certainly not in recent years.

Though as I turned to my left I could see Dan had barely taken his eyes from the girl in the red dress with the garish hair, ok maybe it wasn’t that garish, just the purple and blue shades were a bold choice, certainly bolder than her friends more natural honey toned blond.

Either way Dan seemed pretty hooked on her after the cheeky wink she gave him, probably after noticing he’d been staring as she’d walked by earlier, and the lust filled stares pointed in his direction coming from her way every now and again were far from discreet to be fair.

The beer was flowing too freely, though as werewolves we are able to drink an awful lot more and it not affect us the way it would an average human. So we would be good for some time yet, I’d say from the giggling getting louder from Dan’s not so secret admirer’s table they may well not be ok. I couldn’t help but find my eyes frequently drawn to the blond girl, though I’m sure it was just because of how the stage lights fell near her, and how piercing her eyes were. Plus Dan kept pointing out her friend, so was hard not to look in their direction. Two more girls, a tall brunette and a shorter red headed girl had arrived and joined them too, bringing with them a tray of shots which I can only imagine will mean trouble for them later.

Meanwhile the five of us were alternating between beer and whisky and complaining about work and pack issues. The bonus for us 5 was we were still single but we spoke about one of the pack warriors Ashton who had recently met his mate and was setting up their home.

When our pack members meet their mates they have the option to move from the pack house to a house out on pack lands to give them privacy as a couple and of course further down the line a place to bring up a family if that’s what they chose to do. Setting up a home was always a special thing for most, maybe more so for the she-wolf than the male, though I have to say I think a lot of males found it a big thing preparing their home for their mate, but that would be the wolf instinct in them wanting to be the provider and carer. Manuel works with Ashton a lot and is a good friend with him having gone to school together too, and as a friend had made the mistake of saying he would help decorate, he had been helping decorate their house over his last few weekends and made us laugh with tales of how fussy Ashton’s mate Lily had been.

As we joked about this I noted that there was some singing from the stage, and glanced up to see two of the girls from the group earlier up on stage singing along to karaoke. I rolled my eyes, as the brunette and red head from earlier sang..., or was it more wailed their way through RESPECT, an obvious karaoke song for a woman I guess. Bet they regret bringing those shots now I chuckle to myself..... bet the rest of the bar is regretting them drinking them too!

The girls sing their way through the girl anthem, one I knew well as was one my mum sang many a time round the house, and I could see their friends sat by the stage alternating between singing along and cheering for their friends.....yep they’re definitely drunk! But I guess they were enjoying themselves, ain’t that what they come out for? No crime in that I tell myself as the song ends, but quietly grateful that the song had indeed ended.....

Oh goddess! I’m going to need to pick Dan’s eyes up off the floor, the girl in the red dress with the purple hair is making her way to stage, her friends cheering her as she goes. She goes on to start to sing a sultry version of Black Velvet, but as she does she pulls her embarrassed blond friend to the stage to join in.

Blondie is looking down, with an awkward giggle shaking her head at her friend. I find my eyes are drawn to her, I can’t explain why, she seems a shy and quiet little thing, but yet I can’t take my eyes off her. Her friend gives her a nudge as the chorus kicks in and then she starts to sing along with her friend and her voice is beautiful. I see her look across to her friend who to be fair can sing pretty well too and she smiles a nervous smile, I can’t help but smile as she sings...

“What you smiling at Knox?” Dan asks

Shit, what was I smiling at?!

“Just how much you’re drooling over little miss red dress up there mate” I laugh, hoping to cover up my mistake.

Dan looked a bit taken back as Jake, Manuel and Gabe started to laugh, realising I’d got away with it I laughed too.

“What I can’t look?!” He growled quietly at us, clearly not impressed with the ribbing we were giving him for perving over the pretty young girl currently singing on stage.

That only made us laugh more as Gabe poured more whisky into our glasses, “jeez Dan take a joke man” he said as he passed him the glass.

My eyes were back to the stage as the girls finished their song and blondie looked genuinely proud of herself bless her, while lil miss red dress gave her a big hug as people clapped.

Two random guys came on stage now, near enough knocking the girls off the stage in their hurry to get to the microphones, to take a turn at the karaoke singing some rap song I can’t say I knew that well, they were clearly well gone after far to many drinks and were struggling to stick to the words which was highly amusing. But my eyes kept falling to the table by the stage.....