

Mated in the Shadow of My Sister Chapter 181

Chapter 0181

“What do you want from me, Evelyn? Packs get attacked. It happens. We dealt with it; no one was killed. You and our son were safely provided for in one of the safe rooms.”

“Attacks like this never happen in Canada!!!” she yelled at me.

I put my hands over my face. Deep down, I knew she was wrong -all packs get attacked from time to time- but knowing that did not make her allegation hurt any less. As an alpha, my job is to protect my

pack members. As a father, my job is to protect my son. Whether the enemies were successful or not,

they got close. Too close. And that is my t

y fault.

“What do you want, Evelyn?” I repeated after a minute.

“I want you to tell me if it is true. Were the attackers here looking for your sl ut?”

“What are you talking about?”

“Liana. Lina. Lillah. Whatever her name is. Is it true that the attackers were here looking for her?”

Wait... does she mean Lily? If so, how would she know about that? To my knowledge, there are only six

wolves in Black Moon Pack including myself and my father- who had access to that information. We

had purposely kept the information quiet.

“Who told you that?” I asked, suddenly concerned.

“It does not matter! Answer my question!”

me

“It does matter. Tell me who told you that,” I said seriously.

Instead of answering, Evelyn stared at me angrily. Clearly, whoever it was that told her, she wanted to protect. Who could it be? I could not imagine any of knew telling Evelyn or anyone else.

e wolves u

“If you do not tell me, I will alpha order you, Evelyn. Tell me. This is important.”

Evelyn looked at me with both anger and guilt in her eyes. She was shocked that I would threaten her like that. “You would not do that.”

I would do that. I did not want to, but I would.

“Do not test me, Evelyn. Tell me who told you.”

Evelyn looked down. I prepared myself to give the alpha command, but then it suddenly hit me. I already knew who told her. In addition to the six wolves at Black Moon, my father and I told James and Lily this afternoon. James must have talked to Andrew after that.

Oh, Goddess. I tried warning my father that James could not be trusted, but he refused to listen to me.

“Did Andrew tell you that? Did James tell him?”

Evelyn looked back up at me. This time, she had even more guilt in her eyes. Bingo. I touched a sore

subject.

Son of a b&&ch. I am going to kill James. But first, I have to find a way to get Lily away from him.

“Get out of here, Evelyn. I have things to take care of.”

“No.”

“Evelyn, I am not playing right now. I have things I need to take care of.”

“I came in here for a reason,” she said defiantly. “I wanted to let you know that Andrew is on his way

here. Sammy asked for him. He feels safe around Andrew. Andrew prioritizes Sammy’s interests, unlike

his father who prefers to take care of his floozy of the month. Andrew will be here until the construction

is done at Sammy’s school and we are ready to go back.

Mother f&&ker. Once again, Evelyn was hitting me below the belt.

“Fine,” I forced myself to say. “Whatever will make Sammy feel safer. Please tell him that I will come see

him before dinner.”

“I am not sure that he will want to see you.”.

And now she went too far.

“Stop it, Evelyn. Even I know that you are just saying that to hurt me. Try as you might, that kid loves me. Now get out. I will see him before dinner.”

Evelyn shot me a dirty look, but then turned on her heel and left.

[Mated in the Shadow of My Sister Chapter 182](#)

Chapter 0182

(Luna Jane POV)

I was in my bedroom, sitting on the window seat and looking out over our garden, when Randall walked in.

“Darling?”

I said nothing.

“Darling, talk to me,” he repeated.

Again, I said nothing. Randall came over and sat down next to me.

“Darling, you have to talk to me.”

I ignored him. I continued to look out the window.

“Jane, you cannot keep giving me the silent treatment. I am your mate and your husband.”

Still, I said nothing.

“JANE! THIS IS ENOUGH! TALK TO ME!!!!” he growled in frustration.

Finally, I turned and glared at him. “You agreed to let Stephanie move into James’ room,” I said bitterly.

After I told her no.”

“Yes, I did. I had to. Margie came to talk to me about it.”

“What right does Margie have to insist on anything right now? After all we have done for her? After what

her daughter did?!?!”

Randall looked at me in shock.

it we need to do

“Have you forgotten who you are? You are the one that has told me for 27 years that we

whatever it takes to make Margie happy. You are the one that has always said that we owe it to Margie

after what happened with Tyler.

“Well maybe I do not feel that way anymore,” I said angrily. “After what her daughter put this pack through, I would say that we are even, don’t you think?”

Randall looked at me in disbelief. “It does not work that way, Jane.”

“Why not?”

“Margie is used to getting her way.”

“And?”

“And if we try to change things now, she will react badly.”

“Let her react badly, Randall. HER DAUGHTER tried to fake her own kidnapping. HER DAUGHTER had a pup with a human who was not her mate. HER DAUGHTER drugged her own brother and then filmed him. essentially getting raped. We have spent hundreds of thousands of dollars on memorials for HER DAUGHTER, who turns out to be very much alive. What more does Margie want from us? What more can

Margie possibly expect?”

Randall rubbed his face with his hands. “I cannot keep up with you, Jane. Two weeks ago, you demanded that we force James to marry Sheila because it would make Margie happy. And just yesterday, you were okay with the pack hosting a welcome home banquet for Stephanie. Why are your

now being so difficult? Why the sudden change of heart?!?!”

“I was NOT okay with hosting the banquet, Randall. You know that. I think it is a big waste of money

money that we do not have right now thanks to the alliances and trade deals that we have lost. But I was

willing to relent and accept the stupid thing because at the end of the day, it is just a banquet. But

allowing Stephanie to move into James’ room is a step too far. James is not even here to tell us how he

feels about it. How could you EVEN THINK that it was okay to give her permission? Especially after I told

her no?!?!?!”

Randall groaned.

“James needs a luna, Jane. We already know that the pack likes and respects Stephanie. She has

already gone through luna training. Stephanie is the perfect candidate for the position.”

“SHE IS NOT HIS MATE!”

“You do not know that, Jane. Stephanie could very well be his second chance mate for all we know.

Certainly, that is what Margie believes.”

I put my hands in my hair and took in a deep breath. Why was Randall being so obstinate?

“After everything Stephanie did, how can you possibly suggest that the Moon Goddess would pair Stephanie and James together? It does not make any sense. Stephanie and James are not mates, Randall. Second chance or otherwise. I know that, and you know that.”

“Sheila is not James’ mate either, and until the showdown at the opera house, you had no problem forcing. James to marry her!!!!” Randall growled back at me.

I sighed and turned back to the window. “I was wrong to do that, Randall,” I said softly.

I

“It is too late to change your mind, Jane.”

“This is our son’s happiness that we are talking about, Randall! It is never too late!”

“You did not care about James’ happiness two days ago. Why now?”

“I did too care about his happiness! I just did not know how awful Sheila and Stephanie are. Hearing them fight... hearing them talk about what they have done... that was hard to listen to. It made me realize

that we have been forcing James to make all sorts of horrible decisions. And I do not want to do that

anymore. 1

*James rejected his fated mate. We did not do that; he did that on his own. He needs a replacement

luna. There is no reason that it cannot be Stephanie.”

“Did you seriously just say that? ‘THERE IS NO REASON IT CANNOT BE STEPHANIE?!?!?!’ Seriously, Randall? There are a thousand reasons that it should not be Stephanie. James deserves to be with his

fated mate. He deserves to have the kind of love that you and I have enjoyed!”

Mated in the Shadow of My Sister Chapter 183

Chapter 0183

“Lily is gone, Jane. Gone. She is not coming back.”

“We can help James find her, Randall! And we can help him try to repair the relationship between them!”

I pleaded.

“NO!!!!” Randall screamed at me. “Lily is probably out there somewhere dead. You know as well as I do that Margie put a bounty on her head. James already went through the pain of losing Stephanie. It weakened him and his wolf. We will not put James through the agony of searching for Lily, just to be e on.” disappointed or hurt. It is better for him to move

“The trackers never found Lily’s body, Randall. She could still be alive, just like it turns out that Stephanie

“We do not know that they never found her, Jane. I ordered the trackers to never tell us if they did. I did

not want that weight on my conscious.”

I looked at my mate in horror. “What? How could you do that? How could you be so callous? And how can you care so little about our son’s happiness?!?!?!?”

Randall walked away from me and went to the window on the opposite side of the room.

"I care about his happiness, Jane. But I care about mine too. James has never had a relationship with his fated mate. He will not know what he is missing. He will learn to be happy with Stephanie, just like he was happy with her in the past. I, on the other hand, will not be able to move on."

"What are you saying, Randall?"

"When Margie came to talk to me about Stephanie moving into James' room, I originally told her no. She tried to guilt me into agreeing, just like she always has. When that did not work, she upped the ante. She told me that if I did not cooperate, she would turn you into the werewolf council for murdering Tyler. Nick made the same threat to James two weeks ago, that is why James agreed to marry Sheila."

"What?"

"There is no statute of limitations on murdering a pup, even an unborn one. If Margie goes to the

werewolf council, they will be able to force an admission from you. Nick has also agreed to testify that

you confessed to him. If the council finds you guilty of murdering Tyler, they could give you either a life

sentence or the death penalty."

I felt tears starting to well up in my eyes. "Well, maybe I deserve that."

Randall whirled around. "NO! I will not lose you, Jane. It will kill me if something happens to you. James

to you, I will not survive it."

My heart dropped. I was willing to sacrifice myself for the sake of my son's happiness... but was I willing

to sacrifice Randall's life as well?

"Well, we threaten to go to the werewolf council with all of her sins," I suggested. "We have been looking the other way for years. If she wants to play hard ball, we can play hard ball back."

m not s

Randall shook his head. "She now has friends on the council, Jane. Powerful friends. I am council would go against her. They might be more likely to go against us than her."

sure the

No. This cannot be happening. How did we let things spin so far out of control? How did one mistake that I made all those years ago create such a big mess?

I should have dealt with all of this 27 years ago. Perhaps if I had listened to my wolf and admitted my

wrongdoing then, none of this would have happened.

"There has to be something we can do, Randall. We cannot let Margie control us anymore! Our son should not have to pay for our mistakes. I have let him pay for too many years. I do not want to do it

anymore."

"I do not know what else we can do, Jane," Randall said in frustrated tone of voice. "I will not lose you. I

cannot lose you. And I meant what I said... marrying Stephanie could bring him happiness. Your

are just

guessing that it would not. James being with her could be a win-win for all of us. It would solve a lot of

problems."

No. I did not want to accept that.

"What about talking to Robert?" I asked in desperation. "He is a reasonable guy. He has been friends with

you forever. Maybe he can talk some sense into Margie."

Randall sat down in a chair and put his head in his hands.

“Don’t you think I would have already tried that?”

“You did?”

“Yes, I did.”

“What did he say?”

“He cannot help with Margie, Jane. He has his own problems.”

“What do you mean?”

“The werewolf council forced Sheila to see a doctor this morning to confirm her pregnancy and how far

along she is.”

“And?”

“And given the timing, Robert believes the pup is his. He suspected it before, but now he is fairly certain.”

Mated in the Shadow of My Sister Chapter 184

Chapter 0184

(Lily POV)

“Do you still have feelings for Brady?”

James’ question surprised me, although I know it should not have.

I reached over and grabbed his hand.

“Yes, but—

James gently pulled his hand away from me, stood up, and ran his hands down his face. He then walked over to the window and looked outside. I could practically feel his hurt and his fear.

I stood up and followed him to the window. Placing my hand on his arm, I tried to explain.

“James, 1

James did not turn around; he just kept staring out the window. “It is my fault, Lily. I know that. I am the fool who let you walk out of my life. I am the fool who made a million mistakes when it comes to you.”

I sighed. “Yes, James, you did but

James walked away from the window and away from me. He sat back down on the couch. Now I was

starting to get annoyed.

I followed him to the couch. “James, please let me

“Lily, please stop. I cannot take it. I do not want to know the answer to my question. I am sorry I asked.

Please, forget it.”

Uuuuuuuurrrrrrrggggggghhhhhh.

“JAMES OLIVER ANDERSON! STOP INTERRUPTING ME AND JUST LISTEN TO WHAT I HAVE TO SAY!!!”

James looked at me with wide eyes.

“You just used your alpha command on him,” Rose linked me.

“Good,” I linked back, although I was surprised that I had been able to do it. I still have not mastered how

to do the command yet. “He needs to stop getting in his own way.”

“Like someone else I know?” Rose teased.

“Yes,” I conceded.

I sat down on the couch next to James and grabbed both of his hands.

“Yes, I do have feelings for Brady. But they are not romantic ones. I admit that in the past, I was confused. I thought they were romantic feelings. I liked that Brady gave me attention and I liked that he treated me like I mattered. I enjoyed flirting with him; it made me feel good.

But I left Black Moon the day that we got back from Hawaii. And after I left, Brady was not the one that I thought about. He also was not the one that my heart called out for.

dv are

It took me a little time to sort out how I felt, but I realized a while ago that my feelings for Brady feelings of friendship and gratitude. I think that is part of why I knew that I had to leave Black Moon. I did not know how to face him every day knowing that he had feelings for me that I was not sure I could return. I did not want to be part of a love triangle. I am not any good at it. And I am a little bit of a

coward when it comes to hurting other people’s feelings.”

I sighed, waiting for James to say something in response. Then I remembered he could not. I really

needed to figure this whole alpha command thing out.

“As for you, James....” I said, deciding to go ahead and get everything out.

“Yes, you made mistakes. But

you are not the only one who did. I have forgiven you, and you need to stop apologizing.

I love that we have been building a friendship and that we have been taking things slow. I love that you

came racing here to be with me. I love that you care so much about me that you could not sleep on the

plane until you got here and confirmed that I was okay. I love how honest you have been with me since

Hawaii.

I cannot predict the future, and I still do not want to rush things between us, but I know that you are my

mate and I know that I want to try to make things work between us.

I guess what I am trying to say is that, if you really want to know which males I have romantic feelings for, there is only one. You.”

James just sat there staring at me, not saying anything.

“You need to release your alpha command,” Rose reminded me.

“Oh.”

“You can talk again,” I told him.

“It is sort of s**y when you command me like that,” James said softly.

I rolled my eyes. “Seriously? That is what you got from what I just said?”

He smiled mischievously. “Maybe.”

I rolled my

eyes for a second time and shook my head in disbelief. I then put my head on his shoulder

and snuggled closer to him on the couch.

Mated in the Shadow of My Sister Chapter 185

Chapter 0185

“Well, alpha, before your mind goes any further down the gutter, why don’t you finally explain to me what has been going on at West Mountain. I was trying to follow along when you were talking to Dr. Hyder, but

there is a lot I do not understand.”

James kissed me on my forehead. He then began to fill me in on the Movement, as well as everything that he had previously discovered about Sheila, Stephanie, my mother, his mother, and Tyler.

It took James at least an hour to explain everything. A few things I already knew, but almost everything

else I did not.

I was shocked and horrified. At the same time, it both warmed and broke my heart to hear the emotion in his voice as he described all the pain and suffering that had occurred. I could tell that he was embarrassed at how upset he was getting as he gave me some of the uglier details, but his raw emotion actually made me feel even more proud to be his mate. It told me that he was not okay with what had happened, and that he was willing to fight to make sure that it did not continue.

I felt even prouder when he explained why the Movement decided to use his fake wedding with Sheila as

a venue to expose all the wrongdoing.

When Dr. Hyder originally heard about what was going on from Joey and Jessica, they had to beg him not

to go immediately to the werewolf council. Thank Goddess they convinced him, because Dr. Hyder later

learned that the council had been partially compromised as a result of some of my mother's activities.

That meant that they had to be intentional and calculated about how they brought the issues to the

council's attention.

It was eventually decided to use James' fake wedding to Sheila as a forum to publicly disclose all the

evidence that the Movement had and to publicly demand that the council intervene. Doing it in such a public setting would essentially force the council's hand, whether it was compromised or not. Indeed,

that is

why Stephanie and Sheila -despite my mother's influence and meddling- were currently on house

arrest and looking at a significant possibility of punishment from the council.

James also explained to me that in an effort to avoid war and keep both their pack and their homes- members of the Movement planned to demand that the council install James as alpha in place of his father. The Movement had originally hoped that I would be standing alongside James when he made the takeover demand, but James had refused to ask me to get involved.

I did not understand why the Movement would care if I was there or why I would be needed. I asked James if he knew, and he said he knew some of it. Unfortunately, when I asked him to tell me what he knew, he refused. I got really annoyed at that part of the story, but I had gotten so used to getting similar answers from Rose, Dr. Hyder, and Brady, that I decided to let it go.

Once James was done telling me everything, we sat in silence for a while. Then, when James pulled me onto his lap, I began to cry silently into his chest as my heart ached for all of the wolves that had been

hurt over the years.

A part of me felt badly for not being there to help them, and an even bigger part of me suddenly began to realize that I needed to go back. I did not want James or others in the Movement to face this on their own. I may not understand what my role was, but I knew that I wanted to be there.

I

Notably, as I cried, James rubbed comforting circles on my back. However, I soon realized that I was not

the only one crying.

James' emotions were so strong, and I could feel them so well, that I felt compelled to do something that surprised me. I think I even surprised Rose.

Wiping my tears away with my hands, I adjusted myself on my knees so that I could look James directly in the eye. I then leaned in and kissed him, pouring every ounce of emotion I could into the kiss.

I

That was not the part that surprised Rose. It was what I said when we broke apart for air.

Looking deep into James' eyes, I whispered, "I love you?"

James looked at me in shock. "What?"

"I love you, James Anderson."

Mated in the Shadow of My Sister Chapter 186

Chapter 0186

Author Note: Slightly Steamy Scene Ahead,

(Lily POV)

"I love you, James Anderson."

James continued to look at me as though he was afraid that I was going to take it back.

"Say it again," he asked.

"It again."

He gave me a dirty look. "Not what I meant, you tease."

I laughed. "I love you, James Anderson."

Before I knew what had happened, James switched our positions so that I was laying flat on my back

while he hovered over me.

"Say it again," he growled.

"A bit needy, aren't we?" I teased him again.

"Again, Lily," he demanded.

I looked deep into his blue eyes, wanting to make sure he could see and feel the sincerity in my own..

“I love you, James Anderson.

“I love you too, Lily Brogan.”

As soon as he said the words, he smashed his lips against mine. The longer the kiss lasted, the stronger

the sparks became. By the end of the kiss, the sparks felt almost as strong as they had the day that we

first discovered that we were mates.

Our kiss continued to get heated./James eventually moved his hands to my waist, and then his fingers gently grabbed the hem of my shirt. He stopped kissing me just long enough to ask me for permission to keep going, which I readily gave him. I knew that I wanted more,

James gingerly removed my shirt. I felt James’ warm hands travel up my sides, moving closer and closer to my bra. As he did so, his kisses moved from my lips to my neck. As he gently sucked on the place that he would

eventually mark me, I moaned and arched my back, eager to feel more and more of his touch.

And then James’ phone went off.

“Ignore it,” James growled as his fingers reached the snap of my bra. His lips traveled lower down by

body.

Just before he reached where I was hoping he was headed, his phone buzzed again. And again. And

again.

I started to pull away. “Ignore it, please,” James pleaded. “It is probably just my parents or your sister or I

don’t care who it is. Whoever it is can wait.”

I nodded, not wanting our moment to end. James resumed kissing my neck. I felt the lust overtaking every ounce of my self-restraint. Rose purred happily in

the back of my mind. I reached for James' belt, knowing I wanted us to take that next step.

And then my phone buzzed. And James' phone buzzed. And both of our phones rang.

I gently pushed James back.

"I swear, I am going to kill whoever it is that interrupted us," James growled.

I smiled. "Let's just see who it is. It might be important. If not, we can get back to where we were, I

promise."

James sighed as he moved away from me and reached for his phone. I got up and went over to mine.

"Mine was Charlotte. She wanted to confirm that we are on for dinner at Bellizio's at 8 pm., Who was

yours from?" I asked.

James shook his head in disgust. "Your sister and Dr. Hyder."

"What did they want?"

"Your sister wants to know where I am."

"You told me she has been sending you messages like that since you left. Why do you look so disgusted?"

"Because she has apparently now decided that I left the wedding venue because I was torn between my

feelings for her and for Sheila. She thought it would help me make up my mind if I knew that Sheila is a

big slut. She also sent me a video. I do not dare watch it, but the frame makes it look like it is the video

of Nick and Sheila."

“Oh my Goddess.”

“Right.”

“Why would she send that to you?” I asked, as I put my bra and shirt back on.

“Why would your sister do half the things that she has done? She is sick and twisted. I honestly do not know how you turned out as normal as you did.”

“Oh, I am messed up too, don’t worry. But I think my mother’s focus on Stephanie for the first half of my life and her absolute hatred of me during the second half sort-of spared me the worst of it. My mother. did not try to manipulate or mold me the way that she did Stephanie.”

James frowned. “I do not know if any of them are redeemable, Lily. All of them have done so many horrible things. Are you going to be okay if the Movement’s plans succeed and your sister and mother are given life sentences... or worse?”

I thought about it for a moment. “I do not know,” I responded honestly. “But I would rather have them in

a dungeon than out there hurting other people. What about you? How are you going to feel about your parents getting punished?”

James ran his hands through his hair. “I have thought about this a lot. Honestly, my parents may not have personally done a lot of the things that Sheila, Stephanie, and your mother did... but they allowed it to happen. They were either criminally negligent or intentionally indifferent. Either way, my parents are just as guilty as the other three. If not more so. Your mother never would have been able to become

what she became but for my parents’ help.”

I went over to James and hugged him. “Whatever happens, we will get through this together, okay?”

James wrapped his arms tightly around me, and I felt him nod against my hair.

“What did Dr. Hyder want?” I asked.

“He sent me the address to send the chocolates to. He also wanted to know if I talked to Andrew today.”

“That is a weird question,” I said, looking up at him.

“I know.”

“What do you think he was getting at?”

“I have no idea. But obviously I did not talk to

Andrew today. I have been with you almost every second

since I woke up, with the exception of when I was in the bathroom or shower. In fact, I have not talked to

him at all since I called him from Hawaii.”

“Do you think we should call Dr. Hyder?”

“No. Maybe it is nothing. Why don’t we go and mail those chocolates before the post office closes,” he

suggested.

“Okay.”

Just then, a thought occurred to me. “You know, after we go to the post office, we will have some time

before dinner. Would you want to stop by the Wolf Packers’ stadium and take a tour?”

“Well, sure, I would love to. But aren’t they closed for the off-season?”

“Yes... but if you know the right people, you can still get in.”

“And you do?”

I smiled. “Yes.”

James immediately gave me that boyish, fanboy smile of his. “Lead the way.”

Mated in the Shadow of My Sister Chapter 187

(Nick POV)

After Jenny left, I sat in my living room for hours, staring at the front door.

I kept praying to the Moon Goddess that Jenny would walk back through the door and tell me that it had all been a horrible misunderstanding. No, not just "it"... everything. Specifically, I wanted Jenny to come back and reassure me that she did not really lie to me for years; that she did not really leave me; and that Stephanie and Sheila did not really do all of those horrible things to either one of us.

Unfortunately, the longer that I stared at the door, the clearer it became that the Moon Goddess was not going to answer my prayers. Jenny would not be coming back. My mate was gone.

Despite everything that Jenny had done and allowed to happen, it was a bitter pill for me to swallow.

At some point, I tried to drag myself to bed. However, I could not get comfortable, and I could not sleep.

εΙ

I guess my body recognized that a part of my soul was missing.

Eventually, I glanced at the clock and realized that it was already nine o'clock in the morning. I decided that I needed to talk to someone. I knew that James was gone -do not get me started on that whole drama- and my father and Alpha Randall were busy dealing with the werewolf council. I had other male friends, but none that I trusted enough to talk about the Jenny situation.

Given all that, I decided to do what any non-self-respecting adult male does after having his heart broken, getting no sleep, and needing comfort: I decided that it was time to go and find my mother. 2

As I walked to the packhouse, I thought that -maybe, just maybe- my mother would pet my hair, make me something to eat, let me cry my heart out for a while, and say a few reassuring words. She had

sometimes done those things for me when I was a young pup. Maybe, now that she no longer had to mourn Stephanie's death, she would be willing to do those things for me again.

I could only be so lucky.

I made my way up to the beta suite. I was about to enter when I realized that the door to the suite was

slightly open and my mother was not alone.

I pretty quickly realized that my mother was talking to Sheila and Stephanie.

I did not want to see either of them right now, so I turned to leave. However, I froze in place when I

caught part of their conversation.

“You need to sleep with him, Stephanie. Get a video. Then everything will be fine,” my mother said in a

serious tone of voice.

Sleep with who? And why would my mother want a video taken?

“Mom, he is 76 years old. I am just 26. I am not sleeping with him; that is gross,” Stephanie replied.

“Oh, please. You used to sleep with men older than that at the care home,” Sheila retorted.

“Yes, but my standards are higher now. I am done with luna training, and I have spent years living with a Spainard s*x g od. I am also now mated to an alpha wolf. I am not sleeping with Neil, period. I am done

with that part of my life.”

Okay, two things. One, something was very wrong with my sister. Stephanie sounded like a caricature as opposed to a real she-wolf. Real people and wolves do not talk that way. Second, who the f&&k was this

Neil? Surely they did not mean Neil the council member?

“Give me a break, Stephanie,” Sheila protested. “You know as well as I do that we need at least one more council member to be on our side. All it takes to issue punishment is a vote by 50%. That means that-if we do not sway Neil, Frank or Ray- we could be looking at serious punishment. Neil is the easiest

target. If we can get him on our side, that will change the vote to 4 to 2 and we can get off with a slap on

our wrists.”

What the f&&k. They WERE talking about council member Neil

Worse, it was not just Stephanie and Sheila talking. My mother was involved too. Did my mother really

want to help Stephanie and Sheila get away with everything, including presumably even their role in

drugging and raping me?!?!?!?

“If this is so important to you, you sleep with him, Sheila! You have much more riding on this than I do. I

hardly did anything!” Stephanie yelled angrily.

“I AM PREGNANT! I AM NOT INTRODUCING FOREIGN SPERM INTO MY BIRTH CANAL!”

“OH MY GODDESS! ARE YO

“OH MY GODDESS! ARE YOU SERIOUS? YOU ARE BARELY PREGNANT! AND YOU HAVE NEVER MINDED

WHAT WENT INTO YOUR SO-CALLED CANAL IN THE PAST! I THINK HALF OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

HAS PROBABLY BEEN IN THERE!”

Okay, gross. I did not need that visual. And, again, who the f&&k talks this way?

“GIRLS! Stop it! We will work this out. Look, we just need to get Neil on video doing something inappropriate. You do not even need to go all the way. Just make it look like you did.”

Wow. I had not misunderstood. My mother was seriously talking about blackmailing a council member

“I would still have to kiss him, Mom. What if he likes to use his tongue? What if he wants to take his dentures out first? No, I am not doing it.”

“Stephanie....”

“No, Mom. You are way closer to his age. Why don’t you do it?”

“I sell the girls. I am not the girl. Besides, I am mated. Your father would feel it.”

Wait, what? Sell girls??!?! Surely, my mother was not trying to be literal. Oh, Goddess.

“So what? It is not like Robert has never cheated on you,” Sheila offered dismissively.

There was silence.

“How did you know that Robert cheated on me?” my mother asked accusingly.

I did not know what Sheila did in response to that question, but the next thing I knew, I heard what

sounded like a loud slap followed by more yelling.

I decided at that point that it was time to leave. Clearly what happened to me was not a one-off event. And clearly Sheila and Stephanie were not the only ones I needed to worry about. Sheila, Stephanie, and

my mother were all monsters.

James did try to warn me.

F&&k.

It was time to go home and drink my problems away.

Mated in the Shadow of My Sister Chapter 188

Chapter 0188

(Nick POV)

As I left the packhouse, I found myself once again wishing that I did not know what I now knew. As crazy as it sounds, a part of me longed for my old life back. You know, the fake life. The life in which Stephanie was a dead saint, my mate loved me, told me everything, and did not keep secrets from me; and my mother was a good, honest, and respectable beta female.

Not knowing what else to do, and not having anyone else to reach out to, I decided to drink my feelings away. I have never been much of a drinker, but I needed something to get me through.

I briefly considered going to a bar, but then I remembered how drunk James used to get, and I decided that I did not want anyone to see me intoxicated like that. Realizing that I had plenty of whiskey at home, I decided that I would just go home and drink that. (I bought a bottle of whiskey for every male in James' wedding party, thinking we could each have a bottle after he said "I do" to Sheila. That obviously did not

happen.)

I made it through two bottles before I began to feel the effects of the whiskey. That is when the "great"

whiskey-inspired ideas began.

The first "great" idea that I had was to drunk-text Jenny and beg her to take me back.

Me: "Jenny, I love you so much. Please come home."

She did not respond, so I sent another one.

Me: "Jenny, you were right about my family. They are awful. Please come home and I will go with you.

I love you."

Still, she did not respond. That is when the second "great" whiskey-inspired idea hit me. Hint: it was not

a great idea at all. It was actually a d&mn stupid one.

Specifically, I decided that I needed to remind Jenny what she was missing.

I went to the bathroom, dropped my pants, and began to masturbate while thinking of Jenny seven years ago on the night that I marked her. I thought about her soft, creamy skin and how delicious every inch of her tasted.

Once my member was standing perfectly at attention, I pulled my phone out of my hoodie pocket and took a few pictures of Mr. Longjohn in all of his glory. (Mr. Longjohn was the name that my drunk self had decided to give my member that evening.)

Once done taking pictures, I texted Jenny again.

Me: "Jenny, this is Mr. Longjohn. He misses you a lot. Please come home and play with him. He will never be the same without you."

I waited for a response, but one never came. I decided to go ahead and take care of Mr. Longjohn myself, rubbing one out for him until he got his release.

I felt only fractionally better after that. I decided to go back to the kitchen and polish off another four

bottles of whiskey.

down on the!

The next morning, I woke room couch with a pounding headache. There were empty whiskey bottles and beer cans everywhere (apparently when I ran out of whiskey, I moved on to beer).

"Nolan?"

"I am here," he responded in a judgmental tone.

"What happened last night?"

"You got drunk."

"Why do I feel like I am hungover? There wasn't wolfsbane in any of that whiskey."

"I decided not to heal you. You were pretty out of control last night. I decided to let you feel how stupid

it was this morning, so that you know not to do that again."

I groaned.

“What did I do?”

“Besides name your member ‘Longjohn’? And take pictures of him?”

“What?”

“Yeah. You also drunk-texted the pictures to Jenny.”

“Wow” I had never gotten that drunk before. And I had never sexted in my life.

“What else did I do?” I asked Nolan.

“You also texted James a few times. Thankfully nothing as embarrassing as what you sent to Jenny. But then you decided to make a blanket out of all of Jenny’s underwear and undergarments that she didn’t take with her.”

“Seriously?”

“Yes, look down.”

I looked down and immediately saw what Nolan was talking about. I had tied the ends of Jenny’s bras to the ends of her underwear and camisoles, and then figured out a way to put the items in repeated rows. The creation looked nothing like a blanket and everything like a big blob of clothes tied together, but I guess my drunk self thought it was great and used it to cover up when I fell sleep on the couch.

Classy.

“Goddess, I am never drinking again,” I linked Nolan.

“Good.”

I got up and dragged myself to the shower. Once done in the shower, I walked into our bedroom... I mean, my bedroom... to get some fresh clothes.

That is when I noticed Jenny’s phone sitting on her nightstand. Did she leave it there on purpose? Or was

there a possibility that she forgot it and would come back for it?

“Either way, you might want to delete your messages from last night,” Nolan suggested. “They were pretty awful.”

“Great Idea,” I conceded.

I went over and picked up Jenny’s phone. Thankfully, the password was still the same (my birthday).

After deleting the messages that I sent her, I went to Jenny’s “deleted” folder to make sure that the messages were permanently deleted.

And that is when my world shattered once again.

Soon, I found myself reading deleted messages between Jenny and James, and Jenny and Joey, and

Jenny and Dr. Miller,

I could not believe my eyes.

I knocked on the door for the tenth time. I was getting impatient.

“OPEN UP! NOW! I KNOW THAT YOU ARE IN THERE!”

I knocked again. Still nothing. I rang the doorbell.

Finally, the door opened.

“What the hell, Nick?” Joey asked angrily. “Do you know what time it is?”

Yeah, I knew what time it was. After reading all the deleted messages between Jenny, James, Joey, and Dr. Miller, I spent the rest of the day drinking. (So much for my no-drinking plan.) It was only after I had wasted another whole day that I decided what I wanted to do.

I pushed past Joey into his house. Joey closed the door.

“What is your problem, Nick? It is the middle of the night and you are at my house, smelling like booze.”

“I want in,” I told him.

“What?”

“I want in,” I repeated.

“I do not know what you are talking about,” Joey responded.

“Bullsh&t.” I took Jenny’s phone out of my pocket and tossed it to him. “The Movement. I want in.”

Mated in the Shadow of My Sister Chapter 189

Chapter 0189

(Joey POV)

“The Movement. I want in.”

I sighed. “Sit down. I will get you some coffee.” Like hell was I going to talk to Nick about the Movement

while he was drunk.

A full forty-five minutes later-after two cups of coffee, two cups of water, and two trips to the bathroom

-Nick was sober enough to have a conversation.

“How did you find out?” I asked.

Nick pointed to Jenny’s phone, which was now sitting on my coffee table:

“That is Jenny’s phone. I read

her text messages.”

“I thought she deleted them?” I said, surprised.

Jenny talked to me before she left the pack. She told me that left her phone behind because she wanted

a fresh start

and she did not want anyone to be able to contact her. I expressed concern about someone

reading her text messages, but she promised me that she had deleted anything referring to the

Movement.

“She did, but she forgot that in order to permanently delete messages on her model of phone- you

have to go to the ‘deleted messages’ folder and click the ‘permanently delete’ button,” Nick explained.

“Oh.”

“So you knew she was leaving?” Nick asked with obvious pain in his voice.

I frowned. “Yeah. I am sorry, Dude. I know how hard that has to be.”

Nick did not say anything. He just looked down into his now empty coffee mug.

“How much do you know about the Movement?” I asked, trying to change the subject.

“Do you mean how much did I figure out from the messages?”

“Yeah.”

“Enough, I think. I know that James and Dr. Miller are a part of it. You, too. The Movement appears to be

a group of wolves wanting justice for the crimes committed by my mother, Stephanie, and Sheila.”

“Close. There is more to it than that.”

“Like?”

“Before I tell you, why don’t you tell me why you are here. Why would you want to be part of a movement that you believe is going after your mother? I already know why you are unhappy with Stephanie and

Sheila.”

“What, is this a test?”

“You could call it that,” I responded honestly.

Dr. Miller and Jessica had trained me I did not necessarily care what Nick’s reasons were, but before I shared any information with him, I needed to know that whatever his reasons were, they were sincere. Especially because I was aware that he recently

tried to blackmail James into marrying Sheila.

well. Wolves come to the Movement for all sorts of reasons

“I heard them talking.”

“Who?”

“Stephanie, Sheila, and my mother. They were talking about how to blackmail one of the council

members.”

Strangely, just as he said that, I saw his face visibly pale.

(Nick POV)

Sh&t. I screwed up. I was so upset about everything that had happened that I neglected to do the one

thing that I should have done instinctually.

I stood up and started to head towards the door.

“Where are you going?” Joey asked me.

“To warn Neil. I heard them talking about blackmailing him, but then I went home and tried to drink my problems away instead of telling him. I will be back.”

Joey raised his eyebrows at me. “You are going to talk to him at this hour?”

“I should have done it hours ago. I am sorry. I have to go. I will come back later.”

Joey looked at me with annoyance. “You are not waking me up again. Next time you might wake up my mate; I do not know how she managed to sleep through your little wake-up call the first time.”

“Did you not hear what I said? They want to blackmail Neil. They want to do basically the same thing to

Joey’s face remained stoic. “I heard what you said, and yes you should have warned him. But you didn’t. Now sit back down. I am still hoping to get a little bit of sleep before my shift tomorrow.” He then

glanced at the clock. “Correction, today.”

I suddenly felt like punching Joey. Why did I choose to come to him and not Dr. Miller? Why did I think he was different than before? That he would listen to me?

“I am telling you that one of the werewolf council members is in danger of getting raped -just like I was- and all you can think about is sleep?”

“Sit down, Nick.”

I stared at Joey in disbelief, I was shocked at how cavalier he was being about the Neil situation, but I was just as shocked-if not more shocked- at how he was carrying himself. He was seriously acting

more like a beta wolf than a warrior. He even had an aura of authority.

Mated in the Shadow of My Sister Chapter 190

Chapter 0190

“How is this possible?” I asked Nolan in our link. “As far as I know, Joey does not have any ranked

wolves in his family tree.”

“Not all beta wolves are born into the position. Most are, but sometimes wolves earn the position the blessing of the Moon Goddess,” Nolan replied.

Huh.

n with

“I said sit, Nick,” Joey repeated. “Neil is fine.”

I glared at Joey. “How could you possibly know that?”

He rolled his eyes at me. Great. So he not only has the authority; he has the attitude.

“Two reasons. First, the Movement has wolves watching all of the council members, including Neil. I just confirmed by mind-link that Sheila, Stephanie, and Margie have not interacted with Neil in the past 36 hours. Second, unless they somehow got their hands on some super rare, expensive stuff, it will be Impossible for them to drug Neil. If he ends up sleeping with one of them, he will most likely be doing it

voluntarily.”

“Why can’t they drug him?” I asked Joey.

(Joey POV)

I put my hands over my face so that Nick could not see my reaction to his question. I was the one who

was a “C” student in school, not Nick. How did he not know the answer to his own question?

“He has grown up with Margie and Robert,” my wolf, Jett, reminded me.

“Not an explanation,” I linked back.

“I thought you were an ‘A’ student in school,” I responded.

“Stop the attitude. Why can’t they drug Neil? Because of the Movement?”

I groaned.

“No, because once council wolves accept their position on the council, most drugs do not effect them; it is one of the special blessings given to them. It is to protect their independence. The only drugs that can

be effective on them are incredibly expensive and hard to obtain. As a result, council wolves typically can be blackmailed but not drugged,” I explained to Nick.

1

“Oh. I think I remember hearing something about that in school. I guess I forgot. But why would the Moon Goddess protect them from drugging but not blackmail?”

I groaned once again. I almost wish my high school social studies teacher could hear me now.

“She can’t protect them from blackmail without altering their ability to make their own decisions. All werewolves including council wolves- have a human counterpart, and free will is a cornerstone of

being human.”

“oh”

“Yeah, oh. Now will you please sit down?”

Finally, Nick moved away from the door and sat back down on the couch.

“Where is James?” he asked me as soon as he was seated.

“Tell me what else you know about the blackmail plot and then I will tell you.”.

“I thought you said the Movement has wolves watching all of the council members?”.

I paused before responding. “Do you think Nick is being sincere?” I asked Jett.

“Yeah. Jenny probably had enough on her phone to fry us. If he did not want to be a part of the

movement, he would have turned the phone over already.

“But what if he just wanted more information about what we were up to?”

“Alpha Randall or the werewolf council could have alpha-ordered the information out of us. I think Nick

really does want to join the Movement.”

A part of me was not convinced, but Jett had always been a better judge of character than me. I decided

to follow Jett’s instincts.

“We do have wolves following all of the council members. But it has put a tremendous strain on our

resources, because we are having to do it around the clock for all six of them. We have been aware that

some of the council members are likely compromised, but we do not know which ones or how many.”

Nick nodded. “I can help. Neil, Frank, and Ray have not been compromised yet, the other three have been. Stephanie, Sheila, and my mother believe Neil is the easiest one to sway of the three remaining.”

“Told you,” Jett taunted me. “He can prove quite valuable to the Movement.”

“So now where is James?” Nick asked.

“Hopefully with Lily.”

He looked at me shocked. “With Lily? Why?”

I stared at Nick for a moment, but he did not say anything. “Please tell me you are joking.”

Nick furrowed his eyebrows at me.

“Lily and James are mates,” I reminded him.

Nick looked at me in confusion. “Yes, but they rejected each other. We were all there.”

I groaned yet again. This was going to be a long night.