

## A for E ort~

Sorry it's been so long! I've been struggling with my mental health, but I'm feeling a lot better now. Thank you to everyone who talked to me and stu , you all are awesome. I can't express how grateful I am for all of you. Anyways don't forget to VOTE AND COMMENT!

Exhausted is one word I would use to describe myself—Downright beat.

I had went on two runs today, one with Savannah, and the other by myself earlier. Now two runs normally isn't that much, but considering we went on a perimeter run of the pack lands, it was a long run. And the second run I just went exploring. Still, I had no energy at all.

I collapsed on the ground right next to Savannah, who sat down with me.

"Tired?" She questioned, handing me a water. I gladly took it, and nodded, before chugging it down. She let out a laugh, and stared at me.

"I guess you could say that," I replied. I put the cap back on the water, and laid down on the dirt. I would definitely need to shower, but all I could think about was laying down and sleeping.

I allowed my eyes to close momentarily, taking in a few deep breaths. I was fully intent on relaxing, however Savannah wasn't.

"You said you were a star, right?" She asked, and I peaked open my eyes. I peered up at her, noticing a down look to her face.

"Yeah," I said, "Why, what's up?"

I pulled my lazy ass up into a sitting position, and prepared myself to listen. I watched Savannah stare at the ground for a second, as if she was in deep thought, before she spoke.

"Did you...Did you ever see my mom? Her name was Mary." ๕

Was.

Ahh. So that's where this was going. I knew I had to try my best to be supportive, but I had no clue how to handle these kinds of situations. I wasn't good at comforting people when they were sad.

But as Savannah stared at me with tears in her eyes, I knew I had to try.

"No," I whispered, "But I didn't see a lot of people. I never cared enough and that's why I was thrown out."

Savannah's eyes grew sadder, as she looked down. I wrapped my arm around her shoulder, giving her a so smile.

"Savannah," I spoke, "Just because I didn't see her, doesn't mean she's not there. And I promise you if she is there, she's watching over you every second."

She brushed her hair behind her ear, angrily wiping at tears that fell. She kept her head down for just a second longer, before she looked up at me with a smile.

"I'm sure you're right."

She looked as if she wanted to say something else, when her eyes trailed behind me. I turned around to see what she was looking at, only to see Kailen standing directly over me.

"Alpha Mitchell," She greeted. She stood up, along with me, and Kailen sent me a tight smile.

"Savannah," Kailen replied before looking at me, "Are you ready to go?" He asked, and I nodded. I looked back at Savannah who kept her eyes low to the ground in respect.

"See you later," I said. I watched as she looked at me and bowed her head in respect, which to me felt odd. I knew I was her Luna, but for these past couple hours her and I had been acting like besties, and now she was acting as if she was below me. Strange.

I brushed my thoughts aside and started to walk next to Kailen, who smiled down at me.

"So, what'd you do all day?" He questioned, and I answered.

"Well I hung out with Savannah for most of it, but I did go exploring by myself for a bit."

His smile dropped as soon as I said Savannah, and while he looked like he tried to hide it, I had already caught it.

"What was that face for?"

"What face?" He asked. Oh so he's playing stupid? I see.

"The face you made when I mentioned Savannah. What, do you not like her or something?"

He scratched the back of his head uncomfortably, before shrugging nonchalantly.

"She's just kind of the pack outcast." ๕

Now this caught me by surprise. How the hell could someone so beautiful, be the pack outcast? What the hell was wrong with this pack? ๕

"Why?" I asked, narrowing my eyes. Kailen looked as if he wasn't going to answer, until he saw my curious and irritated expression.

"She just came to us as a rogue. I only let her in cause my mom and her mom used to be best friends."

"Used to be?" I pressed, wondering when enough was enough for Kailen. How far could I get with making him uncomfortable?

But when I asked this question, his expression seemed to change severely. Before he was just uncomfortable, but now he was a mixture of angry and vengeful. Because of this, I had inferred that not only Savannah's mother was dead, but so was Kailen's.

"They died," He said, "Burned to death years ago." ๕

I wanted to push for more due to the fact that I was overly fucking nosy, but judging by the expression that Kailen had, that was all the questions he could handle for one night. I didn't need to push him over the edge and have myself be banished to the dungeon again.

So I kept my mouth shut the entire way back.

Minutes later we finally stopped in front of a house, but it wasn't the pack house. It was only a tiny bit smaller than the pack house, yet it was surprisingly not a log cabin. I really thought that all werewolves lived in a log cabin.

I stared at it, wondering why we were here until I realized it was Kailen's house. For some reason I assumed that he lived in the pack house, so I was insanely surprised to find out he lived in his own house.

"You coming?" Kailen asked, and that's when I realized I had zoned out thinking about Kailen's house. I nodded quickly, and followed a er him.

When I entered the house, I was surprised at what I saw. Unlike the pack house which was filled with reds and all sorts of prints, this house was all neutrals. The floors were gray and made of wood, and every wall around me was white. Though I wasn't used to seeing a house void of color, I surprisingly found comfort in it.

It felt very relaxing. It seemed like the perfect house to come home to when your day was hectic.

I noticed Kailen staring at me out of the corner of my eye, and I looked at him.

"What do you think?" He asked, and I was curious as to why he cared about my opinion. I mean I knew he was trying to be nice, but still, I wasn't used to him giving a damn about what I thought.

"It's beautiful," I replied. He stared at me with an unreadable expression, as if he was thinking something that he couldn't say, before he spoke.

"Yeah, I know a lot of people find it weird that the only colors in here are white and gray...But I guess I just find it peaceful."

He glanced down, and for the first time, I saw him as a person—Not an alpha. I saw a broken wolf in front of me, with many horrific tales. I could see the walls that he put up to protect himself as if they were really right there in front of me.

It was enticing to me. I wanted to know why those walls were there, and if they were permanent.

"What happened to you?" I asked suddenly, watching as his gaze hardened. I knew that this question was probably a huge overstepping of boundaries, but I was too curious not to ask. ๕

Kailen no longer looked relaxed, instead he looked just the same as when I met him—Cruel. I wasn't scared though, there wasn't anything he could do to me that hadn't already happened in this life or my last. But as he stepped closer to me, I wondered if maybe it would've been wiser to ask that question at a later time.

Kailen towered over me, making me feel like a midget compared to him. We stared at each other for an uncomfortable amount of time, before he spoke.

"Whatever happened doesn't concern you," He said coldly, "Now stop asking."

He began to walk away, leaving me confused.

"But this is the first time I've asked." I shouted, but he ignored me. He just continued walking until he disappeared around the corner, and I was le standing in his house like an idiot.

.

It had been a couple of hours since I'd last seen Kailem. He had le the house shortly a er he threw his big temper-tantrum, like a five year old child. And while I could've gone out too since I wasn't locked in, I decided not to. I was still so fucking tired, and at this point I just wanted to lay down and try to wait for him to come back. ๕

I laid in a random bed that I'd found in the house, and since it didn't smell like him whatsoever, I assumed that this definitely wasn't his room or his bed. I didn't need to make him more mad than I already had.

Minutes passed, and soon those minutes turned to hours. I had been struggling so much to keep my eyes open, and when I looked at the time on the clock, I realized he probably wasn't coming back anytime soon, as the clock read that it was almost two in the morning.

I decided to let my eyes shut, and I began to trail o into sleep. But just as I did, I was awoken by the sound of a door closing. I didn't have to guess who it was, thanks to the mate bond and his smell being practically impossible to ignore.

I could hear his footsteps coming my way, and I pretended to be asleep. Maybe if he was still mad, he wouldn't bother me if I was asleep.

I heard the bedroom door creak open, and he came closer. I still pretended to be asleep, even as I felt his presence right in front of me. I could sense that he was looking at me, but I managed to keep my face the same. I knew that smiling, or peaking an eye open would give me away. ๕

I felt him slip his arms under me, and li me up. I wondered what he was doing as he began to walk out of the room. Where was he going to take me?

Was he placing me outside so I would have to sleep on the ground? Or was he carrying me back to the dungeon? Maybe he was planning on throwing me in the lake as payback.

All of these thoughts ran rampant in my head, but as I felt him lower me onto a bed, and cover me with a blanket, I realized he had put me in his bed. At this point, I was trying so hard not to smile. I almost succeeded at not smiling, but when Kailen climbed in right next to me, I couldn't help it. ๕

I opened my eyes to look at him, and even though it was dark, I could still see him fine. I stared at him with a so smile for a few seconds, before he seemed to notice. He looked surprised to see me awake, as he carefully rested his hand on my hip. He seemed unsure of whether I would be okay with this or not. But when I slid closer to him, he didn't seem so hesitant to touch me.

"I'm sorry about earlier," He whispered, "I was an ass."

"You were," I replied, "But I shouldn't have been so nosy."

He stared at me, before he smiled so ly.

"I um...I spoke to the pack therapist tonight. He's going to try to help me with managing my anger." ๕

Was I hearing that right? Kailen Mitchell was going to see a therapist? Someone who was going to tell him how to control his anger?

"But why?" I asked, genuinely curious.

"I guess I just don't wanna be like your last mate. You deserve better than that."

And as he said that, I felt a pang of sadness deep down in my chest. I didn't notice, but this whole time I had thought he was going to end up like my last mate. And I guess he was worried about that too.

But I was also happy to know that he wanted to change for me, even though it would be hard. I knew that he wouldn't just change overnight, though if he was willing to give it a shot, then so was I.

A er all, there's no shame in getting help. Especially with everything that happens nowadays, nobody should be expected to hold all that weight on their shoulders. ๕

Not even an alpha.

How did you guys like it?? A nice little filler chapter, but filler chapters are great to get to know outside characters. Anyways, don't forget to VOTE AND COMMENT. ๕