

## Mated to the Alpha twins novel by Jane Doe chapter 31

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Despite the gut feeling brewing within me, I swallowed down my bile and got ready for school.

School was the last place I wanted to be, but somehow I knew I'd never escape if Garrett whisked me away to his 'pack'.

It was only one day. One day and I could run to work to grab my check, leaving this town behind only a few hours after.

I texted Tori that night, letting her know to pick me up for school. She was practically ecstatic that I was coming back, making me feel even more guilty.

Thalia questioned my every move, using every moment she could to plant doubt in my mind.

'What if Garret's telling the truth?' She huffed, frustrated after spending an hour arguing with me to no avail.

'He's not.' I shook my head, 'I'm not buying it—It's just not real.'

'You know deep down, Aurora.' Thalia sighed, 'You've always known there's been a piece of you missing. This is that piece. This is why you're so strong. You were born to rule.'

'I wasn't even supposed to be born.' I rolled my eyes, ignoring Thalia's words. I didn't like how sincere she sounded.

Part of me wanted to believe I was destined for something great, but that would mean living with the people who had never wanted me in the first place. Was it worth living with Garrett, Kady, Veronica, Grace, Autumn, Melissa and even Frank? I don't think so.

I gathered my completed homework, stuffing them in my backpack in frustration. I had no idea why I even bothered with the homework. By the end of the day I'd be a drop out, running away from my own family—if you could call them that.

I spent the night refining my plan, working through the smaller details.

I'd head to school in a noticeable outfit, changing before I left during the night. I'd keep my face from any camera's and catch a bus to the next airport.

I had been smart enough to remove most of my money from my debit card, keeping it tightly locked in a box under my new bed.

I'd leave both cellphones behind and catch a flight as far away as possible. All I had to do was get through my last day of school.

The morning rolled around much too fast.

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I should've been worried about Grace, worried about the twin's. I couldn't explain why, but I wasn't. The prospect that this was my last day with any of them really put things into perspective.

I slipped on the only other dress I owned, something I had only worn in public once or twice. It was simply too flashy for my taste.

A heart shaped neckline highlighted my full chest, the dress ending in waves against my thighs. The dress was a light shade of blue with short sleeves. I had always loved this dress, but hated the attention it brought. It made my light blue eye stand out bold against my brown one.

I slipped on my usual white sneakers and flung my book bag over my shoulder. I had waited until last minute to leave my room, somehow finding my way downstairs with ease.

I slipped into the kitchen, thankful Lucy was nowhere in sight. I rifled through one of the many cabinets, wrapping my hand around a plain bagel. I stuffed a piece into my mouth and bounded out the door.

The drive to school was peaceful, and I had forgotten what today truly meant to me. If I pretended hard enough, today was like any other day. I was heading to school with Tori, another day of trying to figure out the confusing twins. Thalia's voice ripped me from that fantasy, reminding me of my insane plan.

“My mom wants to know when you'll be coming over again.” Tori chuckled, tucking a fire colored lock behind her ear. “She's been hounding me about you non-stop.”

My heart nearly stopped, guilt flooding through my veins. What kind of friend was I?

With a shake of my head, I set myself straight. I couldn't think that way. I couldn't force myself to stay to save the feelings of one person. I had dealt with the abuse for long enough. I deserved a way out—I owed that to myself.

“Sometime.” I nodded absentmindedly, “Just gotta get situated with Garrett and all of that.”

“You know you can talk to me right?” She smiled softly, the sight sending another sharp pain into me. “I can’t even imagine what that’s like for you, but I can try.”

“I know.” I forced a smile in return, “I just need some time. It’s all confusing, and I’m not really sure what I want. He’s trying to act like my Dad—but he’s not. He never has been.”

Tori did what she said she would, she tried to understand. She didn’t tell me to give him a chance, to forget the past. She simply told me to do what felt right. I hoped she would forgive me one day, not that I would be around to witness it.

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We pulled into the school and the first two classes of the day went as planned. None of the other students seemed to notice I was gone.

My third class was another story entirely. I had almost forgotten I sat with both the twins in this class.

The moment I walked through the door, both of their eyes were on me. Their gazes burned into my skin, the guilt bubbling within me nearly made me nauseous.

I walked slowly, my eyes guarded as I looked into their own.

It seems the two of them had seen better days. Their eyes looked darker, almost black. Deep rings lined their eyes, making it look as though they needed a good nights sleep.

Kade was as gorgeous as ever. His hair tousled on the top and short on the sides. His long sleeve shirt clung to every dip and arch of his body.

Alec looked stunning with his longer and tousled hair. His typical leather jacket was in place.

They were sitting next to each other for a change, giving me a chance to spend the class without being touched.

I needed to resist the pull I felt towards them, but now it felt stronger than ever. Something had definitely changed. The urge to be near them was not purely mental torture, it was now physical.

My body ached, shivering at the longing I felt. I wasn't sure how I'd get past this class, but I was determined to try.

"Well hello, doll." Alec's dark eyebrow lifted, his obsidian colored eyes roaming the dress I had chosen.

My cheeks flared under their attention, but I chose to ignore his comment.

"We heard you had quite the week." Kade spoke smoothly, his eyes running over my face.

"Yes, I did." I nodded, keeping the conversation as bland as possible.

"You moved in with Garrett?" Alec quipped, and my heart fluttered.

It made my insides warm when Alec called him Garrett. Everyone else had almost slipped up and called him my 'Dad'.

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‘They know how you feel.’ Thalia murmured, ‘If you’d open up to them, you could feel their emotions too.’

‘People don’t feel each others emotions.’ I rolled my eyes, ‘If they did Melissa and Frank would’ve never treated me how they did.’

Thalia sighed and retreated to the back of my mind, clearly tired of arguing with me.

“It’s not like I had a choice.” I frowned, my eyebrows furrowing together in a grimace.

“That must be quite the..adjustment.” Kade frowned, looking troubled.

“How are you holding up, doll?” Alec’s frown matched his brothers, and I felt myself stiffen in my seat.

“I’m...acclimating.” I nodded.

They both sounded so sincere, so conflicted with what I was going through. Something shuddered within me, something that linked me to these two brothers.

I nearly gave into that feeling, but I reminded myself why I couldn’t. I couldn’t see myself building a life here, one where Melissa and Frank were close by.

I bottled my feelings, shoving them deep down. I could deal with them once I was out of this state all together.

I struggled to get through the class, struggled to keep my eyes from flickering to the twins.

They made little comments, asked me little questions. I answered the best I could, keeping a tight hold on my emotions.

The class ticked by slowly, their eyes leaving tracks along my body. I was out of my seat before the bell rang, scrambling to get to my next class.

I was thankful Tori was in this class, keeping me safe from Grace.

Alec approached the front of my desk the moment I sat down, a frown still played on his face.

“You can talk to us, doll.” Alec frowned, his dark eyes glinting sadly. “In case you ever need someone to talk to.”

I mumbled my thanks, ignoring the heated glare from Grace.

I wouldn't let her glares hurt me any longer. I was safe here in school, surrounded by people. As long as I remained with other students, Grace couldn't hurt me.

My fourth class passed, and I squirmed in my seat every time Alec glanced my way.

Tori and I talked about nothing and everything. She didn't push me to talk about what was going on in my life, letting the topic of conversation change freely.

I managed to get to gym early, heading into the locker room before everyone else. I changed quickly, my eyes peeled to each student that flocked into the locker room.

I was just about to exit the locker room and head into the gym when a familiar face approached me. My stomach twisted in fear, but Thalia somehow stifled the emotion.

A strange surge of strength washed through me. The strength wasn't physical, but mental. Just enough to get me through this without turning into a quivering mess.

"Aurora, I need to talk to you." Autumn spoke in a hushed tone, the words spewing from her mouth quickly.

"You need to talk?" I scoffed, storming past her before another word could leave her lips.

Her soft hand wrapped around my wrist. Her grip wasn't tight, more pleading than anything.

"Please Aurora, I—" She began, but I whipped around to face her.

"You what?" I snapped, letting Thalia egg me on. Her anger mixed with my own, heightening my emotions to newfound levels. "You didn't mean to lure me into a party? You didn't mean to let Grace beat me? You didn't mean to almost let me get raped?"

Autumn's mouth flopped open, and she fought for the words to say.

I was drunk on my anger, ignoring the startled gazes from some of the other girls.

"It's so good to know you didn't mean any of it." I snickered, ripping my wrist from her hand. "That completely excuses everything you did."

Before she could say anything else, I stormed from the locker room.



My blood was boiling the entire class, making my vision fill with a red tint. I couldn't get the disgusting metallic taste out of my mouth, only adding to my anger.

We were playing volleyball yet again, only this time I didn't struggle. I wasn't hiding from the ball, waiting for the moment it hit my skin. I was seeking the ball out, smashing it over the net with ease. My movements weren't hesitant, my body knew what it was doing.

Thalia was quite competitive, screaming expletives in my head the entire game.

We had won, and I had successfully ignored the gazes of Alec and Kade all day. Autumn didn't try and approach me again, it seemed she finally learned to think for herself.

Grace was in class, as angry as ever. Her murderous glare was on me the entire time, but somehow I ignored it. I knew I was safe with all these students around. I knew without a doubt, if we were alone she would most definitely end my life. The flicker of madness in her eyes attested to that.

At the sound of the bell, we filtered back into the locker room. I slipped on my clothes and headed through the doors, walking down the hall to meet Tori at her locker.

For just that split second, I had let my guard down. I was surrounded by students, unworried about who might approach me.

A strong grip wrapped around my wrist, pulling me into an empty classroom.

This situation was entirely too familiar as I stared into the eyes of Alec and Kade.

Alec released my wrist, taking a step back before he closed the classroom door. A few students looked at us warily, their eyes flickering at the closed door. I wondered if any of them would grab a teacher, a small part of me hoped they wouldn't.

"Doll, you've been avoiding us." Alec tsked, stalking forward.

"I'm not avoiding anything." I shook my head, trying my best to make my voice sound convincing. My voice cracked at the end, proving the fallacy of my words.

"Sure you aren't, sweetheart." Kade shook his head, his eyes flickering to his brother before he too began approaching me.

"We know what you're feeling doll." Alec smirked, something dangerous glinting in his eyes.

'Stop fighting them.' Thalia urged, but I couldn't focus on her at the moment.

'Stop fighting us.' Kade murmured, his large hands grasping my hips lightly.

The contact sent a lightning shock through my skin, searing my insides wonderfully. I hadn't realized how badly my body craved the contact, as if it had been going through withdrawal this entire time.

"We can't." The words were on the tip of my tongue, ready to flow from my lips. The words refused to be spoken, refused to drift out into the air.

Kade's grip on my waist tightened as he pulled me towards him. He stepped back until he was able to sit comfortably in one of the many chairs scattered about.

My body didn't hesitate, even as he pulled me onto his lap. My legs were open, straddling his lower body. I could feel my short dress ride up, but the only thing on my mind was Kade's touch.

His hands gripped my waist tightly, as if he were afraid I'd slip away. My core was pressed against the lengthening member inbetween his legs. The sensation sent shocks down my thighs, pleasuring yet relaxing.

Alec came up behind me, pulling up his own seat as he stroked my long hair, brushing it to the side. His fingers trailed the length of my neck. A breathless sigh left my lips under his touch, the sparks acted like a sedative. My body had spent so long craving their touch that I couldn't force myself away.

All of the inner screaming, all of the turmoil couldn't save me now. I had deprived myself for too long. Thalia wanted the twins, wanted me to give into their touches.

'Let this be our goodbye.' I murmured in my mind, letting my face drift closer to Kade's.

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My lips hit Kade's with a hunger I didn't know I had. For just a second, the tight control I kept on myself slipped. I could truly see how much my body had been craving their touch.

They were right—I belonged to them, but I didn't know if that was enough. I needed normalcy, a normal life with normal people. Not a

delusional dad, a murderous ex, abusive parents, and a backstabbing girl who pretended to be my friend. The only bright spots in this were Tori, Kade and Alec. But would they be enough?

When Kade's tongue ran across my lips, I didn't fight. My tongue ran against his own, savoring the taste of him and committing it to memory. Alec's lips ran the length of my neck, leaving his marks on my skin.

The hard spot in Kade's pants pressed against me, my panties our only barrier. He ground himself into me with a low growl, hitting against my covered clit.

A moan slipped from my parted lips, never once leaving Kade's. Kade's large hands gripped my waist tightly, rubbing himself against core. His grip on my waist was tight, almost painful but it added to the delicious sensations I was feeling.

Alec's hands traveled under my dress, grazing the soft skin just beneath my bra.

It was far too easy to give into their touches. The two of them kept their attention on me, their hands grazing over every inch of skin they could manage.

Kade rocked my hips against his, grinding himself against my core at an agonizing pace. I had never thought a simple action would send the pressure in my pussy building. I had seen people rub against each other while dancing, but I had never thought of this.

Kade and Alec were both experienced, taking their time exploring my body.

Kade gripped my waist tighter, making me pick up pace. Alec's hand lifted my bra, his fingers trailing lightly over my nipples. Alec's hand cupped my breast, molding it gently as he growled into my neck.

"So perfect." I wasn't sure if I heard him correctly, my attention on the building pressure in my pussy. The strange sparks assaulted my body but only added to the pleasure. Kade's lips were tangled with my own as he rubbed himself against me. My dress had fully risen now, showing my thighs and my purple underwear.

"That's it, sweetheart." Alec murmured against my neck, "Come for us."

I felt myself become undone as Alec squeezed my nipple in his fingers. Kade let my lips go as my head fell back, the pleasure rolling in waves. His hands still gripped my waist, prolonging the bliss.

Giving in to their touch didn't ease the embarrassment I felt when it was over, or the blush that formed on my face. I wasn't embarrassed about what we had done, but how I had wanted them to do more. I was far too willing to go all the way, giving up the last piece of me I had.

Each of them gave me a lingering kiss, one sweeter than I had ever anticipated. Their lips were soft against my own, moving slowly and with purpose.

I had to physically tear myself from their side to leave the room. I was sure Tori would already suspect what happened, but she was also out there waiting for me.

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I walked quickly down the hallway, heading towards her locker. The halls were practically empty now, only a student or two lingering. I

frowned when I turned the corner and spotted Tori's locker. She was nowhere in sight.

A knot formed in my stomach. The closer I got to Tori's locker, the bigger the knot in my stomach grew.

Just when I was five feet away, a hand clamped over my mouth. They were dragging me into an empty classroom. Their body felt small, and yet they were freakishly strong.

My back met the wall, banging against a rack of whiteboard markers. Grace glared at me menacingly.

'The girls losing it.' Thalia shook her head. 'She's got crazy in her eyes.'

'That's not helpful.' I shook my head, 'Know how to fight?'

'I thought I was just some voice in your head.' Thalia rolled her eyes.

'You are, but you talk constantly.' I pointed out, 'So talk now and help me.'

"Didn't we already have a conversation?" Grace narrowed her light eyes. They scanned my bare neck, igniting in anger as she noticed the deep purple marks from Alec's lips. "And yet I see you fucking around with them in one of the classrooms."

My mouth opened a bit, apparently unable to form words.

Embarrassment washed through me. Had she seen everything that happened? What was I going to say? I couldn't deny it.

Grace seemed a lot more unhinged than normal. She glared daggers at me while murmuring to herself.

“Kade wouldn’t even touch me after I slept with Dean. I don’t see how he can stand to be near you after Carson had you.” She mumbled, keeping me locked against the blackboard.

Some part of me hoped Tori would show up after realizing I hadn’t met her after school. I wondered how long it would take until she did come if she did.

‘You’re not ready for me to come out yet.’ Thalia grunted, ‘But I’ll help you with what I can’

I resisted the urge to make a comment, appreciating the support right now. Even if it did come from a voice in my head.

“And yet the two of them seem obsessed with you.” Grace grimaced, “Overprotective and definitely overbearing.”

Something seemed to click in Grace’s head. I could practically hear it as the link formed in her head.

“Of all people.” Grace scoffed, “It had to be you. And both of them? How could someone like you get a break like that?”

“I have no idea what you’re talking about.” I snapped, not feeling as scared as I did last time.

“You really don’t, do you?” Grace snickered but didn’t stalk forward.

“It doesn’t matter.” I shook my head, “I’m leaving, you can have them.”

Thalia growled in my mind. Telling Grace could’ve ruined my plans, but I doubted that. She’s been wanting me to leave this entire time.

“Leaving?” Grace grinned, and for just a split second she was looking at me like her best-friend. She looked like a good person when she smiled, you could never tell what was hidden underneath it all. “When?”

“Tonight.” I nodded, fear churning in my gut.

“You’ve been planning this for some time haven’t you.” Grace giggled, “You should have just said so, silly. I would’ve never had to sick Carson on you.”

Bile churned in my gut, making me feel nauseous. Grace had completely changed from her murderous self. She acted as though it had never happened, talking about what she did as though it were some game.

“It wasn’t on my mind at the time.” I choked out. How could I think about anything when I was being sexually assaulted?

“It happens.” Grace waved it away, as though it happened every day. “This is great!”

“You can’t tell anyone.” I shook my head, “My—Garrett would try and stop me.”

“I’d never do that.” Grace shook her head, that crazy glint was gone from her eyes. “Need some money?”

‘She’s insane.’ Thalia shook her head.

‘Now do you see why I want to leave?’ I frowned.

‘No.’ Thalia shook her head, ‘Unless you want to take Alec and Kade with you.’



‘Not happening.’ I promised.

There wasn’t a chance in hell I planned on taking money from Grace. The thought of taking money from her put a sour taste in my mouth. I wanted no part of her when I left.

“No.” I shook my head, “I’ve been saving for a while.”

“Good, good.” Grace grinned, “Go somewhere far.”

Grace took a few steps closer, her face inches from my own.

“Oh, and Aurora.” Grace’s voice was like honey and silk, hiding the wasps beneath. “Don’t come back, ever. I will take my anger out on Tori, and then I will move onto you. And I always keep my word.”

Threatening me was one thing, but threatening Tori was uncalled for. Tori hadn’t posed any sort of threat to Grace. She was simply using her to get back at me.

I knew Tori could handle herself, but what if Grace had backup like she did with me? Could Tori fight against three people? I didn’t think she could. Alec and Kade were just wealthy teenagers, but they couldn’t stop Grace. It seemed she was just as wealthy as they were.

“I won’t.” I promised, my stomach sinking at my own words.

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Grace had let me leave the classroom without any hassle. Her murderous

and slightly unhinged demeanor faded as soon as I told her the truth. She even had the audacity to chat with me, asking about my plans once I had left.

What frightened me more than her bold threat against Tori was the way she changed with the flip of a switch. I gave a rushed, one worded answer in a hurry to leave the classroom.

I had just enough time to mask the fear and disgust on my face before Tori found me in the halls. She had already grabbed what she needed from her locker, wandering around in search of me. Her face contorted in confusion as she saw the heat fill my cheeks. Understanding flashed in her eyes as they traveled down my neck. Without a doubt, she was thinking of Alec and Kade.

I sat quietly as Tori drove the two of us to the restaurant. We both ran in, grabbing our checks from the manager on duty.

“I’m still waiting for that explanation y’know.” Tori’s orange eyebrow lifted as she shot me a stern look.

My stomach flipped and a chill spread over my skin. I had promised Tori explanations for a lot of things, explanations I couldn’t give.

I had planned to leave a note for her when I left, one explaining what Grace had done to me. Grace’s threat against Tori made me question whether that was the right decision or not. While Tori could handle herself, Grace was incapable of thinking clearly. It was just another thing I would need to think on.

While I wanted nothing to happen to Tori, it was eating me alive that Grace would get away with this. She had successfully chased me out of town, not that I hadn’t been planning it regardless.

I couldn't see what telling Tori would hurt. I would explain everything to her, giving her ample warning what Grace was capable of. I could only hope she kept the information to herself, keeping her safe from Grace.

"I'll give it to you." I coughed uncomfortably, "I'll call you tonight."

I wasn't sure if I'd be able to tell Tori what happened over the phone. My voice cracked and weakened any time I tried to speak about it. Bile would rise in my throat when I thought about my swollen and busted face.

"I'm holding you to that." Tori's lips were pressed together tightly. "I'll call you around eight, Mom's having a dinner party with our neighbors."

"That sounds—fun." I forced a lopsided grin to my face, ignoring the pinpricks of guilt that settled under my skin.

"You're more than welcome to join." Tori chuckled, giving me a playful eyeroll. "It'll be more eventful than what you're doing tonight."

"You're right about that." I laughed hollowly.

'You're going to hurt people when you leave, Aurora.' Thalia murmured in my mind, 'Tori's one of those people.'

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'People have done nothing but hurt me.' I grimaced, 'I deserve more than this—than living in fear with people I hardly know.'

'You'll come back to them, Aurora.' Thalia murmured, her voice growing silent. 'I know you will.'

I knew exactly who ‘them’ were. Alec and Kade’s faces flashed into mind, the feel of them still lingered on my skin.

Tori and I stopped by one of the banks in town. The two of us cashed our checks. I placed my wad of money deep in my bookbag, eager to add it to what I had saved up. Taking money from Grace had been an offer I hadn’t anticipated, but had no qualms refusing. Taking any form of help from Grace filled me with a sick sense of disgust.

Tori dropped me off at Garrett’s house before heading to her own. She shot me one last stern glance, concern flickering in her eyes. I mustered up my strength and gave her a bright smile. Tori hadn’t asked about our shift at work tomorrow, and I hadn’t mentioned whether I’d be there. Come tomorrow, everyone important would know the news.

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Garrett was there the minute I stepped into the house. His crisp suit irritated me, as did his dark slicked back hair. His aura of poise and superiority grated away at my nerves. If only everyone knew the insanity that was hidden beneath his glamorized façade.

“I would like for you to attend dinner with us.” Garrett cleared his throat, his mismatched eyes staring down at me.

For a moment, I wondered if people thought the same thing when looking into my eyes. My eyes were an exact replica of Garrett’s. One eye was a light blue, lighter than the sea or sky. The other eye was a rich brown, hints of honey and gold thrown into the mix. The sight was hypnotizing, both eyes bright and unique in their own way.

“Dinner.” I wasn’t asking a question, yet the word fell from my lips regardless. The last thing I wanted to do was eat dinner with his family. His wife and daughter clearly hated me.

As if reading the contempt in my eyes, Garrett shifted to the other foot. “They will learn to accept you, Aurora but you must make an effort.”

“I need to make an effort?” I scoffed. I hadn’t tried due to the clear distaste his wife and daughter had for me. How could I make an effort when the two of them refused?

“I understand they can be—difficult, but this is as new to them as it is to you.” Garrett frowned, compassion filling his eyes as he spoke of his wife. “After dinner, there is something I would like to show you.”

I frowned, hoping it wouldn’t be another fairytale. Garrett clearly noticed the reluctance on my face but chose not to comment. I had no choice but to indulge him. Come the end of the night, I would be gone.

Garrett told me to come down to the dining room in an hour, and that dinner would be ready soon after. I thundered up to the bedroom, wasting no time as I closed the door behind me.

I grabbed a medium sized duffle bag from the closet and began packing some clothes. I rolled my clothes up tightly, saving as much room as possible. Apart from clothes, a picture or two and all my money, there was nothing left to pack. I wanted to bring toiletries but decided they would take up too much room. I stuffed a couple granola bars and water bottles into the bag. It had been a last-minute decision to raid part of the large kitchen to find some snacks to bring. I wasn’t sure when I’d be eating next.

I had thought of nearly everything when it came to my escape. I would change into something I hardly wore, making it harder to be identified on cameras. I'd keep my hat and hood pulled up, blocking what parts of my face I could manage. The phone Tori had gotten me would have to be left behind, but I could manage without a phone. I emptied out my bank account, planning to use cash for everything I needed.

I didn't bother changing for dinner. If anyone reported me missing, they would remember the dress I had worn today. I walked down the stairs quickly, wanting to get this entire afternoon done with.

Garrett had already taken his place at the table, Veronica by his side. Katy sat beside her Mom, a permanent sneer on her slender face.

All eyes were on me as I walked into the dining room. My face heated under the stairs. I couldn't help but feel I had interrupted something. Garrett's face held anger as he looked at his wife. It was clear they were having a heated conversation about something. I could only guess what that something was—me.

"I'm glad you joined us, Aurora." Garrett smiled. While the emotion looked genuine, I couldn't get past the irritated stares coming from Kady and Veronica.

I felt like I was interrupting their family dinner, barging in on something I had no business with.

Garrett controlled the conversation, including me at every chance. He asked about my childhood, classes, and interests. I gave answers where I needed, never once looking into Kady or Veronica's sharpened eyes. Garrett seemed genuinely interested in my past, something I wasn't keen on sharing. His eyes filled with guilt as I talked about my Grandma, the woman who had raised me. He could hear the love and gratitude dripping

from my voice as I talked about her, along with the contempt I held as I talked about Melissa.

I finished my dinner in a rush, ready to retreat upstairs. My stomach dropped when Garrett stood from the table and motioned for me to follow. Lucy shot me a wide smile as she began gathering the empty plates. I had forgotten Garrett wanted to show me something, only wasting what little time I had.

I followed Garrett silently as he led me out the backdoor. The garden in their backyard was beautiful, overflowing with brightly colored flowers. As we stepped into the yard, I could smell their sweet aroma's.

"Kady did all of this." Garrett smiled proudly at the flowers. His entire demeanor seemed to change when he spoke of his family. The thought sent a small wave of pain washing over me, one I pushed to the side and ignored.

"Really?" I scoffed in disbelief. I couldn't imagine prim and proper Kady getting on her knee's to garden. The image didn't sit right in my mind. Wouldn't she be afraid of chipping a nail?

Garrett did something unexpected, he laughed. His entire face lit up as his chest rumbled.

"She really doesn't look like the type, does she?" Garrett chuckled, one of his hands smoothing the material of his suit.

"Not at all." I shook my head, unsure what to make of this entire situation. "Why are we out here? It can't be to talk about gardening."

Garrett's smile fell, a serious expression on his face. I regretted the words as soon as they came from my lips.

“It isn’t.” Garrett shook his head, “I understand I may have chosen the wrong moment to explain your heritage. Instead of telling you, I should have shown you.”

The thought of entertaining this had anger bubbling in my veins. Garrett could see the reluctant frustration forming on my face and jumped into action. Before I could turn my back on him, a sharp snapping sound rang out through the backyard.

My eyes were wide, my mouth gaping as I stared at Garrett. It sounded as though he snapped his own spine in half. His eyes were wide as he looked on at me, a splotch of hair began forming on his neck.

‘Watch him, Aurora.’ Thalia murmured, urging me to keep my eyes on Garrett.

I wasn’t sure I could pull them away if I tried. The entire process was quick, but my body had long ago gone into shock.

I could only stand and stare as my—Garrett turned into a large, silver wolf. The wolf was bigger than any wolf I had ever seen, easily the size of a full-grown bear. The animal’s eyes were just like Garrets, just like my own. One a bright and startling blue, the other a deep golden brown.

Anger, frustration, disbelief, horror, and fear were bouncing through me like an aggressive mosh pit. My dinner sat heavily in my stomach, my blood turning cold at the sight.

Garrett—the wolf stalked forward slowly, sitting on its haunches when it was only a few feet away. I wasn’t sure how long we stood like that for. It could have been hours for all I knew. My eyes were locked on him the entire time, those six conflicting emotions swirling within me. Something else began to form inside of me, acceptance. Some part of me, no matter



how small knew Garrett was telling the truth. It was as though I had been missing a piece of myself, and now I was finally whole.

The thought should have filled me with joy, right? Wrong. I was terrified. Terrified of Garrett, terrified of myself.

The truth rattled in my head, understanding formed in my mind. I refused to address those thoughts, knowing what they meant.

Thalia wasn't just a voice inside my head, she had been there all along.

There was something else that bubbled in my mind, something I had tried to forget.

I had met two wolves' before, both eerily similar to Garrett. Two wolves, identical in color and size.

**Mated to the Alpha twins novel by Jane Doe chapter 35**

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Mated to the Alpha twins novel by Jane Doe Chapter 35

As much as I wanted to deny the truth, it was sitting right in front of me. I couldn't help but do a mental check over my own body. I didn't feel different. Apart from Thalia's intrusive voice, I felt nearly the same as I always had. It would explain why my face had healed so quickly.

You would think I'd be excited, but I wasn't. Turning into one of these creatures was the last thing I wanted. I wanted—needed normalcy. Sure, some small part of my mind wondered if I could use this against Grace. As much as I wanted to feel guilty over that, I couldn't.

I was yanked from my thoughts by the ringing of a cellphone. The cellphone in my hand was buzzing, a picture of Tori lighting up the screen.

“I’ll call you back in ten.” I answered, ending the phone call without another word. My eyes were still locked on the giant wolf—on Garrett.

Garrett walked over to a cluster of trees nestled in their backyard. I watched on in silence as Garrett returned to his human form. A pair of sweatpants hung on the lower portion of his body. His suit had been torn to shreds during his... transformation.

“I don’t want this.” Those were the first words that left my lips, followed by. “You don’t even know if I can—can turn into a wolf. I’ve never turned into one before.”

Instead of Garrett’s face contorting in anger like I suspected, his eyes held sympathy.

“I don’t need to watch you shift to know what you are, Aurora.” Garrett murmured, leading the two of us back inside. My body was on autopilot. Half of me wanted to run, to get away from Garrett and his strange family as soon as possible. The other side of me was smart, knowing if I ran now, he would only catch me.

“I can feel your wolf.” Garrett sighed, “She’s inside of you, she will help you shift when it’s time.”

‘I tried to tell you, Aurora.’ Thalia frowned, ‘We can’t shift yet, but when we do, we’re going to need Alec and Kade.’

‘What’s so important about Alec and Kade?’ I grimaced, my heart thundering at the mention of their names.

‘They’re our mates, Aurora.’ Thalia rushed the words out in an exasperated huff.

“What is a mate?” I spoke before thinking, gaining Garrett’s full attention.

“What makes you ask?” Garrett’s lips pressed together tightly; his eyes intense as he looked at me.

“My—wolf mentioned the term.” I shifted uncomfortably. The truth coupled with Garrett’s interrogating stare made me want to flee.

“Their like soulmates.” Garrett spoke slowly, his own eyes glazing over as he thought of his wife.

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“And—Veronica, is she your mate?” I paused, discomfort and fear swirling in my gut.

“She is.” Garrett nodded, clearly reading the discomfort in my eyes. Garrett had a child with another woman, one who wasn’t his mate. Thalia recoiled at the thought, showing her clear disgust.

“I see.” My voice sounded weak, my head churning with the overwhelming amount of information I was being forced to process.

“That changes nothing, Aurora.” Garrett grimaced, “You are my first born, which mean’s my pack will someday belong to you.”

I wanted to scream, to shout at Garrett until I turned blue in the face. I didn’t want a pack, a wolf, mates, or anything else that came. I wanted a

normal life with people who wouldn't hurt me, threaten me, or leave me in a perpetual state of fear and anxiety.

Some people spend their entire lives waiting for something like this to happen. Some kind of strange, magical calling that takes them out of their boring world. I wasn't one of those people. I wanted a normal life and all that it entailed.

"I don't—" I paused. What would denying everything do? Garrett would continue to push, forcing me to accept some planned out future he had.

"I need some time." I gulped, my eyes darting to the staircase.

"I understand, Aurora." Garrett frowned, his eyes softening in the slightest. "I was raised knowing what we are, you weren't. I'll give you the time you need, but please think on what I've said."

"I will." I nodded, telling the lie effortlessly.

I retreated to my bedroom on shaky legs, fumbling to close the door behind me. I slipped out of the clothes I had worn to school. I threw on a long sleeve shirt, followed by my heaviest jacket and a dark pair of jeans. Melissa and Frank wouldn't be able to identify me by the clothes I wore. Melissa never paid enough attention and Frank was always too wasted to notice.

I swung my backpack over my shoulder and placed the phone to my ear. It rang a total of two times before Tori picked up the other end.

"What happened?" Tori frowned, "You sounded kind of flustered."

"Nothing important." I shook my head, "Garrett wanted to talk to me."

“Oh, I see.” Tori frowned, understanding clear in her voice. She knew how I felt about Garrett. It was one of the only things I could openly tell her.

“Yeah.” I cleared my throat. My heart was hammering in my chest, anxiety wracked my entire body. I was becoming antsy, wanting to leave as soon as I could. I’d have to wait another hour, until I was sure Garrett had left the lower part of the house. I hoped he didn’t have some kind of super hearing, but it was too late to change my plan.

“Now—about that explanation.” Tori paused, clearly dealing with her own unease. “What the hell happened to your face?”

For a moment, I wasn’t sure what to say. Did I really want to do this? I couldn’t see how it would hurt, as I’d be gone before morning. Whatever happened to Grace after I left wasn’t my fault, but didn’t Tori deserve warning against Grace’s threat?

“Grace happened.” I cleared my throat, fighting back the tears of frustration that formed behind my eyes. “She didn’t like that I was talking to Alec and Kade, so she had Autumn and her other friend help.”

“Oh my god, Aurora.” Tori’s voice was a whirlwind of emotions. Anger, disbelief, shock, sympathy, and hate. “I knew someone hurt you—I never thought Grace would go that far. I need to tell- “

“Tori, do me a favor.” I clamped my eyes shut, pinching the bridge of my nose. I knew she would react this way. All I had to do was delay her for just a few hours. She could tell whoever she wanted in the morning.

“What?” I could hear the frown on Tori’s face. “You better not ask me to keep this a secret. She seriously hurt you, Aurora. She can’t just get away with it.”

“I know—I know.” I choked out, wishing I could tell her the rest. I wouldn’t be able to fight back the tears if I told her more. They would overtake me, turning me into a pile of mush. “Just wait until morning to tell anyone, for me please.”

Tori let out a long sigh, and I could almost see the look of frustration on her face. “Fine, I’ll wait until morning.”

“Thank you.” I breathed, remembering I had something else to say. “There is something else—she threatened you. Said she would come after you if I told anyone.”

“She threatened me?” Tori scoffed, her voice filling with heat.

“I just wanted to give you a heads up.” I frowned, “Just be careful around her—I think she’s kind of losing it.”

“Whatever it is, Grace lost it a long time ago.” Tori chuckled dryly. “Don’t worry, Aurora. Grace won’t get her claws on me.”

After ending the phone call with Tori, I was left with an hour to mull everything over. It was an hour I didn’t want to wait but had no other choice. It gave me time to think about everything. I didn’t want to think over what Garrett had said. I wanted to shove it all deep down and never let it see the light of day.

What Thalia had said about mate’s struck a chord within me. Alec and Kade were our mates.

‘Typically, wolves only have one mate.’ Thalia’s voice was soft, ‘We have two.’

‘I never wanted one to begin with.’ I fought against the stabbing pain in my chest.

An hour passed and I stood at my bedroom door in silence. My hand was only inches away from the handle. Once I opened this door, I wouldn’t turn back. I’d change my own life, finally live it the way I chose.

My bedroom door swung open, and I stepped into the hallway. My heart dropped to the floor as I met Kady’s light eyes. Her eyes narrowed, eyeing me suspiciously. Whatever she was going to say caught in her throat. Her eyes widened as she took in the bag over my shoulder and the clothes I was wearing.

Her eyes flickered down the hall, and back to me.

“He’s in his office.” Kady murmured, “You have fifteen minutes before my Mom goes back downstairs.”

Without saying anything more, Kady retreated into her bedroom. I stood there gaping at her bedroom door, replaying the words she had said to me.

She was helping me. Of course, it was for her own selfish reasons, but I appreciated it, nonetheless. Her tone had been soft, kind even. I wanted to laugh dryly at the number of people who wanted me gone. It seemed like the number continued to grow.

I crept downstairs and out of the house easily. I planned on calling a cab with my old flip phone, the one Melissa had gotten me. I planned on walking to the little corner store, the one I had visited when we first moved here. I would call a cab to pick me up at the store, taking me to the nearest bus stop.

Fear does things to a person's mind. It dulls all thoughts of reason, dulls anything good and supportive. Fear consumes and burns until there's nothing left. Fear had formed in me the night Grace attacked and had been boiling and festering ever since.

Fear put you in a constant state of fight or flight, pushing everything else to the back of your mind. I wasn't thinking of Tori, Alec, Kade, or anyone else. I was thinking of myself, of running from the fear that scorched my insides.

Even as I stepped out of the cab, and walked through the doors to the bus terminal, I was only thinking of myself.