

## Chapter 0018

Anastasia

He craned my head back, tightening his grip on my airway until my head began to swim pleasantly. I took note of how his legs were positioned, one slightly placed between my own.

A smirk curled at my lips. He stood the way he did on purpose to keep me from kneeling him in the balls.

"If you think that me signing that contract means you get to control me, then you are dead wrong." I purred, "I will wear what I want, act how I want, and do what I want. You better get used to it, Alpha, because I won't change for anybody."

The scent of my arousal floated up between us. To me it meant nothing. It was a bodily reaction, but it didn't dictate my actions. Of course, it had a completely different impact on a male wolf.

"What the fuck is wrong with you, woman." Alpha Caius snarled; his eyes squeezed shut. As his hand fell from my throat they opened suddenly, revealing the true depths of his anger. "Why are you not wearing any underwear?"

The scent was much stronger than it should have been, which is what gave me away.

"All the underwear in that closet were several sizes too small. I'm not walking around with a scrap of lace cutting into my pussy." I patted the front of his dress shirt, feeling the taut muscle beneath. "You're a big boy. You can handle it." 1

He stepped back, his lip curling even though his pupils were dilated. I dragged my eyes down to the front of his slacks. They were tented, spread tight against his erection. The outline of his cock left little to the imagination.

"So this is your plan then. You're trying to seduce me, and what? Take my lands for yourself? You'd still have my brother's to contend with."

"Are you actually being serious right now?" I laughed dryly, "I wouldn't fuck you if you were the last man on earth!"

He bared his straight, white teeth. "If I wanted you, what makes you think you'd have a choice?"

Little did he know he played on my deepest desires. The scent of my arousal didn't just spike, it filled the entire space between us.

Alpha Caius pinched the bridge of his nose and shuddered as if in pain.

"Fucking woman," He muttered as he stomped off.

I didn't see him for the next half hour, but I wasn't complaining. His attitude didn't deter me in the slightest. After trying everything on, I compiled a nice collection of clothes and shoes I planned on purchasing.

Caius returned to help me carry everything up to the register. As the perky brunette rung everything up, he didn't comment on the outfits I'd chosen.

A scowl crossed his face, and he turned to the door of the boutique.

This particular expression wasn't one I'd seen before. It wasn't anger, but concern.

"What is it?" I asked.

"My men aren't answering me."

Together we walked to the front. He opened it and looked out, his worry increasing. "They're gone. The driver is missing too."

I frowned, "All of them are gone? Well, that's not suspicious."

He grunted, "Stay inside, and do not leave this spot. I'm going to scope things out."

Before I could argue that I didn't need his protection and was perfectly capable of handling my own in a fight, he exited the boutique and made his way down the street.

Thirty seconds became a minute, which was as long as I was willing to wait given he had commanded me like I was one of his soldiers.

"Excuse me, but the Alpha told you to stay put." The perky brunette sneered.

I looked back, the door already half open.

"Oh, I heard him. I just don't care."

The street was oddly silent, the kind of silence that gives way to a storm. The kind of silence that in the past told me it was time to pack up and move on before my father and Jayden caught up.

Storm clouds swirled, blotting out the sun and casting the city street

in a gloomy darkness.

I headed the same way Alpha Caius had gone, keeping my ears peeled, but there was nothing but that thick, suffocating silence. As I approached an alleyway cutting between buildings a pair of arms reached out and grabbed me roughly.

The arms belonged to a male dressed in all black. I quickly froze time and ducked beneath his hold. Grabbing him by the hair, I let time continue as I brought my knee up into his nose, then followed it up with an elbow to the head. He crumpled like a tin can crushed beneath a boot.

Another slinked out of the shadows and lunged at me. This one had a pair of silver cuffs in hand. Again, I froze time. I grabbed the cuffs and wrapped them around the guy's neck, releasing my magic as I kicked his legs out from under him. He was unconscious within seconds.

"These men have to be your fathers. Why else would they target us like this?" Ziva panted, amped up from the fight. "But how did they find us?"

That was the million-dollar question. Then again, Alpha Caius and his guys weren't exactly subtle when they stormed my apartment.

There was a loud roar of a nearby engine when a car came barreling down the alley. Perched on the hood of it, his fist punching bloody holes into the windshield, was Alpha Caius.