

The Rejected Luna's Prince Chapter 26 -

11–14 minutes

The Rejected Luna's Prince Chapter 26

26 – Paper Airplanes

(Willa)

His mother turned to me, and her eyes lightened. She reached for my hands and took a step back, looking me over. I don't think I had ever felt as self-conscious before in my life.

“Well,” She breathed, “You are absolutely stunning, strong genes there.” She smiled approvingly.

“My name is Grace, and it is my absolute pleasure to meet you,” Her face softened.

“Hi,” I said a bit awkwardly, “I'm Willa,” I took a deep breath.

A man emerged from his office before I could say anything else, dark brown hair and familiar blue eyes were set over a beard.

“I let him grow it out once we handed the pack to our son,” Grace winked at me, following my gaze.

“I figured I would let your mother at you first,” He came up placing a hand on his mate's shoulder.

“I'm Rendell,” His dad smiled reaching out a huge hand towards me, his smile softened his face and it was everything I wasn't expecting from a previous Alpha.

An Alpha King.

“Willa,” I repeated, placing my hand in his.

“We heard rumors and had to come ourselves,” Grace's stern face was back as she turned to her son, “You wouldn't have kept that from your parents would you?” She asked me.

“Uh,” I said, trying not to wince.

I actually didn't mention it to mine. This time. The first time they knew the same day but this, this was different.

"Your mother dragged me-" Grace gave her mate a quick look with one perfect eyebrow raised, "We decided to come down to see if it were true," The previous Alpha corrected himself.

I bit down on a smile.

"Well, welcome." Caspien sighed, "Can I get you something to drink? Eat?"

"We're fine for now, but let us go somewhere to chat, shall we?" She looked at me smiling but my stomach curled in anxiety.

Caspien was one thing, but his parents, they seemed untouchable.

Caspien's phone beeped and he frowned pulling it out, "One moment," He walked away for only a minute, all of our eyes were on his back. Caspien turned looking angry for a second before settling into his cool Alpha demeanor.

"Pack business, if you want you can wait for me in my apartment," He explained to his parents who didn't argue, "Holden and Griffen are coming, do you want to sit in?" He asked me.

"What about Emmett?" I asked.

"Nora can watch him, she's been sitting out of things since her pregnancy, mostly because Griffen insists," He shook his head.

"Who is Emmett?" His mom tilted her head.

"Um," I started, taking a deep breath.

"Her son," Caspien said, putting his arm around my shoulder.

"She has a son?" Grace's brows furrowed, and my stomach dropped. I knew how single mothers were viewed, even in the werewolf world.

Especially since Caspien was an Alpha, my son would be seen as a threat, as competition. The real world was coming back again, threatening to burst the bubble we created. It wasn't just Caspien and I, there were rules and ranks and college and life to deal with. It was too easy to pretend it was just us, but that bubble burst.

"Isn't that just wonderful," His mom's eyes lit up, and she clutched her hands together.

I looked at Caspien confused. He shook his head once and I swore he shrugged but it was barely perceptible.

Holden and Griffen came a moment later and his parents went gone into the open elevator before I could say anything else.

Caspian gave me his seat at his desk and replayed an angry message from an Alpha screaming about borders.

“Alpha Jasper, the one that was supposed to be helping us with the rogue problem on our shared border.” Caspian closed his eyes and took a deep breath.

“Great idea switching up the units, by the way, Luna er Willa,” Griffen nodded to me, “A bit bumpy at first but I think it’s going to make us stronger than ever.”

Ah, I remembered they mentioned one of their units that had internal conflict was surveying the border.

“Good,” I tried to give him a smile despite my confusion.

“What is his problem?” Holden crossed his arms.

“What is his problem?” Holden crossed his arms.

Caspian grabbed his phone and dialed him back, putting it on speaker.

“Alpha Jasper I just received your message, you’re here with my Beta, Gamma, and Mate.” He added, looking at me.

“Let’s talk Alpha to Alpha, f**k the formalities.” Caspian didn’t say anything, “Why is there an army at my borders?” He screamed.

“You didn’t hold your end of the bargain up, you didn’t secure your side. I don’t want to babysit you, but you brought this upon yourself.” Caspian stated coolly.

“This could be seen as an act of war,”

“They are on our borders, they haven’t crossed, nor will they unless there is a rogue sighting as we agreed on, or do you need me to send the contract to you again?”

“If you don’t remove them, I’ll contact The Elders,”

My eyes widened, would this really be seen as an act of war? I knew they weren’t under Crescent Moon’s jurisdiction. I knew enough to know that packs within a jurisdiction had different rules on how to handle conflict than when they were faced with packs outside their territories.

“Do, we have a contract in place and we haven’t broken it. Once we see you move more men to the borders and keep them there, then we will remove some of our excesses. We don’t want to spread thin our warriors either to pick up your slack.”

The line was silent for a minute.

“Remove them now,” He demanded.

“Griffen, do you mind sending a copy of the contract to Alpha Jasper?”

“Physical or digital?” Griffen asked.

“Both.” Caspien responded, “Re-read the contract, and come back with any questions. I don’t have time for this,”

“I swear-”

Caspien hung up the phone and dropped it on the desk.

“What is his problem?” Holden asked.

“Power struggle and personal vindictiveness,” He turned to me, “He has a grudge against my father that was transferred to me.” He explained, “Alpha Jasper challenged the previous Alpha for the title; my dad accepted any pack member that wanted a new start without completely uprooting their lives or going too far from their family that chose to stay.”

“Commendable,”

“It was,” Caspien agreed, “Alpha Jasper doesn’t see it that way.”

“Generational grudges, the fun part of being an Alpha,” Holden smiled.

“I’m sure you’re going to start many grudges for yourself and your family,” Griffen looked at him.

“I can only hope,” Holden flashed a smile.

“What do you want us to do?” Griffen asked Caspien.

“Nothing, we hold our position; the contract will protect us. Inform those at the border that there has been some tension.”

“They can try to be more discreet.” Griffen nodded, “They already know to inform me of any new big or small.”

“Good, then we’re done here,” Caspien turned to me, “Sorry, I thought that might be a bit more eventful, and I want to keep you in the loop, just in case,” He looked away from me, something he rarely did.

“No pressure, though,” He reached for my hand.

“Just in case,” My mouth formed a thin line.

“I value your opinion even if you don’t want the title, we’ve accepted each other,” He took my face into his palms and titled it up, “I’ll still ask for your opinion and want you to join in anything you want to. No titles necessary,” His full lips tugged up and I knew he meant ever word.

“Okay,” I looked into his eyes, his intense stare meeting mine.

“Okay then, I guess we should maybe get out of here,” Holden coughed.

“Stop asking to be dismissed,” Griffen said, and I laughed.

“Let’s go check on Emmett, and then I have to go see my parents, you can sneak away if you’d like.”

I was debating it, but his parents were in Griffin’s apartment. Grace was playing with Emmett on the floor, her legs folded under her.

His dad was studying something so intently in his hand that I squinted to see what it was.

“Okay, so this one is going to work; I changed the wings as you requested and streamlined the nose.” His dad said.

“What’s streamlined?” Emmett asked.

“It’s uh, Grace help me out here.”

“Making something more efficient, making it work better,” She nodded at him.

“Mom?” Caspien stopped in the doorway where I was frozen to the spot, “Dad? What the heck, what the heck are you doing?” He sounded angry.

“We wanted to meet him,” His mom stood up, brushing off her dress that still was immaculately pressed. This woman was a witch or something.

“That was out of line,” Caspien lowered his voice, filling it with ice.

“If he is to be part of this family, you can’t keep him away from us forever,” She shot back, matching his tone.

“This is up to Willa,” Caspien stepped into the apartment. The entire room fell silent.

“Who is ready for cookies?” A cute petite brunette walked in, her stomach swollen, “Oh,” She paused when she saw the scene in front of her.

Griffen pushed past us and walked over to his mate, taking the plate from her.

“You shouldn’t be lifting-”

“Its a plate,” She protested, giving him a look that shut him up.

“Hi, I’m Willa,” I said, walking towards the girl, “These smell amazing,”

“That’s Nora,” Emmett bounded up next to me, ignorant to the tension, “She promised me two cookies,” He whispered, “I’ll share with you,”

“Thank you,” I looked down at him, placing a hand on his head, “And thank you for watching him.”

“He is such a pleasure, plus I didn’t do much; I had help.” Nora looked toward Caspien’s parents.

“Mr. Rendell was showing me how to make an airplane,” He paused for dramatic effect, and I widened my eyes, “Out of paper.”

“What? No way, show me.” He tugged me towards Caspien’s father who was sitting on the couch surrounded by paper airplanes.

“Remember when-” His mom started to say.

“Yes, mother.” Caspien cut her off.

“Don’t be so formal with me.” She scolded.

I felt Caspien come up behind me; he placed a hand on my shoulder and gently squeezed it before leaning down, “I’m so sorry, I didn’t-”

I put my hand over his, “Its fine,” It was; it was bound to happen eventually. I was just glad that they liked him; I never thought that they would have wanted to meet him this bad; I was hoping for cool indifference at best.

“I used to make these with Caspien when he would come to my office,” His dad explained, holding up a paper airplane, “We would make them, and I would tell him stories of our pack history.”

“We got pretty good at them,” Caspien stood closer to me, and I settled into his warmth.

“That we did,” His dad swallowed, “It’s so nice being able to do it again with another future Alpha.”

“He will be a good Alpha,” Caspien looked down affectionately at Emmett.

I smiled at him, but it hurt my heart. He would have been a brilliant Alpha, but that was taken from him. Even though I was finally coming to terms with everything else, that was one of the hardest things. Having a true Alpha stripped of his title before he got a chance to take it.

“He would have been,” I sighed, leaning into Caspien; whatever life would bring him now, I knew he would be great at whatever he chose to become, and that would be enough.

“He still can, if he chooses.” Caspien looked down at me.

“I put that behind me; I’m not dragging him into any drama that is Blue Ridge,” After today, I put that behind us completely.

“I’m not talking about Blue Ridge; that pack would be wasted on his potential,” He waved a hand before him, “No offense of course, but he’s destined to lead far bigger things.”

“Like what?” I looked up at him, I guess he could maybe become a politician, mayor perhaps.

“Alpha of Crescent Moon.” Caspien’s voice didn’t waver, and he wasn’t looking at me anymore; he was studying Emmett.

The Rejected Luna’s Prince Chapter 27 -

9–11 minutes

The Rejected Luna’s Prince Chapter 27

27 – Rachel

(Willa)

“But, he’s.” I paused, still reeling from what he said. My brain was firing thoughts so fast that I couldn’t grasp one.

“He will be such a good Alpha. He already is showing such promising decision-making skills. He’s very rational for his age, especially.” His mom folded her arms, looking down at Emmett affectionately.

“He’s what?” Caspien asked me, dragging his attention from Emmett.

“He’s not, you know, biologically yours,” I whispered.

“So?”

“So, is that even legal? Don’t you want to continue your bloodline?”

They were descendants of our first royals; they were royals. The strongest bloodline, they had to want to continue that.

“That doesn’t mean that we can’t continue the bloodline,” Caspien raised an eyebrow, and my face heated.

Having more kids was not something I ever thought about. But having a child with him? I realized that I wanted that. I wanted everything with him.

“But, he would be the eldest, and if he wants the title it’s his. If you’ll let me, I want him to be my heir.”

His dad looked up at Caspien with such excitement in his eyes, “There’s so much to teach him; I can start coming by each week to share the pack stories as I did with you.”

“Willa and Emmett have their own place,” His mom studied me, “For now at least.”

“We just moved to the city and then I kinda found your son, or he found me I guess.”

“Very well, I always liked how the humans dated; it seemed interesting.” His mom said looking back to Emmett.

“It is fun actually,” Caspien said, “It’s great getting to know her outside of pack life, it’s different.”

“I’m glad.” His mom gave us both a smile, “And we’re so glad that you waited for your mate and didn’t take Rachel as your Luna, as lovely as she is, Alpha’s taking chosen mates would weaken the pack.”

“That it would,” His dad added smiling affectionately at his own mate.

Caspien stiffened and my stomach lurched, who was Rachel? He told me that he didn’t have a girlfriend previously. I didn’t mind if he did, hell I had a full-a.ss mate before him, but I did mind if he lied. I didn’t need to be shielded from my own feelings and I didn’t want him to feel the need to regulate what I could and couldn’t handle.

“You know I would have never taken a chosen mate,” Caspien said, his voice cold, holding no room for argument.

“I know you said that but people talk,” She waved her hand not paying her son too much attention.

“Rachel wouldn’t have said that either,” Caspien went on, “She wasn’t like that.”

“We do apologize for bursting in on him like this,” His mom went on, I was trying to focus past the anxiety rising inside me, my hands felt clammy, “We would love to have something more formal too, dinner perhaps this week? And you’ll need to invite your parents too,” She smiled at us and I tried to smile back.

“That sounds nice,” I got out, but my voice sounded flat.

“Okay, so now that you’ve officially met Willa and Emmett, I promised them a movie night so-”

“It’s barely afternoon,” His mom chided.

“It’s almost evening,” Caspien gave his mom a stern look, “And Emmett has an early bedtime.”

“I guess we can’t argue with that, son.” His dad stood up and brushed off his pants.

“Can I keep this?” Emmett asked him, holding up their last paper airplane.

“Can I keep this?” Emmett asked him, holding up their last paper airplane.

His dad looked at Emmett affectionately and places a large hand on his tiny head, “Of course, we can make more next time.”

Emmett did a little bounce, “Thank you, thank you. I can’t wait!”

We said our goodbyes to Griffen and Nora after his parents reluctantly left. I knew I would be seeing more of both of them soon anyways but I wasn’t great company at the moment. I couldn’t push away the anxiety and anger that coursed through me and I wanted answers.

“So,” Caspien said as soon as we got into the elevator.

“I don’t want to talk in front of him,” I whispered motioning to Emmett.

When we got back to Caspien’s place, I told Emmett to go upstairs and play with some of the toys Holden unboxed for him.

“So,” I turned to him crossing my arms, “The floor is yours.”

He took a long breath removing his jacket. I refused to be distracted by the sight, why did everything he do have such a significant effect on me?

“So, Rachel is a friend, was a friend.” I studied him and he was looking directly at me, I appreciated that at least.

I nodded once; friends aren’t gossiped to be chosen Lunas.

“We were together for years, nothing like dating though, she actually moved to Italy a few years back. We would see each other when she came to visit. Actually, I wouldn’t really call her a friend.”

“I see,”

“She knew nothing would come of it, I made sure she knew. She’s rational, and I don’t think she really even liked me. It was convenient.” He shrugged.

I found it hard that anyone wouldn’t like this man. Even if he scared most of the people he came across I’m sure they would get over it for a chance in bed at this man.

But I guess that was lust, not love.

“So then who started the rumors? Did she?”

“No, I don’t think she would have,” He frowned, “Her friends maybe, but she knew that nothing would come of it. We barely spoke when we weren’t in the same city.”

“That’s all?”

“That’s all,” His face softened, “What are you thinking?”

“If you’re telling the truth-”

“I am,” He took a step towards me.

“Well then, I understand I guess. It’s not like I was waiting for you,” I smiled but he winced, oops, “I just, I wasn’t mad at the Rachel thing, I was more upset that you lied to me.”

He opened his mouth.

“No, I know you didn’t.” I stopped him, “But that’s where my frustration stemmed from. I didn’t expect you to be a virgin,” I smiled at him, “But I was more worried that you kept something from me or lied about it for whatever reason. I just want you to understand that I don’t want you keeping things from me to spare me any feelings. I can handle myself and would rather know the truth than have someone else decide what they think I can handle.”

“I know that Willa, Goddess do I know that.” He closed the space between us and brushed a strand of hair behind my ear, “I honestly didn’t think about it, it wasn’t important enough to mention.”

“I believe you; I just got nervous for a second.”

Nervous that everything was too good, too perfect, and it would all come crashing down. I didn’t say that though, I didn’t want to sound too paranoid, but everything was so good with him.

“I understand.” He looked at me, his icy blue eyes boring into me, I knew he understood, more than I even said.

I closed my eyes and tilted my head back and his lips brushed over mine, settling all the lingering anxiety and making sparks dance across my body.

“Gross,” Emmett’s little voice came from the stairs and I pulled back sighing, “What are you doing?” He asked.

“Showing your Mama how much I love her,” He interlaced his hand with mine.

“Yuck,” He stuck his tongue out.

“Hungry?” Caspien asked him, Emmett nodded and bounded towards the kitchen.

“How about you get your clothes unpacked and I’ll get him a snack before we go down for a movie?”

“What?”

He motioned towards the door where black bags were sitting I walked past without even noticing.

“I only chose a few things,”

“I chose a few more,” He crossed his arms, “Take anything you want back but leave a few things here so you won’t have to pack a bag every time.”

“And how often am I staying?” I crossed my arms mimicking his stance.

“I thought you could both stay on weekends for now.”

“But-”

“If you’re going to say work, I don’t want to hear it. You’re already working most days, even if you cut back, and going to school. You deserve weekends off, and Emmett would probably like the stability of a weekend routine.”

“That was low,” I squinted at him.

“I’m willing to use any card to get you here more, think about it.” He shrugged, “Let me carry the bags up.”

“Believe it or not I can carry a few bags of clothes.”

“I know you can but I want to do it for you. You have enough on your plate, I want to do as much as I can for you.”

The movie was great; we had the entire theater to ourselves as Caspien promised. I sat between him and Emmett but Emmett moved to Caspien’s side halfway through to ask him questions.

I was reluctant to stay another night knowing I had an earlier shift the next day, but I was even more reluctant to leave him and forgo another night spent talking in his arms. I don’t think I had ever been so content or comfortable.

“So, what did you decide?” He murmured into my hair as I snuggled up to his chest.

“About what?” I was already drifting to sleep surrounded by warmth and bliss.

“Coming back next weekend.”

“Oh,” That woke me up a little, “I’ll have to see about the shifts.”

“I already texted Cali, and she said it would be fine.”

“You what?” I was really away now I pulled back and studied him.

“I didn’t tell her to do anything, I just asked.”

“How did you even get her number?”

He shrugged, one corner of his lips tugged up, “I have my resources,”

“Of course you do,” I rolled my eyes settling back into his chest.

Weekends off, weekends spent with him and Emmett. I would have to do the mental math tomorrow, and figure out if it was even sustainable if I gave up my regular weekend shifts, or if I could switch to a night shift during the week.

Caspien rubbed my back and I settled further into him, breathing in his warm sweet woody scent.

“Okay,” I murmured.

f**k logic; I wanted to be here. With him.

The Rejected Luna’s Prince Chapter 28 -

10–13 minutes

The Rejected Luna’s Prince Chapter 28

28 – Favors, Trades, and Bargains.

(Caspian)

I carried Willa up to Emmett’s room and tucked her in, placing a kiss on both of their cheeks before I went to the room that, hopefully, Willa would share with me in the future.

I had some work to catch up on, usually, I worked on weekends. I knew I was a hypocrite to convince Willa to take weekends off, but she also had a kid and college to worry about. I could see how tired she was starting to look, even though she visibly brightened up when I sat in front of her at the restaurant.

We dropped Emmett off and picked up Cali on the way to work the following day.

Emmett reached out his arms, and I scooped him up, holding him close to me.

I really liked him. He was different than I expected any kid to be, not that I had been around many children, even when I was one.

“I could get used to this,” Cali whistled, getting into the car, “This air conditioning is fresh, and I mean fresh. Did you import it from the North Pole or something?”

“Something like that,” Caspien actually gave her a real smile.

Cali waved at us and walked in, giving us a moment of space.

“You’ll need this when you go home,” I fished out a fob from my pocket that opened her new front gate.

“What is it?” She looked curiously at the gray fob turning it over in her hand.

“It’s for your new front gate.”

“Since when did they put a there? And why would you have the fob?” She looked up at me, her stunning green eyes slanted slightly.

“I had them install it,” Honestly was best with her, and I had nothing to hide. Not from her, anyway.

“You had them install it on my apartment?”

“Well, technically..”

“Technically?” She eyed me, crossing her arms.

“Technically I own it,”

She closed her eyes and shook her head once, but a small smile played on her beautiful lips.

“I-” Willa opened her mouth and then shut it, taking the fob from my outstretched hand.

“Just doing my part to help the community,” I flashed her a smile, and she bit down on hers.

“Well, thank you.” I must have looked taken aback.

“I wasn’t expecting that.”

“You’re the one that needs to work on your manners,” She crossed her arms and tilted her head up at me.

“Not the thank you but you didn’t fight me on it.”

“I don’t fight you on anything logical, security is logical. And appreciated.”

“I appreciate you appreciate that. I’ll see you both on Friday.”

“Okay,” She nodded, a look I couldn’t quite decipher crossing her face.

“Also, I’m coming in for my favorite cup of coffee in the city,”

“Okay,” Her face lit up.

Driving back, I already missed them.

Even having them near me, knowing they would be there when I went downstairs. Cooking breakfast with Emmett in the morning, and having Willa in my arms, talking for hours.

It was only a weekend, actually less than two days really, but it changed everything for me. I already knew I was committed from the moment I saw her again in the restaurant. But actually getting to know Emmett, he felt familiar, he felt like a missing piece of me, of us, that I didn’t know I was looking for.

My apartment felt empty without them. No, it always felt empty. I was rarely there between my offices for The Dracos Group and dealing with pack business.

With them, it felt full, it felt like home for the first time.

(Willa)

I couldn't handle how distracted I was. I thought of Caspien more often than I admitted, even to myself, since the first time I saw him, and Iris claimed him as our mate.

Ever since I spent the night at his house, I felt like I could hardly focus on anything else. During work, classes, and studying, my thoughts always drifted to him.

It wasn't just s****l, it mostly wasn't, actually.

It wasn't just s****l, it mostly wasn't, actually.

Of course, I thought of his head in between my legs, the way he hovered over me, watching me with his fingers buried deep inside me. The way he growled when he knew I was starting to o.rgasm. The way he looked thankful when I let him touch me. Every one of those thoughts sent warmth through me, settling at my core.

But mostly, it was the way he talked to Emmett and really listened to him. How he didn't get annoyed with Emmett's questions, how he treated him as an equal.

How he invited me into every pack conversation, he let me choose how I wanted to proceed with our relationship and I never felt any pressure from him.

I had never felt so respected, so completely myself.

There was nothing I wanted to hide from him, nothing I didn't want him to see, even the bad parts.

I didn't have to suppress any of myself; I never felt like I had to change. I knew that we could work through anything together.

Friday slowly approached; I felt like the minutes he came to the restaurant and even our weekly date wasn't enough. I was becoming addicted to him.

"Can we go now?" Emmett tugged at my hand.

I had to admit that I was also waiting all day for six. Friday I had my lightest class schedule and I finished up at the restaurant after. It still gave me an entire hour after I picked up Emmett to shower and change and obsessively check the clock.

When the door buzzed we both jumped. I smiled down at Emmett and took his little bag we got this week from him. I knew Caspien had things for him but he insisted on packing things to show up and some of his favorite nighttime books.

Caspien met us downstairs and showed me how to work the elevator with my fingerprint. I felt like a damn spy. When we were heading up the elevator back to the sky I felt all the anticipation and nerves settle, and like I could breathe again for the first time all week.

He wrapped his arm around me and I settled into his embrace as we watched Emmett gaze at the skyline in just as much awe as the last time he saw it.

“Do you want to redecorate?” He asked as soon as we were settled back in.

“No, it’s fine,” I looked around, the space was a bit empty but tasteful. It would be hard to make this massive space cosy anyways and I had no idea where to start.

I had never decorated anything. I moved from the packhouse to the cabin and then here. The cabin was what we took from home, and then my apartment here was whatever was cheapest. I didn’t make any decorating decisions myself, and I didn’t know where to start. I wasn’t exactly sure my own style either.

“Are you sure?”

“For now, this is perfect.”

It felt like home when we were here. I don’t think the decor mattered as much as being here with Caspien and Emmett.

We ordered dinner, enough Chinese food to feed an army, and Emmett’s first time having it. I loved watching him try new things, and he loved most of it.

My phone buzzed as I was helping Caspien put away the leftover, it was such a normal thing that I didn’t expect to be doing with an Alpha Prince.

My phone rang on the counter and I saw Cali’s name flashing.

“Mind if I take this?”

“Not at all,” Caspien gave me a smile I hadn’t seen before.

“Hi,” I answered, she never called to talk, she rarely ever called at all, mostly preferred a text.

“I’m almost there,”

“What?”

“I’m stealing Emmett, just for the night; Loreli has been begging.”

I looked at Caspien, who turned away, pretending to do something.

“Really?” I twirled a piece of my hair on my finger, studying Caspiens back.

“Really, really, completely up to me-er her. Nothing else.”

I raised my eyebrows, but I knew Caspien couldn’t see.

“If you want,” She trailed off, she was rarely anything but completely confident.

“So last minute?”

“Eh,”

“Fine,” I leaned back, “Actually, no. I’m not feeling great. I think I might turn in.” I yawned, and Caspien froze in his motions.

“Willa,” Her voice was hard, “You will not do this to me.”

“What did he give you?”

Caspien turned back to me, his eyes wide.

“Nothing,”

“You’re a s**t liar, even over the phone.”

“So are you; you’re even worse.”

“It’s not about me,” I laughed.

“He bought me that pair of boots I really wanted,”

“How did he know you wanted those?” My eyes were on Caspien’s downcast ones.

“He asked for a favor; I don’t do favors. However, I do trades,” I could hear the wicked smile in her voice.

“Still no,” I yawned again.

“Willa!” She almost yelled, “I want those boots.”

“What’s in it for me?”

“What’s in it for you?” She asked incredulously, “An entire night with your sexy dark night that has definitely killed like ten people,”

“At least,” I laughed, and Caspien eyed me with a sort of composed curiosity that bordered on confusion.

“You can’t turn my bargain on me,” She went on.

“I’ll think about it,”

“I’m literally outside,” She whisper yelled, “Does he live in an office building? What is this?” I sighed.

“Fine,”

“Don’t fine me, a your welcome on your knees is what I’ll be expecting tomorrow bright and early. He insisted that Emmett was back for breakfast.” My heart melted.

“I said fine, I’ll get him ready,” I hung up the phone staring at Caspien.

“So, Cali said she’s here to pick up Emmett for a sleepover,”

“Well, that’s a coincidence,” Caspien wiped his hands on his pants, something I had never seen him do before, “So, I guess, what should we do for the night?”

“I was thinking bed; I’m exhausted.”

“I could wake you up,” He raised an eyebrow.

“I don’t even know if Emmett wants to go,”

“Let me talk to him; I’ll send someone down to bring her up. I’m sure she’s curious about where I live.”

I bit my smile; I’m sure she was too.

Emmett was excited. The word sleepover instantly got him, and Caspien promised they could make waffles tomorrow.

We waited for ages, so much that Emmett asked me three times when Cali would be there, and Caspien was even starting to wonder.

Emmett yawned, and I saw it was nearing his bedtime anyways; I was debating calling Cali and just putting him to bed.

Caspien went out his front door, and I followed him, Emmett was curled on the couch.

“I’m going to check in with Holde-”

The elevator door dinged, opening to his front foyer.

Cali's lips were swollen, her usually defined curls were messy, and she was tugging down her dress. Holden was next to her with the widest grin I had ever seen on his face, buttoning his shirt.

"Holden!" Caspien and I both yelled at the same time.

She wasn't a werewolf, and I didn't want her to get hurt. I knew that no matter what this was, it would only be a fling at best. He would leave her when he found his mate, no matter what he promised now.

I knew Cali wasn't looking for anything either, but I didn't want this to get messy, and I had a feeling it would. Caspien apparently felt the same thing.

"What?" Holden held his hands up, walking out of the elevator, "Not everyone has to wait weeks before having s*x with their mate."

The Rejected Luna's Prince Chapter 29 -

17–21 minutes

The Rejected Luna's Prince Chapter 29

29 – Iris

(Willa)

My mouth gaped open; I had no words. She was human, that rarely happened, in my lifetime it didn't happen at Blue Ridge.

"Mate?" Cali scowled at Holden, "Don't like that term,"

"She's, but she is-" Caspien started, seeming just at a loss of words as I was.

"You both are looking like fish with your mouths opening and closing like that," Holden crossed his arms leaning back on the wall.

"Oh look who is cocky now that they found their mate," Caspien raised an eyebrow.

Holden just smiled widely and looked at Cali with such affection.

“Why does everyone keep using that word? It sounds so possessive,” Cali tried to brush her hair back but it was no use.

“Do you both want to come in? We can explain in there.” Caspien shook his head, “Mating with her without explaining, what were you thinking?” Caspien lowered his voice directed at Holden.

“He was thinking with his little head,” I explained finally finding my voice and Caspien barked a laugh.

“Go in Holden,” Caspien commanded and Holden peeled himself off the wall and walked into the apartment.

“Mate, mating, now it’s a verb?”

“I’ll explain,” I sighed.

“Let Holden explain, that will be far more interesting,” Caspien shot Holden’s back glare but I could tell he was amused now.

“How long is this explanation going to take, I have to get back to the Loreli,” I glanced back at Cali.

“Where is she?”

“I just got off work,” Cali motioned to her black dress, “Stayed a few hours after to cover Al, he’s sick again,” She gave me a knowing look, “Or his grandmother died for the third time this year, one of those,”

“How admirable of you,” I noted.

“It wasn’t, they offered cash to cover.” She snorted, at least she was honest.

“If you’re comfortable with it, I can have my parents come and watch them both in an apartment downstairs,” Caspien whispered to me.

I chewed my lip, that would be a lot to put on his parents, but this was a conversation that had to happen, and happen now.

“Ask your parents first, but I think Emmett would love that,” I nodded.

“Okay, give me a minute,”

Cali and I followed Caspien into his apartment.

“Hi, Cali,” Emmett’s eyes lit up when she walked in and Cali came to sit next to him on the couch pulling him into a quick tight hug, “Wheres your baby?”

“Baby?” Holden asked no one in particular.

Cali stood up brushing her dress off, “Nice digs,” She circled around studying the room completely ignoring Holden.

“What baby?” Holden repeated to us.

Caspian shrugged giving him his amused smile.

“You’re right, this will be fun,” I leaned closer to Caspian.

“I have an almost-four-year-old,” Cali explained, “A baby to Emmett.”

Holden’s eyes shone, “I have a child?”

Cali crossed her arms and gave him a stare I have seen men cower from, “What is wrong with you?”

“Uh, I mean, lots of things honestly,” He shrugged and gave her a meek smile, looking at Caspian and me for help but neither of us said anything.

Cali looked at me seeming mad at the entire situation, I knew I had to step in.

“My parents said yes, and they are already on their way,” Caspian said.

“Let’s go into the kitchen for a cup of tea,” I suggested.

“Got anything stronger?” Cali asked.

“Of course,” Caspian gave her a smile and lead us in, Holden followed reluctantly.

“Loreli can come here and have a sleepover with Emmett in another apartment, Caspiens parents can watch them if you’re okay with that.” I whispered to her.

“I don’t understand what’s going on,” She said to me, “Do you trust them? His parents?”

“Yes,”

She tugged a curl and chewed her lip for a second before slowly nodding, “Okay,”

“They won’t be far, Caspian can send a car and have-”

“No, I’m going back to get her, I need to pack a bag and shower and-.”

“Run away?”

“Possibly that,” She smirked.

Cali left to Holden’s complete dismay.

He literally clutched his heart when she left the room.

I got Emmett settled into a guest apartment a short two floors below. I helped him get ready for bed but his parents insisted they could handle reading his books.

“She’s not getting those boots I hope she knows that.”

“She tried,” I tilted my head up at him as we headed back to his place.

He huffed, “Do you think she will come back?”

“I don’t know,” I really didn’t.

“She has one hour.”

“Fine,”

Holden was pacing back and forth with holding amber liquor in a glass.

“How did you get in?”

“I never left,” Holden looked up at us for a second.

“Willa, will you get Cali?” He looked at me and Holden froze in his tracks, “She’s outside.”

“Of course,”

I rushed towards the elevator and put in my fingerprint, the red button scanned behind it and the doors opened.

Cali was waiting at the entrance that pack members used, holding Loreli in her arms.

“She’s already asleep.”

“I’m surprised you’re back.”

“Me too honestly, but I guess I trust you. You seem logical,” She squinted her eyes as if seeing me for the first time, “But I’ve been wrong before, I hate to admit it but I have.”

I took a deep breath really not sure how to explain this and had even less of an idea how this would go over.

“You can trust me,” I motioned her towards the elevator, “What happened in here?” I raised an eyebrow noting the handprints, and smudges on the glass.

“I think you know,” She whispered winking.

“But how?”

“He came out, stopped, and looked at me as if he had never seen anyone as breathtaking as me. He looked at me as if I was something he was looking for for ages, as if he was already addicted to me,” Her voice was low and she shut her eyes shaking her head.

“I know it’s stupid,” She said, chewing a lip, “It doesn’t make any sense.”

“It does,”

“Well, then I said ‘aren’t you pretty’,” I laughed and she smiled, “And then,” She gestured with one hand to the walls.

“Fair enough,” I shrugged.

“I doubt Caspien even cleans these himself,”

I snorted, “That’s exactly what I said earlier.”

She smiled at me, without apprehension, the first genuine smile I had seen all night.

“So where are we dropping her?” She sounded worried.

“So where are we dropping her?” She sounded worried.

“Emmett is already in bed, a massive bed with the softest pillows, might I add,” I looked at her, “Caspien’s parents read him stories and I’m sure he’s asleep. We can put Loreli there; she will be well looked after.”

“Promise?”

“Promise.”

“You have a lot to fill me in, and not just about whatever is happening here. You never mentioned you met the parents.”

“It was brief,” She eyed me.

“Fine, I’ll fill you in.”

We settled Loreli next to Emmett in the bed and Cali thanked Caspiens parents.

“Anytime,” His dad said to us.

“What is going on?” His mom pulled me aside, an eyebrow raised, “Caspian didn’t say much, but of course, we’re here for him, and you, whenever needed.”

“Holden’s mate,” I whispered and she grabbed my arms her eyes wide, “She is a beauty, stunning, but she’s?”

“Human, yes.”

I turned from her slightly, Cali said something that made Caspian’s dad laugh a deep booming laugh.

“I’ll fill you in,” I said a bit exasperated, Grace patted my cheek.

“Thank you, for trusting us with Emmett, I know it’s no small thing.” Her eyes shone with something I couldn’t make out.

“Of course, thank you for watching him.”

I was able to get Cali out to the dismay of Caspian’s dad, I didn’t even want to know what s**t she was telling him. I dragged her back up the elevator and she crossed her arms staring at me.

“What do you know?” She asked.

“Don’t make it seem like I’m keeping things from you.”

“But you are.”

I sighed, “I am, I was, but you’ll see why.”

“Did you join some super intense pyramid scheme?”

I laughed once, “More interesting, far more interesting.”

“Now I’m intrigued,” Her eyes glimmered.

She followed me into Caspian’s apartment, Holden’s eyes lit up when he saw her and he rushed to her stopping a few steps away and remembering herself.

“Hi, I’m Cali,” She stretched out a hand and raised an eyebrow at him, “You might remember me from the elevator?”

Holden looked down at her hand.

“s*x a few hours ago? You had my breasts pressed up against the cool glass, no? Doesn’t ring a bell?” Holden swallowed; I had never seen him at a loss for words.

“Drink anyone?” Caspien seemed to be trying not to laugh.

“Please,” Cali and I said at the same time.

She brushed past Holden who was gaping at the spot she was previously standing.

“So,” Cali started leaving it open to us after she had a generous glass of whiskey in her hands.

We were at the dining room table; I was sitting next to her with our mates across from us.

“So, you’re a human,” Holden started and it was a question, I looked down into my glass of wine trying not to laugh or cringe, “And I’m not, we’re not.”

Cali looked at me as if he was insane. I shrugged.

“I don’t want to lie to you or keep things from you, and I don’t know how to do this so I’m sorry, I’m just gonna get it out here.” Holden took a deep breath, “Werewolves, can change into wolves not just on full moons and we have control of ourselves, so we don’t go crazy and kill people.” I nodded good to add.

“And we have mates chosen for us by our Moon Goddess. They’re our perfect compliments, destined to be ours from the beginning. We know instantly when we find them, and well,” He shrugged, “You’re my mate.”

“I’m not a werewolf,” Cali had a smile on her face; I knew she didn’t believe him and was just toying with him.

“No, it’s rare that we would be mated to another specie, especially a human,” Holden started to trip over his words, Caspien put a hand out in front of him.

“But it’s not unheard of,” Caspien cut in, “I know this must be hard to process, learning that the world of fairytales is true, or part of it,” His serious gaze didn’t leave Cali’s, “But we’re here to answer any questions and help you work through it, even if you don’t choose this life.”

Holden’s gaze shot to Caspien; he looked hurt and shocked.

Cali sat back and crossed her arms, smiling.

“And how do you play into this?” She asked me; I swirled my wine, looking into it as if it would tell me the answers.

“I’m one too,” My voice was quiet.

“For how long?” She asked, laughing once.

“Birth. We weren’t cursed or bitten or anything. I was born a wolf like you were born a human.”

“Prove it,” She glared at me.

“Okay,” I took a long sip and stood up.

“Holden, if you wouldn’t mind,” I motioned for him to turn away.

I took off my clothes, including my bra, nothing Cali or Caspien hadn’t seen before.

Cali looked me over with an eyebrow raised; she seemed to try to scoot away. I think she started to think I was crazy, when she didn’t see anything but my regular naked body.

Okay Iris your time to shine

f*****g finally you never let me out

I’m sorry we will go for a run this week

Promise?

Promise, but now just please, lets do this

Cali had a look of shock on her face; she must have been watching my eyes cloud as I spoke to my wolf.

I knelt on the floor and let Iris take over. Elongating our bones and repositioning them before fur sprouted from my skin.

It used to hurt, Goddess did it hurt, but I’ve been doing it so often especially living in the cabin it was more than second nature now.

“Holy f**k,” Cali scrambled back standing up and knocking over the chair, “Holy f**k,” She screamed, I had never heard that pitch come from her mouth.

She looked at Caspien and Holden with wide eyes. Holden shrugged, Caspien never took his eyes off me.

“You’re beautiful,” He whispered only to me.

Iris had light gray fur that was almost white and our same green eyes. Iris purred at his compliment and sat down, bowing her head to Cali. Showing her, we meant no harm.

“Holy f**k,” She grabbed her glass and took a long sip, “This can’t be, I mean.” She shook her head violently, wine red curls fell over her shoulder.

“You can pet her,” Holden said, and Cali snapped her gaze toward him.

“It’s Willa’s wolf; they are both parts of the same body. It Willa in there. She won’t hurt you,” Holden promised.

Iris whimpered.

“Okay, how old will your son be in August?” She crossed her arms, taking one step forward holding her gaze on us even though I could scent her fear.

“She can’t talk,” Holden said.

Iris tapped her paw on the floor five times.

“Oh,” Cali said, and we gave her a look, “It is you,”

We nodded.

She took a few more steps forward, reaching out her hand; we stood very slowly and let her come to us.

Once her hand was on our head, we leaned into her touch. She seemed to relax, and Iris nuzzled her side.

“Okay, this is weird, but,” She shook her head, “You’re so soft,” Iris barked a laugh.

“Can you change back? I have questions,”

Iris nuzzled her once more, taking a step back, and we shifted. I grabbed my clothes, besides my underwear that was now ripped to shreds and re-dressed.

“So, do you all do that?” Cali asked. They nodded.

“Why?”

“Why do you do anything? Nature?” Holden responded, not sounding so sure.

“You’re a f*****g werewolf,” Cali turned to me, shaking her head once, she started laughing, “Or I’m going crazy,”

“You’re not,” I put my arm around her and pulled her to my side.

Holden stood up Cali's chair but backed away before she sat down, he was treating her like she might snap at any second, and she very well might.

"Now that the cats out of the bag," Holden said, "Or dog, I guess," He smiled at her, "Ask away."

Cali had fewer questions than I expected, but I knew she would have more. I'm sure she was in complete shock. I don't know how I would process something like this, it changed everything that she thought was true, completely skewed her version of reality. I knew it wasn't something she could just get past in one night.

"What do you guys eat?"

"Human flesh," Caspien said, his voice dark.

"I, for one love me some good puss--"

"Shut the f**k up, Holden," I stopped him shaking my head.

Cali just gave him a smirk.

"Human food, normal food." I explained, "We aren't that different,"

"Besides, you can turn into a giant wolf," She gave me a deadpan stare.

"Besides that," I smiled at her, "We live in packs usually, with others of our kind. Many have normal jobs in the city or intermingle. We're like humans but have loyalty to our packs; it's kind of nice." I shrugged, not sure how to explain it.

"Do you guys have some Alpha wolf-like they do in packs?" She asked, laughing.

"Yes," I said

"Really?" She snorted, and I motioned to Caspien.

Cali's eyes went wide, "Makes sense; you have that creepy air around you that makes everyone uncomfortable," Caspien tensed.

"That's not his fault," I whispered.

"I didn't mean it like that, it's just, you know," She waved.

"I do," Caspien said.

"So, no werewolf was good enough for your Goddess? Had to fish from another pond," Cali leaned forward towards Holden, eyeing him.

“I guess,” He flashed her a smile leaning forward himself.

“So, now what? The fates themselves destined us,” She squinted her eyes, “I never really believed in destiny,” She raised an eyebrow.

“Well, I’ll have to show you just how perfect I am for you,” He growled.

Cali looked surprised for a split second, “Now that, that I could get used to.” She took a long sip of her drink.

“I want you as my mate if you will have me, but I’m willing to take it at your pace. Show you this world and why I’m perfect for you.”

I swear I saw Cali smile, but it was gone before I could be sure.

“Then what? We get married, and I never sleep with anyone else again?” Her voice was devoid of emotion, and Holden looked hurt for a brief moment.

“Trust me,” He said, leaning into his chair, his confidence back, “You won’t want anyone else ever again.”

“Prove it,” She tilted her head.

“Maybe at your place,” Caspien cut in.

“I also have a child, so,” Cali seemed like she was trying to throw him off, “A daughter, she can be a handful sometimes,” She shrugged innocently before pinning him with an intense stare, “Just like me,”

“I can handle that, and I’ve always wanted kids. What’s her name?”

“Loreli,”

Holden stood up so fast that the chair almost fell behind him. He smiled at us all broadly.

“That’s my mom’s name! This is perfect; wait until she hears her first grandchild has her name,”

Cali looked taken aback for a second.

“Griffen is going to be pissed, he was the first one having a kid, and now we both do,” Holden laughed, looking at Caspien.

“I’m sure he will be happy to have some future babysitters,” Caspien shook his head.

“So that’s it? You would accept me without knowing me and my child and without meeting her?”

“Yes, completely.” Holden said his voice edged with sincerity, “I trust the Moon Goddess,”

I hoped The Moon Goddess was right with this one. From what I knew of Holden and Cali I knew they were both amazing people, but still, she’s made mistakes. I threw up a silent prayer to her that this wasn’t one of them, it was more of me pleading with her than anything else.

“Okay then,” Cali crossed her arms and chewed her lip, thinking, “Let’s try it.”

“Yes!” Holden shouted, “First things first, let me show you why you’ll never be satisfied with another man again,”

Cali let out a sigh and brushed off the sweater she changed into at home.

“We will have words,” She looked back at me with a serious expression.

“Come for breakfast tomorrow; Emmett and I are making waffles,” Caspien walked them out before shutting the door and locking it behind them.

I took a breath, circling my hands around my glass and staring into it.

Caspien came back and took the seat next to me, sighing.

“That was, that was interesting,” I said, taking his hand in both of mine, rubbing the backs of it with my thumbs.

“That was a lot,” He laughed once, “I’m exhausted.”

“I’m sure I can do something to wake you up,” I raised an eyebrow, and he sat up straight.

“That’s my line.”

“That was your line; now it’s mine,” I shrugged.

I stood up and moved to his lap, pulling him down for a long kiss that sent tingles and sparks to my core in anticipation of what was to come.

I didn’t want to think anymore, I just wanted to feel, and I wanted to feel all of him.

The Rejected Luna’s Prince Chapter 30 -

21–26 minutes

The Rejected Luna's Prince Chapter 30

30 – Becoming Us

(Caspian)

My life changed when I met her. I knew I was waiting for my mate for a reason, but I couldn't grasp the extent of it until I met her.

I thought I would find a mate to complete my life, to adjust to me, well, the person that I became. They would shape themselves around my life. I was an Alpha, after all, a powerful one at that, and I didn't think anyone would make me want to change even a small part of me.

Instead, I found someone that was changing me, making me better. She reached a part of me I thought was lost long ago and was helping bring me back to myself.

She was shaping me into who I could have become, who I still had the opportunity to be – with her.

Willa was something that I could grow with, and I wanted to. She made me pause and think, she challenged me, she wanted her own life, and I respected her for that, even if every moment apart from her was painful.

I assumed my mate would fully submit to me, and move in with me immediately, but I was so glad she wasn't that. The Moon Goddess knew precisely what I needed, exactly who I needed.

We were creating a life together, and that wasn't anything I wanted before with anyone, but I couldn't imagine her not being a part of me now.

I kissed her deeply, wrapping my arms around the small of her back holding her in place while I licked the bottom of her full lip until she parted it for me.

I took her bottom lip in between my teeth and bit down lightly, eliciting a sharp inhale from her.

She froze for a second before her hands continued to tangle into my hair pulling me closer to her. I didn't think I could get close enough to her, but I would start with having her completely naked under me if she would let me.

The mate bond was something else, the sparks that shot through me, that warmed me at every one of her touches.

I was addicted to her, the way that she held onto my arm as my fingers were deep into her tight, warm, center. How she buckled and moaned when she was starting to c.um. When her eyes fluttered open after I helped her come down from another o.rgasm and their striking green met mine. Goddess, the feel of her mouth on me, sucking me.

“Caspien,” She murmured against my lips, bringing me back to reality, to her.

“Hmm,” The vibration sounded off her lips.

“I want you,” She rubbed herself over my painfully hard d.ick that was far too constricted,
“Please,” She pulled back, biting a swollen lip, and one of her hands was still around my neck.

“There is one part of this house I haven’t shown you,” She tilted her head, her raven hair falling in waves, “My bedroom,”

She gave me a smile that might have been a smirk as I helped her up off me taking her hand in mine.

I led her to my bedroom, her temple, where I would worship her body repeatedly for as long as she let me.

(Willa)

I knew that I wanted him, Goddess I wanted him from the start.

Finally, my brain was catching up to my body. Everything clicked into place, my desire for him was now not just physical. It went past the mate bond, it was so much deeper.

I wanted him on an emotional level, I trusted him more than anyone, he was patient with me, let me do things how I wanted, and showed me that there was a life for us together, even if we held space for our separate interests.

I followed him up to his bedroom; he seemed eager. The usually relaxed confidence of his steps was gone.

“Come here,” He stopped wrapping his arm around me and pushed his hand up my shirt a bit so that I could feel the warmth of his palm.

He opened the door to his room and lead me in, not taking his hand off me as if he craved the c.ontact as much as I did.

His room looked like the rest of the place, pretty much a copy-and-paste millionaire Ikea. He had the biggest bed I had ever seen and a wall of windows looked down at the twinkling city lights and the stars above.

Caspien moved behind me; his fingers caressed my skin under my shirt, running his fingers over my stomach, leaving a trail of sparks in their wake.

He grabbed the edges of the fabric and pulled up, I lifted my arms to help him. His hands came back to my hips and he leaned down to whisper in my ear.

“I want to f**k you in that window sometime.” My breath hitched, “With the lights on, I want the entire city to see what they can’t have, and that you belong only to me,”

A shudder went through me settling deep below my stomach. That was something that I never had thought about doing, but he made it sound so f.ucking hot.

“But tonight,”

His finger ran up my side, settling above the soft fabric of my bra. He circled where he knew my n****e was, and heat rushed through me at his light touch.

“Tonight,” His voice lowered, “I want you all to myself.”

I swallowed, I didn’t know I could be affected this completely, by just this. My whole body was on edge, electrified under his light touch.

“I’m going to touch you, everywhere,”

I swallowed again as his nose brushed along my neck, I tilted my head to give him access.

“I’m going to taste every part of you,”

His warm tongue dragged lightly up and down my neck making me shudder.

“And I am going to feel you,”

His finger moved to my other breast and he circled my n****e there above the fabric, I whimpered needing more.

“I’m going to feel deep inside you,”

His other hand brushed my hair behind my back, coming back to run over my marking spot that was completely bare now, waiting for my true mate, the one that I knew was the only person destined to ever belong to me and me to him.

He moved his head to the other side of my neck and lowered it hovering above my marking spot.

“Deeper than anyone has ever been,”

He sucked slightly at my marking spot, sparks erupted from his touch and my legs felt like they could fall out from under me.

“If you’ll let me that is,”

He pulled his mouth and hands from me and I stood there reeling trying to catch my breath. I was shot back to a cold empty reality that didn't have Caspien promising me everything I had ever wanted.

I whipped around to face him, He was leaning against the door frame with his arms crossed, his icy eyes studying mine.

"It's up to you," He shrugged, looking more casual than I thought he was capable of.

"Y-yes," I found my voice, "That sounds nice,"

He bit down on a laugh and shook his head.

"Nice, no it won't be nice," He pushed off the doorframe closing the door behind him.

He stood over me and took my chin in his calloused palms tilting my head up to look at him.

"It will be transformative" He chuckled once his eyes flashed black, "After tonight, there won't be any part of you I haven't claimed."

I swallowed, memorizing his face, the trimmed beard that covered his perfect jawline, and his eyes that were changing from midnight black to icy blue. I didn't want to look away, even if he would let me, but his grip on my chin held firm.

"Every time you touch your body, you will think of where my hands have been. Every time you see yourself naked you will think of me. There won't be a part of you that won't be a part of me after tonight."

(Caspien)

I looked down at Willa's flushed cheeks, her green eyes didn't look away from mine.

She saw me for who I was, underneath it all, and she accepted me for that.

It was more than I could have asked for from her, more than I could have dreamed of.

I nodded once more to myself and let her beautiful face go reluctantly. I stepped back slightly so I could remove my shirt.

Her eyes roamed over me as she bit a pink lip. I wanted her to look, I wanted her to see what was hers, and only would ever belong to her.

Her eyes roamed over me as she bit a pink lip. I wanted her to look, I wanted her to see what was hers, and only would ever belong to her.

I reached down around her under her silky hair and removed her bra clasp. I slid it down her shoulders and it fell to the ground letting her full breasts free.

I wanted to tease her but all thoughts besides touching her were gone while she was half-bare in front of me peeing up at me with expectation.

I reached forward and took their softness in my hands; my thumb rubbed over her nipples they peaked under my touch. Her head lulled back slightly her eyes shutting at my touch.

Seeing her react to me like this was like nothing I had ever experienced. I knew it wasn't an act because I felt the intensity when she touched me.

I put one arm behind her wrapping it around her waist and guided her back towards the bed. I met her gaze and hers followed mine as I lowered to my knees and unbuttoned her pants, sliding them down.

Atlas growled as the scent of our mate's desire filled the room as she stood completely bare in front of us.

I had forgotten she shredded her underwear when she shifted earlier and this was a welcomed surprise to not have anything else between me and my mate.

I held the small of her back, her skin soft and warm under my hand, as I took one of her waiting breasts in my mouth. I don't think I would ever get over this sensation, having her accept me, and trust me enough, especially after ever she had been through, to get this close to her.

I swirled my tongue around her nipple and sucked gently, the taste of her, the feel of her softness was something I wouldn't get used to.

Her hand tangled in my hair and the other came to my neck to steady herself, but she didn't need to, I was holding her, I had her safely in my grasp.

A soft moan escaped her lips; it was one of my favorite sounds, second only to when my name escaped her lips while I made her reach her pleasure.

I moved onto her other breast, her hands stilled in my hair when I lightly bit down, her breathing became quicker and I knew I had to do something about what was waiting for me between her legs.

I gently pushed her back on the bed and licked up her thigh, tasting her sweet juices that were already dripping from her center.

I was nervous before we started, and I had never been nervous with a woman before. I knew I was good at what I did, and I thought it made me feel good to do it, but I realized it was more about validation for me.

Goddess, maybe I was selfish.

I hated to admit, even to myself, that I was worried that what she was feeling was just the mate bond, that she wanted me only for that. She had a mate before and I wanted this to be different.

I didn't want to just fuck her to get off, I didn't want to caress her to feel the sparks and tingles shoot through me, I wanted her.

I craved her.

The mate bond was incredible. The way her scent calmed me, the way her touch both excited and relaxed me. I knew having s.ex with her would be different if only because of the bond.

But it was Willa I wanted, not the mate bond; it was her. I only hoped I could show her just how much she meant to me and despite the mate bond, she was it.

I would choose her over and over again. I realized now that the mate bond only helped show us who was ours, but it was the person, who they actually were that destined them to be ours.

"Caspien, please," Her fingers tangled through my hair as I got closer to her core.

I licked one last trail of her juices from her knee to her thigh, leading me up right to where they came from.

I took a deep breath memorizing her scent and this moment.

My mate, my Willa laid open and ready, waiting for me.

I lowered myself to her, craving the taste of her. I dragged my tongue slowly up one side of her center and down the other.

She shuddered under the slight contact and my dick throbbed in response against my jeans.

I focused on her taste, how soft she was against my tongue, as I undid my belt and unbuttoned my pants with one hand. Once they were around my knee I shifted up and pushed her back on the bed further wrapping my arms around her legs, grasping her things and pulling them apart for me so I could taste her how I wanted to.

I slipped a finger into her center, taking her already swollen bud into my mouth and sucking gently running my tongue along it in small motions. I wanted to feel every part of her, and her response to me. I snaked a hand under her thigh and reached up grabbing the softness of her breasts.

Her breathing became erratic, as she grabbed at my hair and the sheets making it hard to hold her still as she shifted thrusing herself up against my mouth.

Knowing she was close heightened my arousal past the tipping point.

I moved my finger in and out of her as her inner walls started to clench.

My favorite sound escaped her mouth, my name, over and over again as her r.elease tore through her at my touch.

Sparks erupted within me and I l.icked and s.ucked her, rolling her n.ipple in between my fingers. The feel of her moans reverberating through her because of me was the sweetest sound. The only thing that might be better is if she was making those sounds with her t.ight c.ore wrapped around my d.ick.

I pulled back after her breathing steadied, after I licked up everything she offered me.

I stared at her between her thighs, and I thought this might be the prettiest I had ever seen her. Her cheeks were flushed, her hair was splayed around her, some of it damp with sweat. Her stunning green eyes were filled with such clarity, though, I wasn't expecting that.

"Mark me," She said, meeting my gaze, "Mark me," She repeated.

(Willa)

After Caspien worshipped me between my legs, completely n.aked in front of him for the first time.

I watched his icy gaze flick to mine.

We had exchanged p.leasure a few times, but having nothing to worry about right now, being completely exposed, was different.

"Mark me," I said when I caught his stare.

I said out loud what Iris was chanting in my head.

But I had a moment of clarity through all the lust and pleasure that was Caspien and realized that it was him. I didn't want him for how the mate bond made me feel, how insanely attractive he was, or his title or money or anything.

It was Caspien I wanted, and I wanted him forever.

He pushed back and stood up, no contact left between us.

Nerves coursed through me, and I felt a prick of tears.

I messed up; he didn't want that. It was too soon; I thought he wanted it, but I assumed. I was stupid so damn stupid, I led an Alpha making everything on my terms, I f****d up.

“Willa,” He said, his voice even, “I don’t want to do that if you aren’t sober.”

“I had a sip of wine,” I propped myself on my elbows staring at him, was that really what this was about?

“That’s not what I meant,” He rubbed his forehead, “I meant like sober from lust,”

I almost laughed.

“I don’t want you making any rash decisions because you feel good right now,” He sat on the edge of the bed looking back at me, “If and when you choose that I don’t want you to regret it, the last thing I want is to place my mark on you and have hate me or blame me in the morning.”

I shook my head, that wasn’t going to happen. I scooted forward, so I was sitting next to him. I tentatively reached out for his hand and rubbed circles on his palm.

“I want you, Caspien. I’m sober from lust or whatever,” I looked up at him and gave him a smile, “I want you, forever, if you’ll have me.” I shrugged, not able to meet his eyes anymore.

He removed his hand from mine and tilted my chin to meet his gaze.

“I want you, Willa. Forever.” He leaned forward, studying me, “If you’ll have me,” He gave me a small smile, and his eyes filled with something I hadn’t seen before. I was too engrossed in his gaze to even try to decipher it.

I moved my hand to his neck and rubbed my thumb along his marking spot, the place where I would mark him tonight. Warmth flooded me at the thought.

He leaned his forehead to mine and our breaths intermingled.

“Are you still sure? Because after that, there’s no going back.”

“Good,” I tried to nod; I hoped there wasn’t.

I wanted this, wanted him, forever.

“Forever?” He asked.

“Forever,” I promised.

He shuddered and I held onto his neck, holding him.

He opened his eyes, and they were all I could see.

I scooted forward and kissed him, capturing his lips in mine with a ferocity that hopefully conveyed my desire for him. He moved his hand to run up and down my back, and I repositioned myself, not breaking the kiss so I could sit on his lap.

My core met with fabric, with fabric?

I pulled away.

“Take those off,”

He chuckled once, “Sorry, I was so focused-”

I put my hand to his lips, “No excuses, just do it,” He smiled against my lips and lifted me with one arm, the other removing his boxers somehow; I didn’t care.

He sat back down on the bed and settled me between his legs; I wrapped mine around his back. My breath caught as I felt his velvety length press against my core.

I placed my hands on his shoulder and arm. I rubbed up against him loving how his body tensed in response as I slid my wetness along him.

It was the friction I needed, and he pulled me closer, his breathing becoming uneven, making body tighten in response. My nipples rubbed against the contours of his chest, and I leaned my head forward.

My body was electrified again, swirling with need and anticipation and building pleasure.

“Willa,” He groaned.

I picked up my pace, dampening his entire length, and he grunted once, tightening his grip on my back before he lowered it and cupped my butt with the same tight grasp.

“Please,” I begged; I didn’t know what for.

For everything, for more, for him.

I didn’t have time to react as he laid me on my back on the cool sheets that felt freezing against the heat coursing through me body. He leaned over me, placing a hand behind my head, his thumb caressed my cheek, I leaned into the gentle touch, breathing in his scent letting it ground me.

His knee pushed my thigh, and I opened my legs for him. I couldn’t think of anything but what was about to happen. My body was alive, on edge, my blood thrummed in anticipation. It was already a chore to keep my breath even.

“Are you sure you want this?” He paused as the soft tip of his penis grazed my opening.

I swallowed, trying to remember how to speak, “Y-yes.”

“Even if you don’t want me to mark you-”

“I want it, Caspien, d.amnit I want it all.” I said possibly a bit too harshly, but I stood by that.

He paused for a moment, positioning himself at my center, barely pushing in, but it was enough to send sparks shooting from where our bodies were finally making c.ontact.

He leaned forward, and I g.asped as I felt him start to enter me.

He paused over me, repositioning himself so that he was propped on his forearms. He brushed the stray hair away from my cheeks, kissing my forehead, nose, and mouth.

He pulled back slightly and gazed down at me with a look so raw that it almost made me want to cry.

My throat constricted, and I opened myself further, knowing I had nothing left to say, I just wanted to give him everything. He leaned forward, kissing me deeply, as he slowly pushed himself inside me.

My eyes snapped open, but my mouth held his.

He pulled out a bit and pushed back in deeper and then again.

With each pull and push, my body adjusted to him.

“Willa,” He let out a low moan against my lips before he pulled out entirely and entered me deeply with one last t.hrust.

I s.quirmed underneath him, surprised by the feeling. I could hear myself breathing and nothing else.

It was everything, the fullness. But it was mixed with a slight pain, probably because I had nothing but a t.ampon up there for the past five years.

Just focus on our mate

Sorry

“Are you okay?” He asked, his voice laces with concern.

“Y-yes,” It came out as m.oan as he positioned himself deeper, “Keep going,”

He pulled out and t.hrust into me again; any discomfort was replaced with waves of p.leasure. I didn’t remember s.ex ever feeling like this.

I grasped onto his arm, his hair, his neck, anything that I could to try to ground myself or else I might float away.

Deep rumbling pleasure started to coil within me at each of his deep thrusts. His breathing was becoming uneven and it only fueled the fire that he was stoking.

“Willa,” he grunted, his eyes snapped shut as a low growl came from him, “Goddess, you are,” He took a deep breath, “Perfection,”

With each thrust he was working on composing my perfect release. I let my head fall back, and I focused on nothing but him and how he felt inside of me. My mate, Caspien inside of me.

I knew what he meant now by drunk in lust. I wasn't myself anymore I was his, and I would give myself completely to him in this moment if it gave him any semblance of pleasure.

“Willa,” My name was a prayer on his lips, and it sparked something deep within me, something primal.

It pushed me over the edge, and I cried out, my legs wrapped around him, as he plunged deep into me with rhythmic thrusts, never fully leaving me.

He ground deep, reaching the perfect spot again and again.

His breathing was deep, he leaned his head to my neck, licking me, sending another wave of tingles to mix with the waves of my orgasm.

A sharp pain and my body stilled, the seconds felt like minutes until I could breathe again, before the piercing pain was replaced by a blinding pleasure. I moved my hips against him and he grunted into my neck, still holding on.

My body didn't belong to me anymore; it belonged to him, to us.

Mark him

Iris chanted and I found for some semblance of myself to do what she wanted, what we wanted.

I pulled him closer to me and licked him quickly, biting down hard before he could react.

His body bucked, and I was worried I would lose my grip, but he steadied himself. He released my neck and licked it as he panted and picked up his pace.

He started thrusting so hard I would have been knocked to the wall if his large palms weren't digging into me holding me still for him.

My name a prayer on his lips.

Nothing was real at this moment besides us, besides pure primitive .pleasure.

Our p.ants and m.oans became one; I didn't know where his body ended, and mine began as we clawed and grasped for each other while I rode out the last waves of my p.leasure, that coiled and burst throughout me, he followed me with a few deep t.hrysts.

We didn't belong to ourselves anymore; we didn't even belong to each other. We belonged to something greater; we belonged to us.