

Chapter 7: Mate

"There must be some misunderstanding," Lukas said as he moved closer to me. I still didn't face him, but the sound of his voice was calm and collected, almost a bit confused. "You're tired, Melissa. You must not be feeling well."

He held my shoulders lightly and proceeded to push me up the stairs, but I didn't want to go with him. I knew what my wolf was telling me. I knew my mate was there; I just needed to find him. Lukas was the one in denial. Not me.

"I am not tired," I said, spinning around to face him. Even though his voice was calm, his eyes were pooling with emotions. Fright, confusion, anger, disappointment. And by the looks of it, he seemed to know who I was referring to, and he didn't like it.

I twisted my hand from his grip, but this only angered him even more.

"You're mine, Melissa. Now, I am taking you to your room where you will stay until I speak with my brother."

"So you admit that you know that it's your brother," I challenged. I knew that he was only being possessive because the wolf in him had already claimed me as his. Even though I'm not his mate, he is an Alpha, and

Alphas are very possessive with anything or anyone they 'claim'.

"Don't challenge me, Melissa," he growled. "Remember if it wasn't for me, you wouldn't even be here."

"It's fate!" I screamed. I knew I sounded like a hypocrite. Twenty-four hours ago, I plotted my escape plan because I refused to be sold to this Alpha. But now, here I am, declaring that destiny brought me to the Primal Pack.

Lukas growled deeply, and I almost flinched away at the sound of his anger. However, I wasn't alone. Even though my wolf had been quiet since yesterday, knowing that my mate was probably Lukas's brother meant she was giving me the courage I needed to stand up to him. I knew that as a high-ranking wolf, this wouldn't be easy. But what can I do? Live with another man while my mate is in the same house?

I suddenly grew nauseous. I still haven't forgotten what Joshua told me about the second Alpha. He wasn't near as kind as Lukas. But he's my mate. He couldn't possibly be cruel to me, right?

I needed to know, and I wanted to know right now. I couldn't find the will to be scared without meeting him first. But he wasn't inside the house. His scent lingered only because he lived here. By now, I assumed he would be on his way back because if his wolf was

anything like mine, he'd be going nuts trying to find me.

Lukas, on the other hand, wasn't having it. "Look," he said with a soft sigh, "we don't know if Maxim is your mate yet. Just let me take you to your room and get settled in, then we can sort this out, okay?" He was trying to be gentle, but it was evident that it was giving him a hard time.

I knew there was no point fighting him either, so I simply nodded and followed him all the way to the third story of the house. He pushed open a white door at the end of the hall, which led to a huge, spacious room with white walls and an enormous chandelier hanging from the centre.

There was a balcony attached to the room, and the bed was probably twice the size of mine back home.

Two windows were on either side of the balcony door, and across the bed was an electric fireplace with a TV hanging over it. This wasn't just a room. It was a luxury.

"You will be staying here only temporarily. Then you will move into my room with me." His voice was guarded and sounded like he had already made up his mind that I wouldn't be with my mate. But if he thought he had already won, he had another thing coming.

Before I could say anything else, he was already out the door, and he had the gall to lock me inside. I growled and balled my fists at my sides.

In the car, he made it seem like I wouldn't have been a prisoner here, and maybe if his brother wasn't my mate, I wouldn't be. But here we are, just as I dreaded.

"Unpack your things and get settled in," I heard him say on the other side of the door. I struggled to open it, but to no avail.

I decided to let it be. If Maxim was indeed my mate, which I'm pretty sure he was, then I wouldn't have to worry about him finding me. He will come home and burst down the door to get me, and there will be nothing Lukas will be able to do about it.

With that thought, I sauntered over to my suitcases and proceeded to roll them into the gigantic closet. I had no intention of unpacking, because I'd be with my mate before the sun sets. I had a stupid smile on my face as I plopped down in my gigantic bed, and oddly, I felt grateful to my uncle and brother for forcing me to come here.

I wouldn't have found my mate if it wasn't for them. All my life, I had been waiting for this moment. I always dreamt that my mate would be the one to save me from my torturous home. Even though I told them I did, I didn't hate my family, but I simply wasn't happy

living there.

It made me wonder if I'd be happy living here at Primal Pack. The pack members didn't seem cruel. In fact, they only seemed curious when they scented me out but noticed I was with their Alpha. The pack was huge too, that was for sure, and I oddly couldn't wait to see the packhouse.

I would have to renounce my Armor Pack blood and become a Primal Pack wolf. My scent would change, and I would no longer have a link to home. But it was bound to happen. I never saw myself growing old at home, so I knew one day I'd have to become another pack's wolf. I had no idea I would become Luna, though.

Even if Maxim isn't my mate and my senses had just gone haywire, there was no doubt that Lukas would make me Luna, as he so boldly confessed earlier. Either way, this was my life now, and even though I had no idea what to do, I was willing to try.

My ears perked as I heard a door open and close, and my wolf went crazy as the most majestic scent swarmed the air even more.

He was here.

I jumped from my bed and moved to the door, trying desperately to break it open, but it wouldn't budge.

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I heard low mumbling coming from downstairs, and as I listened closer, I realised that it sounded like arguing between two men. My claws were out and clawing at the door, but it wasn't on my own doing. I could barely hear what they were saying, and I realised the walls must've been soundproof. Almost every wolf did at their homes, considering we all had excellent hearing.

I couldn't take it. The more his scent filled my senses, the more I wanted him. Feet moved up the stairs rapidly, but it wasn't only my mate's. Lukas was still behind him, trying to stop him from finding me.

My canines emerged again, and my wolf gnawed at my head, trying to connect with the one who was destined for us. And then, he was there.

I could literally feel and smell him on the other side of the door, and my heart exploded. It slammed against my chest crazily, and my head pounded even more, but I didn't care.

At last, the door swung open, and Lukas and my mate-Maxim, were standing under its hinges. There was no doubt about it. There was no misunderstanding. It was real.

But then I met his eyes, and a striking realisation evoked my memories as I stared at a surprisingly familiar face.

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"No," I cried as I moved away from him. His face fell in confusion, and so did Lukas's. "It can't be you," I added as my heart broke. "Not you."