



# Found

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Brickstone University Reverse Harem

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*First edition*

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# One

## Aly



I'm running late, again. I got off work at eight tonight but then I saw my friend Jake and we started catching up. Long story short it is eight forty-five and I am currently running through campus to get back in time to go out with my best friend Anna.

The walk back to our apartment usually takes around twenty minutes but if I run, hopefully it will take closer to ten. I can see Erickson Hall, the building I usually cut through up ahead. Since it's move in week on campus, there are people everywhere. I decide to avoid the cluster of people and go around the building.

Erickson is one of my favorite buildings on campus. It has that old Architecture, red brick look that is traditional on a campus as old as Brickstone University. When I thought about going to college, I pictured the campus looking just like this.

I must have gotten the idea from a TV show or something. Even though my family moved around a lot growing up, I never saw a university like this in person.

Now I'm a senior and the past three years have been a dream come true. I met my best friend Anna, got my dog Bailey and made amazing friends. Mostly, I have loved being here because I got to make the place my own.

Growing up, we moved around a lot and I never really got to set up roots. Nevada was the last place we lived but before settling down there for a year, we lived in 30 different cities. It was always a spontaneous move. I never even saw it coming. Eventually, I just stopped trying to settle in anywhere.

I pretty much had no friends growing up because no one stays in touch when you only spend a couple of months getting to know each other. On top of that, my parents were never around. Their jobs not only moved us around all the time but also sent them on a couple of business trips a week.

You could say my life was pretty lonely before I came here.

It doesn't make sense that we needed to move if they're going to be gone almost all the time anyway.

I don't really even know what they do, every time I ask they give me a vague answer and then change the subject. For some reason I let it slide even though later, after the conversation, I wondered why I didn't press them more. I think it's crazy that I don't know what my own parents do for a living but I gave up on asking a long time ago.

With my parents gone all the time, I was constantly left behind with my aunt. She was not the loving aunt that everyone pictures and hopes for. Instead, she treated me like a

burden anytime I was with her. She really didn't seem to get along with my parents and I still wonder why she would help them by watching me when she really seemed to hate my mom. One time when I asked her about it, she muttered that it was her duty and told me not to ask again.

As with the job thing, I let it go immediately and have never felt the urge to bring it up again.

As I round the corner, I see my apartment up ahead. It took me a full fifteen minutes to get back and now it's nine pm. Anna and I planned to leave for the bar at nine-thirty tonight so I'll just have to get dressed quickly. It's totally doable but Anna will still give me a hard time. I am a notoriously late person and she likes to hold it against me.

When I get to our classic white door, I pull out my key and try to turn the lock as quietly as I can. I'm hoping that I can sneak into my room and Anna won't notice I got home so late.

As soon as I get the door open, my dog Bailey comes running up to me. I kneel down to pet him and look into his chocolate brown eyes. I should really make a run for my room but I can't help but fuss.

"Who's a good boy? Were you a good boy today, Bailey? I love you baby!"

Bailey is my brown, black, and white mutt who I rescued junior year. He is a combination of so many things that I can't pick them out but he basically looks like a small wolf. He is the most precious boy in my life. He has pointy ears, strong legs, and the most soulful eyes I have seen on a dog. I



definitely didn't think I would be getting a dog while in college, in fact it never even crossed my mind but one day when I was walking home on campus, Bailey found me.

Bailey had been at an adoption show up the street by the local dog shelter and had made a run for it. As soon as he jumped right at my leg and gave me his best puppy dog eyes, I was a goner. So I adopted him right then and there and he has been my baby ever since.

He's the only guy I have ever loved and he takes that title very seriously.

When I look up from pampering Bailey, Anna is peeking out of her room giving me a playful, but no less scary, death glare.

"I know I shouldn't be surprised but why are you so late?" She asks.

"I ran into Jake! You know I couldn't cut him off when we haven't seen each other since last semester," I use my best innocent voice and give her a sweet look. She knows I would never blow off a friend, no matter how distant, since I haven't always had them.

She rolls her eyes at me, "well, we are still leaving at nine-thirty so you better hop to it!"

"Aye, Aye Captain," I respond as I grab a drink then rush into my room.

I go right to my speaker, plug in my phone and play some music. I choose my getting ready playlist and an EDM song I

love starts playing.

I start dancing around my room and it doesn't take me long to get dressed. I was already showered and I go for simple with my hair and makeup. I've never been that flashy but I definitely don't have time for anything right now.

When I come out of my room, Anna is ready to go and looking fabulous. She starts singing along to the song and I join in. We dance around the living room a little and finish the drinks we started.

"Look it's nine-thirty, so I am on time!" I say triumphantly with extra emphasis on the 'am' once the song is over.

It's been a long summer with Anna gone and I am just so happy to be back with her. I was pretty lonely this summer with her back at home and me stuck here. Her family actually wanted her home, unlike mine. Not that I would go home if they did and I would be alone anyways. Since I turned eighteen my aunt hasn't been around anymore and my parents would never take time off to spend with me.

Anna just laughs at me and locks her arm with mine as we head out the door.

## Two

# Aly



We get out of the Uber and thankfully there is no line for the bar. It's warm out but no one wants to wait in a line.

We hand over our IDs for the bouncer to check. He clearly recognizes us from last year because he barely checks them, giving us a small smile when he hands them back. They wave us past paying cover, perks of being a girl.

Finally, I walk into Fieldhouse right behind Anna. Fieldhouse is the best bar in this college town and Anna likes to drag me here every Thursday night. Last year it was fine because my first class on Friday started at one pm but this semester I have an eight am class on Fridays. I already know the rest of the semester is going to be rough but I don't have class tomorrow. It's the beginning of the semester and since I'm here, I might as well enjoy it. Plus, I doubt it's going to stop me from coming here on a Thursday again.

Anna has my hand in a vice and is dragging me towards the bar. She leans over to me once we get there, shouting, "tequila shots?"

My answer should be no, but the music and all the people at the bar have already infected me and I'm ready for a fun night with my bestie.

Since we were separated for the summer I need this time to reconnect with her. She is my rock, helping me heal after a summer being alone.

"Yes, but make sure you get the salt and lime!" I yell back. The last time Anna got us tequila shots she forgot both. Anna took it down like a pro but I looked like an idiot coughing from how strong it was.

Normally, I can handle shots like a pro. I've done a fair bit of partying to make up for my lack of social life in the past but I've never mastered tequila shots.

A few minutes later, we both down a couple of tequila shots and turn around to take in the scene. It's gotten a lot more crowded since we got here, I even see a line outside. There are people everywhere dancing, girls in scandalous clothes, and guys along the walls checking them out. The first weeks of school are still warm from the summer before fall sets in. The girls on campus take full advantage, wearing the most revealing clothes they can. The guys on campus take full advantage by staring at them like they haven't seen a girl all summer. Maybe they haven't.

I catch one guy outright ogling my chest but instead of ducking away like I expect when I catch him, he makes a small forward thrusting motion and winks. Seriously, guys are so gross. Why would that ever be your first reaction?

“Ew, ew, ew, Anna please tell me you saw that,” I practically screech in my friend’s ear. For some reason I’ll feel better if my friend knows how terrible that guy just was.

I don’t know why I expect better, it’s always the same with college boys at bars around here. Just once I would love a little respect.

“Oh, ya I did! Hey, creep! Back off!” She directs at him, showing her disdain. There is one thing Anna won’t stand for and that’s guys being sleazy. I can’t agree more.

I give him a glare so he knows that was not okay. After my dirty look and Anna’s words, he looks sheepish and apologetic. At least we may have gotten through to one sleaze ball tonight.

Anna changes directions, distracting me from the perv, “let’s go dance, Aly!” I guess that wasn’t a question because Anna is pulling me behind her before I even get the chance to respond.

She knows I wouldn’t deny her the chance to dance though, I love it too. It’s one of the things we bonded over freshman year at parties.

We find a nice spot in the middle of the dance floor. We have to fight through couples grinding and guys throwing themselves around for attention. The music is a good mix of classic pop and throw backs that are easy to dance to. It isn’t long before we are both dancing like crazy, swaying our hips and singing along to the music. It feels so good to let go with a friend.

Anna looks amazing tonight, her shoulder length blond hair is styled pin straight and her heart shaped face has just the right amount of makeup. She is rocking a little black dress with spaghetti straps and some black ankle boots. The heel isn't too big but Anna is still a good couple of inches taller than my five-four frame.

My chestnut brown hair is longer than hers and falls right below my chest. Tonight it is styled in a loose wave that is inspired by a beach look. My off the shoulder shirt falls right above my chest and you can see the swell of my average sized chest. It's no rack like Anna's but at least a solid C cup. My grey tank is tucked into a black skirt that shows off my long legs. Anna always insists on some type of heel, so the look is complete with some black wedges.

Anna and I have been best friends since we were assigned as roommates freshman year. We were both so afraid of what college was going to be like, that we stayed up together the whole first night crying. After that, we were inseparable, always telling each other about every detail of our lives. She is my first best friend and really showed me how to meet other people and be social. She is a social butterfly with a million friends but she always has time for me.

We both continue to dance and get a little crazy as the night goes on. A couple of guys come and go but as soon as I realize there's no spark I lose interest and so do they.

I'm not really looking for a guy anyway, I've never had good luck in that department.

## Three

# Jay



Something has me on edge tonight and I can not figure it out. The boys and I all decided to scope out Brickstone University's main bar, Fieldhouse. It seems like a really fun place and I can see why it's so packed.

Normally, I would be all over this. I love to socialize and party with the best of them.

People are everywhere, dancing, drinking, and flirting. I should be one of those people, this is a new school and I am determined to enjoy it.

We had to leave our last university after a group of hunters found out there was a large supernatural population there. Instead of letting that happen again, our parents sent us somewhere fully human.

Now we are the new kids, but I'm not worried about it. People are naturally drawn to us, it's part of the supernatural package.

We won't have a hard time making friends or fitting in if we want to. We really just stick together though, it's too hard hiding what we are and forming a relationship with humans.

All of us are something different. Usually, races don't mix like we do but we have been friends since we were born so we never learned the prejudice like everyone else.

There are six main supernatural races and somehow we cover five of them. Light Fae, Dark Fae, Magic Users, Demons, Hunters and my personal favorite Shifters.

We have one of everything except a Hunter, which makes sense considering they literally hunt the rest of us. Even if we did know one, it's not like we could be friends with them. Plus, they don't associate with the rest of us. They're off on their own within a small community.

It's already abnormal that five of the races formed a friend group as close as us but what's even stranger is that Kiran, the Dark Fae and Ajax, the Light Fae are twins. They are identical except their powers. Something unheard of before them.

Their mom is a Light Fae while their dad is a Dark Fae, somehow they birthed twins of opposite races. That's how our parents became friends, they came together to protect the twins.

Mixing Light and Dark was dangerous for their parents but even more so once they were born. Luckily, the shock of it all has faded and it's rare anyone gives them trouble anymore. Back at our old university with a larger supernatural presence, we got a lot of attention for it. It'll be nice to not be judged for



our friendship or the twins' powers. Honestly, there's not that big of a difference between the two fae except how they gain their power.

Light Fae recharge by being around positive emotions and Dark Fae need negative emotions. That doesn't mean they need to cause the emotion but some fae take on the responsibility anyways. Kiran doesn't, he's one of the most fun loving and positive guys I know. He just finds negative emotions that already exist, like a sports team that just lost or people after getting back the results of an exam.

Our parents are friends still, even after the danger has passed. I guess fighting for what you believe in really bonds people together and that bond passed onto us.

Nic is a magic user, Jeremy a demon and I am a wolf shifter.

Currently, my wolf is dying for my attention. He is clawing at me and going crazy trying to get me to notice something in this damn bar. It's making me antsy since usually we are on the same page about things. Being out of sync with my wolf is tough and not something easy to shake. No matter how much I want to.

I try to use my senses to focus on the room and figure out what my wolf is amped up about. I can smell all different types of alcohol, a nauseating amount of fragrant perfumes, and sweat from all the patrons. I can't hear anything over the loud, thumping music except my own friends. It's going to give me a migraine if I don't tune it all back out soon.

“Since Jay is too distracted to be any fun right now, does someone else want to do shots with me?” Kiran’s voice breaks into my thoughts and brings me back to the present.

He’s right, I am being extremely boring right now. After I gave most of the group a long pep talk about going out, enjoying ourselves and having some fun tonight, I’m being the boring one. Well, I gave everyone but Kiran, who is always up for a good time, a pep talk. He was right there with me encouraging things.

I need to get over whatever is bothering my wolf and focus on having fun with my friends. If it’s important I’ll notice eventually.

“All right, all right, no worries *fairy*. I am ready to party, let’s go get some shots.” Kiran and his twin Jax automatically glare at me.

“We are not fairies you *dog*,” Kiran’s mouth turns up into a smirk as he says dog. I love these guys like they are my brothers but sometimes we bicker too much like brothers for me. That’s what we get for being friends for so long.

“Okay that’s enough. Both of you go get some shots or shut up about it,” Nic half demands while laughing over our quick squabble. Leave it to Nic, or Nicoli, to shut us down before things go too far.

“Alright, who else wants one?” Kiran asks the group.

Nic and Jeremy indicate they want one but Ajax looks unsure.

“Come on Jax, have some fun tonight. Nothing is going to happen,” Kiran convinces his twin.

We head to the bar, order the shots and bring them back to the group. Everyone thanks us and we cheers before knocking them back.

“Cheers to a new school and senior year,” Nic toasts.

We all loosen up after a few drinks and it seems like we are all starting to enjoy our nights. Well, except for Jer, who always looks like he’s miserable. I think it’s part of being a demon.

Kiran is looking around the bar, probably trying to spot a girl to hit on. Ajax looks like he’s trying to ignore Kiran who is trying to pull him into the search. Probably hoping to entice Jax but we all know that’s a lost cause.

Nic and I are hanging out just observing it all.

“Twenty bucks says Kiran is about to drag you back to the bar but ditches you for a girl before you get back.”

“I’ll take that bet, I don’t think he’ll ditch me. I think he will try to include me,” I laugh.

“Wouldn’t be the first time,” Nic is laughing too.

Kiran is always trying to bring us in to share a girl with one or more of us.

It’s like he knows we are talking about him and turns his attention to us.

“Jay, you ready to go get more drinks?”

Nic bursts out laughing while I get up to go with Kiran.

Kiran and I start heading to the bar when he points into the crowd.

“Look at her, Jay, she’s perfect.”

I think he actually has hearts in his eyes. I start heading that way since I know that’s what he wants when I smell the most amazing scent, a mix of lemon and honey. It stands out above the other scents until it’s all I can smell. That’s when I see where he’s pointing, at the most beautiful girl walking past me like our lives haven’t completely changed.

## Four

### Aly



The DJ is great, playing amazing songs that flow so well together. He could probably be somewhere besides a college bar but like us he is probably trying to get an education before trying for more. Most of us won't ever pursue our dreams but just get a boring job post college. I hope it's different for him. I hope I see his name in lights and his music on my phone.

I'm going to take advantage of his talents while he's here though. A few of our mutual friends have joined us. It's always fun dancing with a big group of girls. It's intimidating enough to keep boys away and let us just have a good time. That's what I'm looking for, not some random guy to hit on me and distract me from my fun.

Anna and I could probably dance the whole night away but eventually our feet say differently. This is why I tell Anna we should wear some trendy sneakers instead but she insists on a little lift. We are both clearly in need of break so we let the other girls know we are going to go sit down and start making our way over. It's so busy we are pushing through groups of people to get to our table.

“Hey there!”

A hulk of a man steps into my path, Anna turns around, sees the guy, winks and proceeds back to the table of friends we had found a little earlier. Leave it to Anna to think I should be left alone to chat up the hottie.

Of course, I know she’s still keeping an eye on me from the table. She would never just ditch me, in case I need her. But Anna has always been a big advocate for me to get back on the horse after my ex boyfriend. It’s not him holding me back, I honestly just haven’t found someone I’m that interested in. In my experience guys are usually pigs.

My eyes slowly make their way up and up this guy’s body. He is absolutely built, his abs are defined enough that you can see their outline through the short sleeve shirt he’s wearing. His arms are rippling and his veins are clearly on display. I have such a weakness for defined veins on a guy’s arms.

As I finally make my way up to his face, I see him smiling down at me. His hair is a darker brown than mine and a little longer than normal as it flops to one side. His eyes are the exact same grey as his shirt, almost like he planned to match them, and his golden skin forms dimples around his perfect smile. Is it weird I have an urge to lick those dimples?

He is a total hottie, one I’m sure I would have noticed before. It’s not that big of a campus and I’ve never seen him around. With how big he is, I’m pretty sure he would be impossible to miss.

“Uh, hey,” I say, a little uncertain about what he wants. He kind of startled me, jumping into my path so suddenly. I feel like it’s taking my brain a minute to catch up.

He sticks his hand out and starts to introduce himself, “I’m...”

A hand claps on his shoulder, cutting him off mid sentence. I’m instantly disappointed at the interruption but my interest is peeked again by who caused it.

“Jay what the hell man? Why did you run off... oh,” Another incredibly sexy man sidles up next to Jay with a hand on his shoulder. When he realizes Jay stopped to talk to me a slow smile spreads across his face. I haven’t seen him around campus either. Did they transfer here together?

This one is a little taller than who I now assume is Jay. He is less bulky but still ripped and defined. His golden skin almost seems to sparkle slightly under the light and his teeth are a perfect white. His hair can only be described as golden, it is styled in a trendy look that is shorter on the sides and a little longer on the top. The smile he’s giving me is straight up flirtatious. He’s looking at me like he already knows what I taste like.

“I’m Kiran, and who might you be?” He flashes me that smile again and I reach out to shake his hand.

Jay looks irritated that his friend interrupted us, “fuck off Kiran.”

Kiran ignores him so I do too. I don't want to piss Jay off but I'm equally as interested in meeting his friend. I do feel bad Jay got interrupted though.

“Aly.”

When our hands touch I feel a jolt, not strong enough to hurt but strange enough that I try to pull my hand back.

Kiran tightens his grip and I watch as his light green eyes turn to an almost hunter green, and he whispers something that sounds like “Mate,” but I can't be sure. His smile looks more genuine now as he stares at me.

As soon as I think about asking him what he said, the thought is gone. What would I even ask about?

I give my hand another tug but Kiran is still holding on tight. Jay steps in front of Kiran, cutting his friend off and getting closer to me. That seems to shock him enough to release me.

They seem nice and honestly I kind of want to stay and get to know them more. That desire startles me enough that I get the urge to flee. I don't trust my judgment when it comes to men. I dated a cheater and I've only ever been interested in douche bags.

“Well it was nice to meet you, Kiran and Jay but I better go find my friends.”

And I do just that, running off to the safety of my friends. Somehow I already know I won't be able to stay away for long.



They both look like they want to stop me but they can't do anything but stare after me as I run away.

Five

Kiran



Oh Fuck. Oh Fuck. Oh Fuck.

This is crazy.

She is my fated mate.

My mate!

It is so incredibly rare for a fae to find their destined mate. Like it's considered a one in a million chance that you find them. It used to be so common, it was hardly a doubt but a long time ago someone messed with the magic of the mating bond and ever since less and less supernaturals find their mates. No one knows what they did to alter the magic, just that suddenly the number of fated mates started decreasing exponentially.

But I found mine, and she is perfect. As soon as I saw her I noticed how gorgeous she is, she has perfect curves in all the right places and the most dazzling smile. I could have stared at her for hours and not gotten bored. I saw her from across the room and was pointing her out to Jay.

Jay, who ditched me to talk to her first and then was trying to block me from her. I should be incredibly pissed he came between my mate and I but I think I'm in too much shock.

I turn to tell Jay what I have discovered only to find him glaring at me. Him, glaring at me, when he was the one standing between me and my mate. My one and only. The woman of my dreams. The woman made for me.

“What do you mean, ‘mate?’” He bites out. Why is he pissed? Shouldn't he be happy for me?

“I mean that she is my mate! I need to tell the others and then I need to find her again.” Before Jay can even respond I'm pushing my way through the crowd, back to our table.

“Woah, where's the fire brother?” My twin Jax, or Ajax, laughs as he watches me push through the last remaining people.

“I found her.”

Everyone looks at me like I've lost my mind.

“Found who? The unfortunate girl who you're going to take home tonight?” Jeremy asks, mockingly.

“My mate you dumb asses, I've found my mate!” Just as I get it out, Jay shows up behind me. The look of shock on everyone's face probably matches my own.

“Impossible,” I hear Nic whisper.

Jay claps a hand on my shoulder turning me to face him. He looks more serious than I have ever seen him.

“Uh, I don’t know how to say this, so I’m just going to spit it out. She’s my mate too.” Jay sounds a little uncertain but I know he wouldn’t joke about something like this. Jay has always been the fun one, cracking jokes and diffusing tension but I know this isn’t a joke to him. Mates aren’t a joke to any of us.

Supernatural women are scarce, so sharing a mate isn’t unheard of but a fated mate between races is. At least, as far as I know. Honestly, I don’t know that much about mates since they aren’t that common anymore.

The ratio in the supernatural world is completely disproportionate. There are a lot more men than women in every species. The only supernatural species that has more women than men are Hunters.

“Woah, slow down guys, are you sure?” Nic is trying to be reasonable but it just ticks me off.

“Yes, I’m sure. Do you really think I wouldn’t be able to sense my own mate?” I roll my eyes at Nic and turn to Jay.

“I don’t know how this is possible but if it’s meant to be, then it’s meant to be.” He nods his head in return and gives me a huge smile that lets me know that he feels the same.

Do I want to share my fated mate? No, but I think we always figured we might share a partner between some of us. A lot of supernaturals do, although we never talked about it. Probably because we are different species and that’s pretty frowned upon.

But Jax and I's parents did it so why couldn't we? I guess Jay and I will be. Shit, I wonder how Aly will feel about multiple mates, especially different species? Depends on how she was raised I guess. We were raised to follow our hearts but not everyone is.

"I wonder what Aly is?" That would help answer how she might feel about this.

"I didn't sense anything," Jay says.

"And she didn't really react like she knew we were her mates... Wait she doesn't know. She doesn't know we are mates, Jay."

I think we were both just so shocked and caught up in things that we didn't really realize she moved on like it was nothing. She walked away from us.

"How are we going to tell her?" Jay looks as worried as I feel now. Is it possible she's a human?

Jeremy clearly doesn't care about the crisis we are having, but it breaks the tension for us.

"Great, now you dumb asses are going to be like puppy dogs for this girl all year and we are going to have to deal with it," Jeremy, that moody fucker, so helpfully points out.

"Don't be jealous Jer, it doesn't fit with your 'I don't give a fuck' attitude." Jay points out with a big fuck you smile on his face.

And I would never think Jer could feel jealousy but I think when it comes to mates, everyone might feel that way.

Shit, I wonder how Jax is feeling about this. I swing around to focus on him. He looks calm as always but I know my twin better than anyone and I can see the jealousy and sadness in his eyes. I want to fix it but how?

I always imagined he and I would at least share a mate. He has always been a believer in fated mates and that he would find his. More than anyone I know. He deserves this more than me but I would never give Aly up, not even for my twin.

If she is mine and Jay's then there is still a chance she could be Jax's mate too.

"Where is she anyway? I am surprised you guys let her get away." My brother has a good point, I need to find her again.

But first, "Jax she could be your mate too. We won't know until you meet her."

He nods but he doesn't look like he has much faith. It would be a coincidence but we are twins so the possibility feels stronger to me.

"She could be any of your mates, actually," Jay adds.

Everyone looks like that's crazy but they don't contradict us. Probably to keep a little hope and so they don't rain on our parade. Well everyone but Jer of course.

"The last thing I want is a mate, you don't need to bullshit me to make yourself feel better."

If he ever feels what I felt touching Aly for the first time, I'm pretty sure he would feel differently.

Suddenly, a jolt shoots through me again as someone taps on my shoulder. I would recognize that feeling anywhere.

## Six

# Aly



After that interaction, I'm feeling off. I have a nagging feeling in my stomach but I have no idea what for. It's like my instincts are trying to get me to go back, but why?

The conversation has been going on around me but I'm too distracted to pay any attention. Of course, Anna notices and checks in like the great friend she is.

"Hey girly, you doing good?" Anna asks before stifling a yawn.

Oh good, she's tired too. Maybe I can convince her it's time to go, "Ya, but I'm pretty tired too, what do you say we head home?"

She thinks it over for a minute but when another yawn comes she nods her head yes. We start to make our way through the bar to the door so we can call an Uber and go home.

My eyes drift to the corner where Jay and Kiran are. I think they're talking with three other guys but it's hard to see them from this angle. Even though I just met them and they



were acting strange earlier, I want to say bye to them. I don't understand it, it isn't like me to seek out strangers but I can't help it. I start heading over there before I even realize what I'm doing.

Wait, how were they acting strange again? I know I felt like they were but I can't remember the details.

I let Anna know I'll be right back and she nods pulling up her Uber app to call a ride home.

Before I realize what I'm doing I tap Kiran's shoulder from behind.

He turns around with a confused look on his face until he looks down and sees me. His eyes light up instantly and I can't stop the smile that tugs at my lips.

"Hey Aly, you couldn't stay away, huh?" Kian reaches out and caresses my cheek like he can't hold back from touching me. His touch feels so good, that tingle rushing through me again.

Suddenly, Jay is at my side too, "Aly Kat! You're back!" Jay slings his arm around my shoulders and pulls me in close.

They sure are comfortable getting in my personal space. I wish I could say I don't like it but it feels amazing to be surrounded by them both.

"These are our friends," Jay turns me around to introduce me but before he can say more, one of them is up and in front of me.

His hair is a light brown like mine and styled spiky in the front. He has a well-defined jaw and perfect lips. When I meet his amber eyes I start to get lost in them, they almost seem like they're moving. Its hypnotizing.

We keep up the intense staring until someone coughs behind him and the spell breaks.

“Oh, Uh, I'm Aly nice to meet you.”

I can feel a blush break out across my face, embarrassment flooding me from being so caught up in his eyes.

“I'm Nicoli, nice to meet you too,” He doesn't break eye contact with me as he says it and I turn my head to avoid the intense look on his face. I don't want to get pulled back in. Whatever that was it was strong. Wait, what was it that drew me in?

“This is my twin, Ajax,” Kiran points around Nicoli to a man who looks exactly the same as him. There is no difference except Ajax is clearly shy. He looks up at me from his seat, smiles a little then looks back down. When I move my gaze elsewhere I see him pick his head up in the corner of my eye and study me.

I quickly shift my eyes back to catch him and immediately a blush grows on Ajax's face. I reached my hand out, “Nice to meet you, Ajax, I'm Aly.”

He seems almost hesitant to take my hand. It takes a whole minute but eventually he makes a decision and shakes my hand. His grip tightens and his eyes seem to get lighter and

lighter until they are barely green. The lighting in here is doing some weird things.

Ajax pulls his hand back and gives his twin a meaningful look. I don't understand what is happening but while Ajax look is sheepish awe, Kiran looks excited. Huh, must be a twin thing.

“And that,” Jay points to the one in the back, “is Jeremy.”

I reach out my hand to introduce myself to Jeremy but he looks at me like I have a disease and spits out, “I don't think I want to know what happens when I touch you.”

“Wow, okay then asshole. Nice to meet you all except that one,” I throw my thumb up and point to Jeremy. I go to take a step away but of course, I trip and fall right into the asshole's lap. I don't know what I trip on but I'm mortified where I land.

I look up at Jeremy who is looking furiously at Jay and avoiding me. Like clearly I tripped so maybe he could be a little nice and help me back up? Obviously not.

I go to stand up and pull away from him but his muscles involuntarily tighten around me before he growls and abruptly lets go.

I try to put the strangeness of meeting these guys behind me and ignore the part of me that doesn't want to walk away from them. I find Anna near the door waiting for me, talking to our friend Michael and we head home.

I'm surprised Anna doesn't grill me about going to talk to those guys. Usually she wants all the gossip. Although, I guess

it's not uncommon for me to have friends she doesn't know. It just felt like more than meeting some random guys. It felt important. Oh man, I must have had too much to drink tonight if I think meeting some guys at the bar is life changing.

## Seven

# Jeremy



Well Fuck.

How did a night out with my best friends turn into a life changing event? I can't believe I found my fated mate. Even crazier is that she is also the mate to all of my best friends. Ya, during that little introduction session it's clear we all realized she's our mate. The twins and I had to touch her to know, it is part of what we are. Jay only needed to smell her and Nic's magic must have called out to her immediately. Nic practically jumped out of his seat when she showed up. I didn't want to know, hence why I didn't want to touch her. Let them all fawn over her, I don't want anyone. I don't need to be weighed down by a needy mate. I wasn't planning on ever being mated. Fated or not.

“Hey wolf boy! What the fuck was that stunt you pulled?” I yell up to Jay who is still standing there, staring after Aly. The fucker tripped her into me on purpose. He forced my hand and I am not happy about it.

Jay whips his head back to me, “Well since you weren’t going to touch her, like the asshole you are, I had to take matters into my own hands. We obviously need to know if she is yours too. Why wouldn’t you want to know?”

I was mad as hell at Jay but I couldn’t deny that a small part of me already misses having her around. She’s definitely a spitfire, she immediately called me out on my bullshit. Having her in my lap was one of the best and worst moments for me. Instinct says best and made it harder to let her go but dammit, I don’t want to be responsible for another person. I am not going to be her plaything. Been there, done that.

Here I am wasting my time thinking and talking about her. She’s going to invade every part of my life whether I want her to or not.

Ajax clears his throat, “so just to be clear, she is the fated mate to all of us?”

I look around as each of us nod, everyone looking just as shocked as I feel. Difference is, they’re all clearly happy about it.

“What are we going to do?” Jay looks around the group as he says it but his gaze lands on Nicholi because we all know he will take charge here.

“The first question is, did anyone feel anything supernatural about her?” Nicholi questions.

I only had her with me for a minute but I didn’t feel anything. Plus, she didn’t act as floored by meeting us as we

did her. Its usually pretty obvious if someone is supernatural unless they are extremely skilled at hiding it.

Kiran surprises me by saying, “yes, but I have no idea what, and she didn’t act like she knew what the pull meant. Maybe she doesn’t know what she is?”

“I only sensed confusion from her, besides attraction. I don’t think she knows why she feels a pull. She seemed almost scared by it,” adds Jay.

Nic seems to mull that over before coming to a decision.

“We’ll take things slow, don’t overwhelm her and no one is to tell her that we are mates. We need to find out what she is and if she knows about supernaturals. We don’t want to scare her away,” Nic commands.

“I don’t think it’s smart to tell anyone from home about her either. No one has found a fated mate shared between races recently if ever. We need to find out what changed and how we are different before it’s taken out of our hands,” Jax adds.

“Agreed,” Nic responds with a stern look around the room.

They’re thinking about her safety and comfort. It’s what mates do, even I can’t deny that.

“If she is supernatural I assume she’ll talk to us about it. We aren’t hiding what we are from anyone but humans. If she doesn’t know about supernaturals then the idea of us sharing her might be a lot,” Jax throws in.

He’s right. It’s not normal for humans to have poly relationships. It happens but it’s not the norm like it is for us.

“You’re right Jax, we can’t overwhelm her by all trying to date her. I think we start as friends and see how things progress from there. As fated mates I think we will find our way to a relationship eventually,” Nic replies.

They all nod, agreeing again. I’m not planning on participating in that friendship or relationship but if my best friends are, I’m sure I’ll be around her a lot.

“How do you plan to become friends with her? You had your chance tonight but she already left,” I point out.

“I’m sure we will see her around campus. And if not I think we can make it happen. We are supernatural after all, Jay could probably sniff her out from a mile away. I’m sure he won’t forget her scent anytime soon,” Kiran says, elbowing Jay when he says it.

“Hell no, I’m never going to forget that scent and one day I’m going to be covered in it all the time,” he promises.

They all look happy and full of hope at the idea of spending more time with their mate. Its like they’ve learned nothing from my past.

I’ve been screwed over by a woman before and I won’t let it happen again. If they want to take that risk, it’s on them. I’ll be here to pick up the pieces when it all blows up in their faces. Fated mate or not, love is a curse.



## Eight

### Aly



I'm running late, again. It is basically the first week of classes and I do not want to have to do the awkward walk in late moment. Anna is staring at me from across the counter in our apartment and I can see the judgment in her eyes.

Anna is never late and I seem to have a penchant for always being late. I am determined to make it to class on time just as soon as my coffee finishes brewing. I can't possibly leave without that.

"You could leave your coffee behind and actually make it to class on time ya know?" Anna says with a sickly sweet smile that is totally fake.

"It would not be worth it, I would fall asleep and that would be equally as embarrassing. Plus it's the first day, the professor will just assume I got lost!" I reply with all the confidence I can put behind it.

"But..." Anna starts to fight me on it but the coffee machine cuts her off with a beep. I grab my to-go coffee cup and fill it up, no cream or sugar.

“We could invest in a new coffee machine since this one seems to vary between taking five minutes or fifteen!” I know for a fact Anna won’t ever let us replace it though because she is convinced it gives her good luck. The only test she has ever failed happened on a day she got coffee from a shop instead.

“I don’t know why you even think that’s a possibility, just wake up earlier!” She rolls her eyes at me.

As I rush out the door I check my watch. I have exactly 7 minutes to get to class but luckily it’s only a 5 minute walk, so I might just pull this off.

The walk across campus is quick and I finally pull up to the classroom doors and double check it’s the right one. No one wants to have to get up when the professor says which class it is and you realize you were supposed to be in the room next door.

When I enter, I scan the room to find an inconspicuous spot but the whole classroom is full. I can’t believe I am the last person to arrive. Apparently, I’m the only person who risked being late on the first day.

I make my way to the only seat available. As I get closer I realize the guy next to the seat is staring. With a baseball cap on I didn’t recognize him right away but as I get closer his green eyes stand out clearly. I’m just not sure which twin he is. Next thing I know he is ducking his head and makes it clear he is the shy brother, Jax.

“Oh hey, Ajax right?” I attempt to be friendly enough to help relieve his shyness, I totally get it but I can’t help but

want to see him when he is feeling bold and confident.

He turns and gives me a small smile, “Uh ya, Aly right? Nice to see you again.”

I give him a small smile back but turn towards the front when the professor starts introducing himself. I open my backpack and pull out my laptop and planner. I pull up the syllabus as he starts going over it.

Everyone told me this was going to be my hardest class this semester and while the professor lays out the syllabus I can see why. There are assignments due every day and partner projects due once a week.

The professor’s voice comes from the front, “Now I could give you a spiel about how partners were chosen and how it will benefit you, then give them to you at random but I am going to make it easier on everyone. Turn to the person next to you, they are now your partner for the semester. Get their name, number, schedule, and set up a time each week to meet. I am not changing your partners so don’t ask. Now everyone exchange information while I go around the room documenting each pairing.”

I turn back to Ajax, “Well looks like we are partners and the first assignment is due this week already. Do you have a busy schedule?”

He looks both uncomfortable and amused, hopefully, he isn’t dreading this partnership. His tone sounds happy enough when he says, “I’m pretty open, what about tonight? How

about we make it a weekly thing and don't have to make a new plan every week?"

The first week of classes started on a Wednesday instead of Monday which means a weekly Wednesday meeting would be after both classes of the week but before the due date Friday.

"Ya that sounds great, let me give you my number in case anything comes up," He passes me his phone and I add my number, "text me so I have yours too."

"Will do, so library at 7 pm?"

"Sounds great."

I open my planner and write in our meeting at the library.

Just then our professor comes up, "Hi guys, what are your names?"

We both give the professor our information. He pauses at Ajax's name, Ajax Stone, and even makes him spell it but then he keeps moving down the aisle.

I'm surprised when Ajax asks, "So does this mean you're a computer science major too?"

"Ya, I have always loved writing code so it just made sense. Although, it depends on if I can make it through this class. It is supposed to weed people out of the program."

"I think we can handle it, especially now that we are partners." This seems to be a more confident side of Ajax and I like it. He seems sure of himself when it comes to this.

After that, the professor starts class back up and I listen to him give the first lecture while I sip my coffee and take notes.

I can't help the pull to keep looking at Ajax, and I even catch him looking at me too. He promptly turns back to the front every time but I always catch a smile on his lips. I think I might have a crush. And lucky me, I get to see him pretty often as his partner in this class.

## Nine

# Ajax



I can't believe my luck. I really thought I was going to be at a disadvantage because I am not as outgoing as Jay, smooth as Kiran, or dominant as Nic but I knew I would at least get to know her faster than Jer since he is determined to stay as far away from her as possible. But here I am in a class with her and meeting her tonight for a weekly project. I imagine they're all going to be extremely jealous. But I need this extra time with her if I'm going to somehow convince her I'm worth getting to know.

She keeps looking at me, just like I can't stop looking at her. It gives me hope that the mating tug is operating on some level for her too even though it isn't clear. Something must be blocking it. Maybe that something is blocking her supernatural side too. There's something there under the surface that's not quite human but I don't know what it is. Plus there has never been a fated mating with a human as far as I know. Over time people have married them but it's pretty frowned upon. Not that, that would stop me when it comes to Aly. Nothing would.

I'm gaining power from some positive emotions and since the rest of the class is probably bored I'm hoping it's from Aly. It's a good sign if she's happy about being paired with me.

This class is pretty boring especially since I've been coding and hacking for a long time but if I want the fancy degree to say computer science instead of just having the skill then I have to suffer through this class. Our parents were pretty insistent we do the whole college thing.

I've never been more grateful for that than now when I can use it to impress Aly. This is an area I excel and have confidence, something I sometimes lack. Plus it's an interest we share, something to bond over. I think we are all looking for that.

Plus now we don't have to stage a run in with her on campus, I'm actually seeing her again naturally. I'm sure I'll have to bring the guys in on our study date eventually too.

She starts packing up and making moves to leave but I can't let her go just yet. Before I think it through I'm shoving everything in my bag and catching up to her.

"So Aly, what's your next class?" I ask.

"I have a math class across campus, what about you?"

I feel like a dog the way my ears perk up at that, "oh ya? Me too, I have Calc 300 with Robinson."

"Oh, actually me too," she responds with a sweet smile.

"Great, we can walk together! Do you know where it is? I'm still getting to know the campus."

Again, I can't believe my luck. I pull my phone out and shoot a message to the guys.

*Jax: Save another seat in Calc*

The only thing is that all the guys are in this next class so I am going to have to share her, but I guess I better start getting used to that.

I've always had a feeling I would share a fated mate with Kiran. Even though we are different races. As twins, we've always done things together. When he told us he found his mate at the bar I was almost heartbroken but I held onto my gut feeling and it was right.

The others have always thought I was crazy for being adamant we would meet our mate. And here I was right. It was scary making that jump and shaking her hand. It was determining a lot more than a simple handshake. Not that she knew that.

"So you guys are new right? Why did you transfer?" Aly breaks into my thoughts with her question.

It's a tough question since we left for supernatural reasons and I obviously can't tell Aly that.

I hate lying to her but I can't tell her the truth so I go for simple, "It was time for a change."

"All of you together?"

"Ya, we have been best friends for life so we make moves like this together."



That answer is easy because it's absolutely the truth. We all decided together it was time to go and where to, with influence from our parents. They supported us like they always do.

“What do you like to do for fun?” I ask, trying to keep the conversation going.

“I'm actually really into art, not that I'm any good but it relaxes me,” she answers.

It fills me with something like contentment to learn something new about her. I want to know everything about her. I yearn to be one of the people in the world who can say they truly know Aly.

I shock even myself by saying, “I would love to see it sometime.”

She makes a noncommittal hum before asking, “What about you?”

Hmm, should I tell her about the coding and hacking or surprise her later. I decide not to reveal all but that is what I do for fun so I might as well tell her about it.

“I'm actually really into computers.”

She smiles, bright and genuine, “that's awesome Jax! It should be fun doing this class together then.”

“Ya it should,” I agree with a small smile.

“If you guys are so close, do you all live together?”

“Ya we have a house together off campus.”

“That’s awesome!”

Shes been leading us to the right building and it’s been great not having to look at a map and call myself out as a new kid. We end up walking into a building right in the middle of campus called Heft. I’ll need to pay more attention to the path next time in case I have to do it alone.

It felt like a short walk but if I get to walk to this class with her twice a week then that time will really add up. Quality time, just her and I.

Calculus will be some time as a group. Not that you can bond that much when you’re in class learning. But maybe we can convince her to study with us.

Ten

Aly



Ajax is really cute and he's walking me to my next class. Actually, he is in my next class so maybe we will sit together and I'll get more time with him. I don't usually have crushes, but boys as cute as Ajax don't come around every day. Although I guess technically there are two guys as cute as Ajax since he's a twin.

We just engage in small talk on the walk over to class and it feels like no time at all passes before we are walking into the classroom.

Ajax stops and scans the room like he is looking for someone.

"Do you know someone else in this class?" I ask a little worried he's about to ditch me.

He sighs, "ya, actually, you do too, come on."

He motions for me to follow him and I hesitate because how would he know who I know? Against my better judgment I follow him until I see all his friends from the bar sitting down. I slow down my walk unsure if I should join them. Just

because we met at the bar doesn't mean we are friends or anything. Although, I feel like I'm on my way to friends with Jax now.

Jay is the first to look up and see me. His face lights up but quickly turns mischievous.

Jay winks at me then says, "Kiran, scoot down one or else you'll have to sit with whatever computer nerd Jax shows up with."

He smiles up at me so I know he's not insulting me but messing with Kiran. Jay seems entirely too happy messing with his friend.

Without looking up from his phone, Kiran moves down one and Jay follows suit. So now there is an empty seat between Jay and Nicoli who has also noticed what's going on and looks amused. Jermey is next to Nicoli and he barely looks at me before going back to his computer. I look next to me at Ajax who seems both amused and annoyed.

I'm not sure why until Jay says, "Aly Kat! I didn't know you were in this class with us. Here, have a seat!"

Kiran jerks his head up from his phone and he instantly gives me a flirtatious smile.

"Hey Aly, why don't you sit down right here next to me," He starts to gesture next to him when he realizes Jay asked him to move and why. He then throws daggers with his eyes at Jay and Nicoli who are laughing their asses off.

It's pretty amusing but I also don't know these guys well and feel kind of awkward about sitting in the middle of them all. At this point though Ajax is sitting down at the end next to Kiran. I thought they were clearing the seat for him.

I start to back up intending to find a seat away from them, "Well, it was nice to see you guys. Have a great class!"

"Where are you going? We have a seat right here."

I look at Jay who seems surprised I'm leaving, "Oh I wouldn't want to intrude."

"You're not, we want you to join us," Nicoli says followed by a snort from Jeremy.

Nicoli elbows him but smiles at me. Class is about to start so I squeeze in between Jay and Nicoli.

They both give me big smiles then turn to the front as the teacher starts talking. I pull out my laptop and planner as well as some colorful pens. I try to stay as organized as I can during the school year and the best way is to start early with syllabus week. The first week of classes every teacher takes time going over expectations for the semester. It's the easiest week so you have to take advantage and get ahead.

A lot of people use it as a party week but I try not to get too crazy. I'm in some hard classes and my grades are super important to me. There is definitely no family business to go into so I need to forge my own path.

I'm certainly not going back home when I graduate so I'll need a good job from the start. Hence the computer science

degree, well that and I love it.

I wonder what all the guys are majoring in? I know Ajax is in my computer science class with me and the only reason to be in it is if you're getting a computer science degree. I have no idea what the other four are going for though. This math class could be a requirement for any number of things.

## Eleven

# Kiran



Okay, so clearly I am going to have to step my game up. I can't believe I'm sitting next to Jay and Jax instead of my sweet mate. I was too distracted by my phone to realize what Jay was doing. I was trying to find out anything about Aly that I can but so far I haven't found much.

I don't know many college students without social media but it looks like she is one of them. Right now, I wish there was some sort of magical community database to look her up in because I want to know what she is so bad.

The teacher introduces himself and is going around handing out syllabuses. Everyone is talking so I take advantage.

I lean around Jay, "So Aly," she turns her attention towards me and I can't help noticing again how beautiful she is, "do you have a class before this with Jax?"

She smiles, "ya, a computer science one."

Ah, smart and beautiful.

Jay cuts in, "oh nice, what are your other classes?"

She passes him her schedule and I take a look too. Nothing else with me, damn it. I think she might have a class with Jer but I'm not sure.

That would be awkward, although I'm sure they will stay clear of each other.

Jay starts talking about his classes with her. I look past them and Nic to Jeremy who to the outside world looks bored. I tap into my magic and read his energy. If I didn't know my gift was always right I wouldn't believe it because right now he is jealous and pissed off.

I guess the pull isn't affecting him as little as he makes it seem.

The professor starts droning on again so I tap into Jax's mind, *"So you have a class just you and her?"*

*"Yup."* Ajax is the kind to actually want to listen in class but I want to know more.

*"You could have told us it was her coming with you."* If he had I would have made sure she was next to me.

*"Well I assumed she would end up at the end with me if I didn't, plus I wasn't going to waste my time with her, texting you guys."*

Sneaky and he has a good point, it would have worked too if Jay hadn't seen her walking up.

*"You could have told me what he was doing"*

*"Not my fault you weren't paying attention, brother."*



True, but still frustrating.

I tap into Aly's emotions, she's interested, probably in the lesson and a little uncomfortable, probably because of us. I get a jolt of power from that one. It's tiring to keep it going too long but I remain tapped in to her emotions just to keep an eye on her.

The rest of class goes by in a blur of the teacher droning on, Jay trying to talk to Aly and me stealing looks at her.

## Twelve

### Aly



All of these guys are so hot and I'm not sure why they put me in the middle of them. Judging by the sneer Kate Herman has been giving me all class, she's not sure why either.

That girl hates me, a lot. She's hated me since we were in the same dorm freshman year. I honestly don't know why she started her campaign against me. My best guess is that when she came in acting like queen bee and spouting typical mean girl bullshit, I didn't fall in line. Anna and I just kept away from her and her crew but they didn't want to keep away from us.

Then I met Jason and we started dating near the end of Freshman year. Apparently he was on Kate's radar and she felt she had dibs. She got even worse about tearing me down or trying to make me look dumb in front of Jason. One of the things I liked best about him was that he never seemed to buy into her bullshit.

Apparently, even if he didn't believe her lies about me, he was still willing to sleep with her. He didn't mind how she

treated me as long as he got off.

I caught them going at it in the library one day and dumped his ass. He had the nerve to come begging for a second chance. Talking about how it was a momentary lapse in judgment and how she didn't mean anything to him. Obviously, I ignored him and eventually he left me alone for the most part. Sometimes if he sees me on campus or at a party he still tries to talk to me. I just ignore him or go the other way.

Kate only wanted him because he plays for the schools basketball team. Yes, he's hot and athletic but I'm all about girl power so no man would be worth screwing over another woman for. Kate definitely doesn't think that way.

They didn't even end up dating but she still wants him and any other hot guy who shows an interest in me. These guys better watch out for her. A feeling of jealousy pools in my stomach and I'm surprised, I never feel jealous. Even with Jason, I wasn't jealous when he cheated, just furious.

I notice Kiran looking at me with a confused look, but as soon as I look over he switches it to a smile and a wink. What was he confused about? Maybe the lecture, I have been a little tuned out.

I try to tune back into the professor and luckily he's still just reading from the syllabus. Anything I missed is in writing for me to catch up on or reference.

Finally, class ends and I'm pretty relieved. I feel like I could use some air after the death glares from Kate and being

surrounded by all these hulking guys. Seriously, how are they all huge, muscular, and tall? I wonder if it's a prerequisite for them to be friends. I can't deny I'm attracted to them but a group like this, they're probably used to being chased by girls. I don't need the drama of crushing on a guy, or guys, who are going to be sleeping around every weekend.

I throw my laptop in my bag, "Well nice to see you guys again," I zip my bag and go to stand when I realize Jay is already up and right next to me.

"I'll walk out with you," he says.

I'm shocked, it feels like my tongue is frozen. "I, uh, I..."

"Oh, we will join you too!" Nicholi adds as he grabs my bag and starts walking.

Well, that essentially stops the beginning of any excuse. I start trailing after Nicholi and Jay while the rest of the guys follow us. How did they take control of the situation so fast?

"Um, Nicholi?" I am still so shocked that the statement starts slow but by the end I realize I'm a little annoyed and put some attitude behind it, "I can carry my own bag."

"Oh, I don't mind. Thanks though!" He shoots back as if he doesn't have a care in the world.

"Well, I'm sure we are going different directions!" I almost snap back but I reign it in some. They're just being friendly if maybe a little pushy.

"Well, where are you going?" Jay adds pleasantly like I am not irritated back here.

I am so caught up that I answer, even though that was clearly a mistake, “the library, I was going to start prepping for the week before my meeting with Ajax.”

The guys all turn to Ajax a little shocked and he starts turning red all the way to his ears.

“Damn Jax... I didn’t expect you to move so quick” Kiran elbows Ajax with a head nod.

Are they talking about me? Ajax starts to stutter and I feel bad for him so I add, “for our class.” I smile at Ajax as he looks a little relieved when the guys stop staring.

They all turn their focus back on me and continue our conversation.

“Well then we will join ya,” Jay says and starts heading towards the library.

Well I guess that’s decided then. I could push and I think they would back off. But they’re new and being friendly so I decide to go along with it. I could always use more friends and they do seem like good guys.

“Okay,” I respond and start following after Jay.

The rest of the guys start following him too and we all make our way to the library together. Part way there Jay turns around a little sheepish asking me for directions. It’s like he thinks he should always know the way even though they’re at a new school. I try to reassure him and lead the way there with him by my side.

## Thirteen

### Aly



The time with the guys at the library was uneventful. I was already overwhelmed so I steered us over to the quiet section and we all buckled down to work. It was good for a first time studying with potential new friends.

Then Ajax and I worked on our class project. He clearly knew a lot about what we were learning. I think he'll be a great partner and resource for the semester. I got lucky. And maybe if we become friends for real, he will help me next semester too. Not that I can't hold my own but I can admit when someone is smarter than me.

It's super attractive and I loved seeing his confidence come out for a subject he clearly loves. Shy Jax is cute but confident Jax is sexy. I tried to keep the attraction to a minimum considering we were surrounded by his friends who I also find attractive.

Now I'm home and for some reason, I feel a little lonely. I've never minded being on my own before but right now I feel like something is missing. I'm used to being on my own

but being with a group of friends like the guys felt like home. That's a pretty weird thought for guys I am just getting to know.

I leave my room and knock on Anna's door. Maybe spending time with my bestie will shake off this ache in my chest. Maybe I'm just looking for some more social interaction.

"Hold on!" I hear a bustle and then she swings the door open, "what's up babe?"

"Wanna hang? Movie? Pizza? Anything?" I feel like I'm begging but I need my best friend.

She looks at me like I'm crazy.

"Of course, the season premiere of Big House is on tonight! Did you forget?"

How could I have forgotten! Anna and I always watch Big House, it's our favorite reality tv show. Wow, I'm feeling more off than I realized.

It's an awesome show where they throw a group of people together for a few months and they compete in challenges to survive! I've loved it since Anna introduced it to me Freshman year.

"Oh, man! How could I forget? Yes! Yay! This is just what I needed! Should we order pizza?" I'm practically cheering.

"Yes, I'll do it now," Anna pulls out her phone to call our favorite pizza place. She knows our favorite order, pepperoni and ham, by heart so I'm sure she'll order it.

I wander to the fridge to grab us two seltzers and settle onto the couch. I flip through the channels until I pull up the station for Big Brother. Bailey hops right into my lap, nuzzling my hand before settling in.

Anna joins me, “the pizza should be here in fifteen.”

The pizza comes and we watch the whole first episode before we start debating who we like, dislike, and who we think is going to win.

We even do our traditional draft where we pick players for our teams. I love my team and think mine will definitely beat Anna’s.

Even though it was a great night with Anna, I still go to bed feeling that loneliness in my chest.



## Fourteen

### Aly



The weekend was a blur of seeing friends, bar hopping and even a house party.

Stupidly, I wanted to see the guys, even though it's really only been a month since I met them. But we've been hanging out and I'm really starting to consider them friends. We didn't cross paths this weekend, I kept my eyes peeled for them, though.

I already had my first class of the day with Ajax which went well. The professor seems great but there was really no time to talk as he lectured the whole hour.

Apparently we now have a routine of Ajax and I walking to math together and meeting up with the rest of the guys. They even have a seat saved for me, in the middle again. Except this time it's Kiran and Nicoli who are on either side.

"Hey Aly, good to see you." Nicoli smiles and moves his bag from the empty seat, clearly telling me to sit down.

"Ya, you too. Did you have a good weekend?" I couldn't help asking since I was looking for them all weekend.

All the guys defer to Nicoli which I think is weird. Wasn't that an easy question?

"Ya, thanks for asking." Nicoli responds but it feels short and like there is something straining on him.

Well, I don't really know what to say since he kinda shut that conversation down. I open my laptop and settle in for class.

Again, the professor lectures the whole hour and doesn't leave room for talking. I don't know what I would say anyways. I want to talk to them though.

Immediately after class, once my bag is packed up, Nicoli grabs it and asks, "so, library again today?"

"Um, no I was gonna grab a coffee and work at Dip's coffee shop."

"I'm down," Jay responds.

"Me too," Ajax and Kiran say together.

Nicoli nods but Jeremy looks like he would rather be anywhere else.

"Nah, I'm heading home, see ya." Jeremy replies with some attitude. I don't know why, but Jeremy really seems to dislike me. It's a strong contrast from his friends who are really trying to absorb me into their group.

Jay starts to say something but Nicoli shoots him a look that says don't.

Everyone but Jeremy starts following me towards the coffee shop. We have hardly taken two steps when Marc surprises me coming around the corner.

A smile lights up his face and without hesitation he lifts me up into a full body hug.

Suddenly it feels like the temperature around us drops. It feels cold and oddly full of static. I don't care much for Marc since he is Jason's best friend but he's always been friendly and his hugs have never felt like this.

While up in Marc's arms I hear what sounds like an animalistic growl behind me and suddenly I get zapped way stronger than normal static. He releases me immediately and the growl cuts off.

Jay is at my side in an instant, he throws a casual arm around my shoulders like he's done it a million times before. I should tense up, I don't know him that well but I want Marc to go away and if he thinks I'm in danger he will never go. Plus, I'm oddly already really comfortable with Jay.

Marc buffs up when he finally realizes I'm not alone. It's a total man, my dick is bigger than yours move. If I was taking bets though I would bet on Jay.

"Who's this, Al?" Even though he's asking me, Marc is staring at Jay when he says it. More surprisingly he looks away pretty quick. I have seen Marc fight a lot and he never backs down from a good stare off.

I feel Jay's hand tighten on my shoulder when Marc calls me Al. I hope they don't get any ideas, I have always hated that particular nickname.

I point around the group as I say their names, "this is Jay, Nicoli, Ajax and Kiren."

"And that's Jeremy," Jay adds with a thumb over his shoulder.

I look back, I thought Jeremy had already left but there he is staring daggers at Marc like the rest of his friends. I guess he's ready to back his friends up.

From what thought? Why are they acting all crazy and territorial. I mean we are friends but this feels a little overboard.

"And this is Marc," I add as an afterthought when I realize he's looking at me expectantly, "anyways we really should be going, good to see you Marc."

I almost have to drag Jay with me to get us moving again but while he doesn't wanna stop facing off with Marc he also doesn't want to let go of me.

Finally, I get us away from what felt like dogs fighting over a chew toy, and I was the chew toy.

## Fifteen

### Nic



Sometimes being in charge is the worst. I couldn't act on my every impulse because if I did, they all would. There would be no one to stop them.

Jay was already being a little barbaric, rubbing his scent all over Aly to warn the punk off.

When he picked Aly up I wanted to hurl him across campus. I could have too but that would be revealing magic to Aly and I told the guys it wasn't time yet.

Plus we aren't suppose to use magic on humans. But that was more of an afterthought.

I settled on zapping them apart but it wasn't nearly as satisfying. I used the mind link to calm the guys down but they were still fuming.

It was the mating bond, I knew that but it didn't change the fact that 'Marc' had his hands all over my, our Aly.

*Who the fuck was that guy* Kiran mind shouts as we walk away.

Obviously none of us know but someone is going to have to ask, it needs to be casual though.

“So Aly, who was that guy?” I ask as nonchalant as I can.

“Marc?” She’s confused, she thinks I mean his name but I mean who the fuck is he to her.

“Ya, how do you know him?” Jay is so good at playing fun and casual that I even almost believe he doesn’t care.

“Oh...” She looks uncomfortable and I feel nauseous. Is he her boyfriend? “He’s my exes best friend, he never stopped being friendly even though we broke up.”

*That’s because he wants to fuck her, I could smell the lust pouring off him* Jay spits in our heads.

We are all stewing so we settle into silence as we walk to the coffee shop. I notice Jeremy trailing slightly behind us. I’m guessing his instincts won’t let him leave her after seeing a strange guy touching her.

We make it to the coffee shop but things are still awkward.

*Someone say something and fix this* Ajax sounds worried but I know he won’t be the one to speak up.

“Whatcha gonna get Aly?” Jay finally breaks the tension and we all sigh in relief. The silence was suffocating.

“A black coffee what about you?”

“Sounds good, I don’t know what I’ll get yet. Could I have a sip of yours?”

“Sure, I don’t mind sharing.”

“Perfect, neither do I” Talk about a double meaning. Jay looks like the cat that got the cream from the idea of sipping from the same cup as Aly. Honestly I’m a little jealous but I try to let it go.

We all order our drinks and I sneakily pay for Aly’s before she can notice.

“Oh, Nicoli you didn’t have to do that.”

“I wanted to and you can thank me by calling me Nic. Nicoli is just so formal.”

“Okay, well thank you, Nic,” she put extra emphasis on the Nic and I love hearing it from her.

We settle into our table and start pulling our books out when Aly takes me completely by surprise.

“So why are you guys hanging out with me so much?”

## Sixteen

### Aly



Okay don't get me wrong I know I'm not ugly but when the five new guys on campus try to bring you into their friend group alarm bells start going off.

Yes, I'm super comfortable around them all, except Jeremy the dick, but even serial killers are charming.

So in the public safety of the coffee house I decide to ask why the heck they're spending so much time with me.

Of course the only one who doesn't look stunned into silence is Jeremy.

"No clue buttercup, it's not like you bring anything new to the table."

"I would be offended but that's what I'm thinking, you guys have clearly all been friends for a while so what gives?"

Nic seems to figure out what to say next, shooting a dirty look at Jeremy first. "I think we just like hanging out with you, even old friends need to make new ones."



“Just friends? You sure?” I ask. If we are going to have a friendship it’s important to set boundaries from the start. If I started dating one of them it could ruin a whole friendship.

“Ya and if something changes then we will all talk about it, okay?” Jay gives me what I now know is his signature goofy grin.

For some reason despite my doubts, I really trust them. Maybe we are all old souls who knew each other in another life or something.

I can’t help the grin on my face, “okay, deal.”

“Well as established friends, I for one think we need to plan to hang out outside studying,” Kiran chimes in.

“Ya, what should we do?” Jay adds.

We all sit in silence while we think of ideas. Then it hits me. “How about a game night?”

They all nod their heads in agreement except Jeremy who looks like the idea of a game night is acid in his mouth.

“Sure, do you want to come over Saturday night?” Nic asks.

“Sounds good.” Looks like I’ll be going into the lion’s den.

After that we all settle into our studying. The next hour flies by with all of them. It’s just so comfortable being all together, like somehow I fit into their comfort built on years of friendship instead of disrupt it.

“Oh shoot, it’s almost six.” I scramble to gather my notes as I stand up.

“Do you have somewhere to be Aly?” Nic asks.

“Ya, Anna and I watch Big House together. It’s like a tradition, I can’t be late!”

“Big House like the tv show? I love that show!” Jay exclaims.

I giggle. “Ya, the tv show. That’s awesome, maybe you can join us sometime.”

He looks downright eager, almost like a dog.

“I think we would all jump at the chance to meet the famous Anna,” Kiran adds.

He’s clearly fishing for an invite too but they’ve also heard me talking a lot about Anna. It’s only fair my new friends meet her at some point. I just hope they like her. Or more importantly that she likes them.

“Sure you can all come sometime. Just not today, I wouldn’t want to spring guests on Anna.”

They all nod but look excited about these almost plans. Jeremy is of course ignoring the whole conversation. Nonchalantly choosing to focus on his drink.

I head out and make my way home to Anna. Once I get home I explain about the boys wanting to come for an episode.

“Of course! I want to meet these new friends of yours. They’re taking up a lot of your time for being apparently

‘friends.’”

Her last statement is heavily sarcastic. She is however delighted by the thought of new people coming over.

We settle in for the night, snuggling on the couch and watching our show.

I feel content knowing the guys and Anna will meet.

\* \* \*

I only have one class on Tuesdays but it’s one of those three hour, interactive classes.

It’s supposed to be a fun mix of working out and volunteering. It’s literally called feeding your soul. It’s a perfect elective so I saved it for senior year.

I pop in my headphones and turn on the top 50 for my walk to class. It’s the perfect fall weather, 60 degrees and crisp air.

The leaves are just starting to change from green to slight tints of color. I feel so connected to the earth right now. I take in a deep breath, feeling it fill my lungs.

I feel happy and content right up until I walk into the next class.

As I walk in I notice pairs standing awkwardly around the room making small talk. I don’t understand why until the professor comes up to me.

She’s tall, wearing a billowy dress and totally fits the expectation for a class called feeding your soul.

“Hi my dear, I’m professor Jean. I am pairing you up in the order you walk into class today. I think it’s the universe’s way of showing me who will benefit from working with who. This person will be your partner for the whole semester.”

Well that explains the people awkwardly standing in pairs. She walks me straight up to Jeremy who is glaring at me like I did this on purpose.

“This will be your partner for the semester. Get to know each other my dears.” Mrs. Jean says as she departs.

Well hell, this is going to be awkward. I don’t know what the universe is trying to tell me with Ajax being my partner in one class and now Jeremy in this one. Jeremy has made his disdain for me very clear from the start. He probably has a crush on one of the guys and is afraid I’m going to steal them away.

Time to try to make the best out of a bad situation. “Hey Jeremy, sorry you got stuck with me. I doubt Mrs. Jean would let us switch since the universe paired us.” I throw up air quotes on “universe” to show what I think of that.

“It’s not the universe it’s just shitty timing. I don’t care much what the universe thinks.”

Clearly I struck a nerve with the universe talk so I just shut my mouth and wait for class to start.

Mrs. Jean starts talking about the plans for the semester in her willowy voice. It sounds like it’s going to be a great class but I’m surprised to see Jeremy looks interested as well. He

doesn't strike me as the feeding your soul, do good type of person.

He actually seems more like the type of person who would feed off bad intentions.

“Okay, now that we know the tentative plan for the semester, I would like you all to get to know your partners better. Please take the rest of class to find a spot and chat.” Mrs. Jean finishes her lecture and looks expectantly at the class.

I guess it's time to find a spot to get to know Jeremy better. I look over at him and he is clearly annoyed but what else is new. I've only known him around a month and I'm already tired of his attitude. How do his friends put up with it?

“Look I know you don't like me but can we form some sort of truce for this class? I don't think it needs to be miserable. You can hate me again after, deal?” I ask.

“I don't hate you Aly, come on let's go find a spot in the grass.” Jeremy leads the way to a shady spot against a tree.

We both look awkwardly at each other, not sure where to start. I decide it's going to be me to break the ice here.

“So why did you guys transfer schools?” I ask.

“Nope, try again.”

“Okay, why are you taking this class?” I've got way more attitude now.

“Nope. Come on Aly you can do better than that.”

Ugh, he makes me so mad. I'm trying to be nice and civil and like always he's being a dick.

"Why don't you start then since you seem to know it all." I snap back at him.

"Okay, tell me something that makes you different. Might as well try to figure out the mystery of you if we are stuck talking." I can't decide if that was an insult or not but I'm trying to make an effort so I take breath and answer.

"Different? Nothing makes me different, I guess I moved around a lot as a kid but that's really it."

"And we are back to boring," shoots back Jeremy.

"Okay, I tried but you're a dick. I think we've gotten to know each other enough for now."

I throw in my headphones and listen to music until the end of class.

## Seventeen

### Aly



Finally Saturday rolls around. I've been excited about hanging out with the guys since we made the plan. Game nights are my favorite and I'm looking forward to getting to know them even more.

After our class together this week I'm hoping Jeremy won't be joining us but he seems to do whatever his friends do.

Nic texted me their address and offered to pick me up. I insisted on walking myself though. Their house is just right off campus and I don't want to start relying on them too much.

I'm following the GPS on my phone when I finally see their house. It looks nice, especially for being right by campus. It's pretty big too, they probably all have their own rooms.

My nerves start to get the best of me as I walk up to the door, maybe I shouldn't be hanging out with five guys alone. Actually, maybe four, Jeremy never said he would be joining us.

Before I can chicken out, Jay opens the door and gives me the biggest, most reassuring smile.

“Hey Aly Kat, long time no see. Come on in!”

I hop up the stairs and Jay pulls me into a hug. It feels so good to be surrounded by him. He smells like earth, almost like he spends all his time in a forest surrounded by grass and trees, it's so unique.

“Good to see you too Jay.” I give him a small smile, I'm feeling shy all of the sudden. We haven't hung out just the five or six of us alone yet. We've always been in public.

“Hey guys Aly is here!” Nic yells while he goes straight in for a hug too. I guess now that we are officially friends we are breaking that touch barrier.

Kiran slides into the room and pulls me right from Nic's arms into his own giving me a big squeeze. Then he smoothly passes me off to Ajax who gives me a sweet, sheepish hug.

They point to the living room where they've set up games, chips and drinks. It's cute they put this much effort in.

“This looks great you guys, what are we going to play first?”

“How about a game of BS?” Kiran asks.

I nod and Jay asks, “do you want some wine Aly Kat?”

It looks like they remembered me telling them my favorite drink was white wine last time we studied.

“Yes please!”



Jeremy comes downstairs and gives me a slight head nod of acknowledgment. “So what are we playing?” He grabs himself a cup and pours some whiskey.

“BS!” Kiran answers while shuffling the cards.

“Well that hardly seems fair,” Jeremy adds.

“What do you mean?” I ask. I don’t get what wouldn’t be fair.

Jeremy hesitates and Nic jumps in at the last second to save him from answering, “just that we’ve known each other for a while, that’s all.”

Oh, I guess that makes sense but the way they’re all looking around makes me feel like I’m missing something.

“Come sit here Aly!” Kiran points to the spot next to him on the couch and I go join him. Jay plops down right next to me.

“So we usually play this as a drinking game, you good with that Aly?” Jay asks.

Smiling, I respond, “for sure.”

\* \* \*

I regret agreeing to a drinking game now that I see how good they are at BS. Somehow they know every time I’m lying, usually Jay or Kiran. Despite me clearly being the worst, the guys have kept up with me and are also clearly feeling their drinks.

“Okay, I quit! You guys are too good, new game!” I finally admit defeat.

“Haha okay then what next?” Nic asks the group.

“How about truth or dare?” suggests Kiran wagging his eyebrows up and down.

“Okay then you’re up first bro, truth or dare?” asks Jay.

Kiran pretends to think for a minute, “dare.”

“Finish your drink.”

Kiran chugs and turns to me, “truth or dare Aly?”

Based on the glaze over all of our eyes we are all drunk enough that this is probably a bad idea. I don’t really care though, wherever this goes I’m ready because all night I’ve realized how attracted I am to all of these guys. Even Jeremy, not that I would ever admit it.

“Okay, sit on Jax’s lap.” Kiran looks at me with hungry eyes. It’s like seeing me on his identical twin’s lap would turn him on.

That feels like a challenge for both me and Jax. I look across the table and Jax is avoiding eye contact with me. Then he flashes me a look and a small smile, that’s enough for me.

I get up and make my way over to Jax and drop into his lap. Hesitantly, he brings his arms up and wraps them around me. It feels incredible, like I was meant to be here.

“Okay, next, Nic truth or dare?” I ask.

“Let’s go truth.”

“How do you feel about me sitting on Jax’s lap?” As I ask, Jax arms tighten around me and Nic’s eyes flash.

“I like seeing you there but I wish it was me,” then he switches his focus, “Jer truth or dare?”

Jeremy answers truth and we keep going a few rounds and drinking until we get back to Jeremy again.

“I choose dare,” Jeremy slurs.

“I dare you to kiss Aly, while she’s on Jax’s lap.” Nic says in all seriousness.

Oh shit, there is no way he wants to do that. “Nic, I don’t think...”

“Jer wouldn’t turn down a dare, would you Jer?” Nic stares at him pointedly.

Jeremy growls and marches in front of me. I shouldn’t want this, I’m literally cuddled in Jax’s lap right now, but I do. He grabs my face, pulls me in and kisses me like I’ve never been kissed before.

It starts out chaste but we both start to get lost in each other. He licks my lips, asking for entry and I oblige. I lean into him, sucking his lower lip into my mouth.

A cough breaks into my consciousness and suddenly Jeremy pulls back like he’s been burned. I feel color coming to my cheeks, I can’t believe I got so lost in this kiss.

That’s when I remember I’m still sitting on Jax’s lap. I can feel his stiffness pushing against me. So apparently he liked

that little show.

Jeremy looks mad, he turns around and heads back to his seat.

“Jay, pick.” Jeremy commands.

I guess he’s just going to pretend that didn’t just happen. I mean it was just a dare so I probably shouldn’t think about it too much.

“If that’s what the dares are like, dare,” Jay responds.

## Eighteen

### Jay



“I dare you to pick a new game,” Jer spits out.

“Oh someone’s feeling grumpy, fine lets move onto never have I ever.” I don’t mind changing the game, I want to know more about Aly.

“Sure,” Aly responds and everyone nods. I just can’t help myself, I’m happy for Jax but I want a turn.

“Which means Aly can move,” I get up, scoop Aly into my lap and sit back down. Aly squeaks as I settle her into my lap. She feels perfect in my arms and I understand why she’s meant to be my mate.

“Do you know the rules Aly?” when she shakes her head no Kiran continues, “okay, someone says something they’ve never done and if you’ve done it you have to take a drink.”

“I’ll go first, never have I ever given a blowjob” I say adding a wink at Aly.

She lifts her drink to her lips and takes a sip, “never have I ever had sex with a girl.”

Jeremy, Kiran, Nic and I take a sip but Aly’s eyes zoom in on who didn’t.

“Jax, you haven’t?”

Aly leans forward on my lap and I can smell her arousal. She likes that Jax is a virgin. I can tell my eyes flash wolf, I have to push him back immediately so Aly won’t see.

“No, I haven’t, I’m waiting for my ma- for someone special.”

Thank fuck Jax caught himself. He almost said he was waiting for his mate which would have brought up a lot of questions from Aly.

“I like that,” Aly almost looks shy when she tells Jax that.

Fuck never have I wished to be a virgin more. I guess it means I can make it amazing for her but the way she’s looking at Ajax has me jealous as hell. I can tell the other guys agree. Something like regret is on everyone’s face but Jer’s which is carefully blank.

We’ve always thought it was crazy that Jax was waiting for his mate. It’s so rare to find your fated mate. But here our mate is, in my arms, so I guess it wasn’t so crazy.

Next up is Nic who looks a little unsure how to pivot from that one. Aly leans back into me and I nuzzle her neck before I can curb the impulse.

Luckily she giggles and seems to like it. I don't want to push her but it's hard stopping every impulse when it comes to my mate. My wolf is always screaming at me to get close to her. He wants to be covered in her scent and cover her in ours.

She squirms around on my lap but stops suddenly when she feels how hard that gets me.

"Nic, do you have one?" She asks, clearly trying to distract from me. She smells uncomfortable but also aroused.

"Ya, never have I ever done anal."

Oh shit, he's got to be pretty drunk to have asked that. As supernaturals we can't get drunk off human alcohol but we are all drinking something made for supernaturals. Even with the special liquor, we will all sober up after a few hours no matter how much we drink.

Every eye swings to Aly but she doesn't seem to notice. She's looking around to see who will drink.

Kiran gives Nic a glare that I reciprocate as we both take a drink. Aly's eyes swing back and forth between us with interest.

She doesn't drink and I let out a growl of pleasure. I want that virginity from her, to be the first one to take her there.

I think we are all pleased with the idea we will be the only ones there.

Everyone freezes at my growl and Aly swings around to look at me with interest. Almost instantly, the interest fades

from her eyes and she lays her head on my chest. That was odd, why didn't she question me?

We play a little longer but nothing is as exciting as Nic's turn or Jax revealing he's a virgin.

Eventually, we all get tired and a little too drunk. Aly starts nodding off so I rub my thumb on her cheek.

"Can you spend the night Aly Kat? It's late, you can have my bed."

She snuggles into my neck, "mhm sure."

I pick her up bridal style and the rest of the guys look up.

"Aly is gonna spend the night, I'm going to go put her to bed."

I carry her upstairs and into my room. I'm so glad I cleaned up before tonight. I was secretly hoping she would spend the night and I could give her my bed. I want her surrounded by my scent and my things. It's a possessive wolf thing.

I pull back the covers and tuck her in. She smiles up at me and my heart melts right then and there. I lean in and give her a kiss on the forehead.

"Sleep well Aly Kat."

I head downstairs and see the other guys waiting.

"Is she asleep?" Nic asks.

"Ya she passed out immediately," I let them know.



“I think tonight went well,” Kiran adds, “Especially for Jeremy.”

“Shut up, it was a dare,” Jeremy snaps while hitting Kiran over the head.

“I think she’s confused by her attraction to all of us and not sure why we are encouraging it,” I bring up.

“Ya that’s not normal for a human so we need to make it clear it’s okay to like us all,” Nic’s right, it’s better to start this way from the beginning.

“How do we do that?” Kiran asks.

“Well we could be straight with her but I’m worried that would drive her away. We just agreed to friendship but tonight obviously escalated things,” Nic responds.

“Maybe we just try to be clear with our actions and if there’s ever a moment to throw something out there about sharing, do it.” Jax suggests.

We all agree with nods around the room. Jer doesn’t respond but he’s clearly paying attention to what’s happening. He needs to get over his problem and accept Aly. The mate bond won’t let him hold back forever unless he denies her. But that’s a terrible fate.

I wonder if she’ll ever be able to accept all of us though?

## Nineteen

### Aly



Why is it so bright in here? I roll over into my pillow to avoid the sun. These sheets smell amazing but not like me, where am I?

Oh man my head is spinning like crazy. Slowly, the night before comes back into focus reminding me why I'm so hungover.

I spent the night at the guys' house after we hung out, played games and got absolutely wasted. Embarrassment seeps through me and I remember being touchy and flirty with all the guys.

I sat on Ajax's lap. Oh shit, I kissed Jeremy. Wait, I kissed Jeremy while I was on Jax's lap.

A knock sounds on the door, "rise and shine sleepy head I made breakfast!" Jay shouts through the door.

Okay Aly get it together, it was part of a game. No need to be weird or awkward about it. Just act like it didn't happen and everything will be fine!

I get myself together and open the door to a smiling Jay who pulls me into a tight hug before leading me downstairs to the kitchen.

“Oh, look who’s finally awake,” Jeremy the big grump says sarcastically.

I give him a tight lipped sarcastic smile. It’s all I can muster this early and this hungover.

All the guys look just fine though, not a hangover in sight. They are bright, smiling and it’s completely unfair.

“Hey, how come none of you have a hangover this morning?” I whine. It’s not my best moment but the guilty looks they are giving each other doesn’t help.

“Uh, I guess we just don’t really get hangovers, sorry doll,” Nic smiles over his cup of coffee, “can I get you a cup of coffee to make up for it?”

“I guess,” I do a playful swoon and I get a few chuckles from everyone, except Jeremy of course.

We sit down for breakfast and it’s one of the best breakfasts I’ve had in a long time. We eat and chat, the guys make a million jokes. I can’t believe how comfortable they are with each other.

“So where are you from Aly?” Jax asks. He’s quieter than the other guys but it makes it more special when he does speak up.

I give a little grimace, “I don’t have a real answer to that one. We moved around a ton, multiple places a year.”

“Oh man, I’m sorry that must have been tough. For your parents job?” Nic asks.

I give a nod in the affirmative.

“What do they do?” Jay chimes in.

“I don’t know,” saying that out loud sounds weird and they’re all giving me odd looks but I just move on.

“What about you guys?”

They all look to Nic who answers, “well we all grew up together and we moved around some too. Not as much as you but our families are really close so we got to move together.

I’m jealous they had each other growing up. I was always so alone. But not anymore, at least for now I have them and Anna.

## Twenty

### Aly



Nic started a group chat with me and the boys after game night. They're messaging in it all day long and I can hardly keep up. Sometimes they call me out for never responding but usually they just let it slide.

We've fallen into an easy friendship even after the events of game night. I think we all know we were drunk and messing around. Jeremy certainly isn't going to be the one to bring it up so neither will I.

Having them as friends is pretty great. Jeremy isn't friendly but he tolerates me in our class together. Math with all of them usually leads to studying in the library or the coffee shop together. I need to arrange for them to meet Anna and then my friendship circle will be complete.

My phone pings and it's from Jay in the group chat with everyone.

*Jay: We have a math test tomorrow. Who wants to have a study session at the library tonight?*

*Nic: good idea*

*Jax: sounds good, what time?*

*Jeremy: sure*

*Kiran: I really don't*

I guess this is one of those times I need to answer. Aren't they always together? Do they keep this group chat going just for my benefit? Nah, they must be in their separate rooms or something.

*Aly: Ya, that sounds good I could use some more study time for it.*

Immediately, my phone pings with a response.

*Kiran: okay I'm in.*

*Jay: meet there in an hour*

I can feel the blush staining my cheeks. Thank goodness they aren't here to see it. Did Kiran just agree to study because I said I would be there?

Anna catches me staring at my phone.

“Who are you messaging that has you blushing like that?!”

I purposely ignore her, putting my phone aside and going back to my computer. She doesn't let up.

“It's one of those boys you're friends with, isn't it!”

She's not going to let this go.

“Which one?” She asks.

“It's just a group chat and we are making study plans. Relax!”

“I know you’re crushing on one of them A! You’ve got to tell me, even better I need to meet him. Actually, I need to meet all of them.”

“I’m not, we’ve already talked about all being friends. I wouldn’t want to come between their friendship or lose any of them. We’ve grown close in a really short amount of time.”

“Sure, sure, I’ll let it go. For now. So when can I meet them?”

“Well, actually they want to join us for Big House sometime or you could come study at the library with us tonight?”

“Oh, they like Big House! I like them already! Sorry, I can’t come tonight. I have a date!” She exclaims.

“You do?! And you’re letting me talk about studying! Who is it with?”

“His name is Ryan. He seems really sweet and I met him at the bar last week. We’ve been texting nonstop and he asked me to dinner!”

“That’s so exciting!”

Now that she mentions it, I take a minute to look her over. She’s dressed hot but classy with a black shirt and skirt that mold to her body without being trashy. Her hair is lightly curled and her makeup is perfect.

“No wonder you look so perfect! Girl, he is going to swoon when he sees you. Or pop a boner, either one!” I’m laughing by the end of that sentence.

She bursts out laughing too, “okay I needed that but you’re gross. I’m heading out now. Do you need anything before I go?”

“No have fun! I’m leaving in a minute for the library anyways.”

She gives me a hug and heads out. I watch her go and see he picked her up for dinner. Major points to him for that.

I head to the library and find a table. I text the guys to let them know where to find me and start pulling out my math notes.

“Hey Aly,” uh oh that’s my least favorite bitchy tone.

I look up and see Kate starting at me from across the table. I give a small smile but try to ignore her. I haven’t found something that keeps her away from me but maybe ignoring her will.

“You don’t need a table this big for just yourself, do you? Maybe leave the big tables for people who actually have friends.”

Is this girl for real?

“I have some friends coming Kate but thanks.”

“Oh is it those boys you’re hanging around with? You know they’re just spending time with you out of pity right? They would never be interested in you. Maybe you should introduce me to them so they can spend time with someone more their speed?”



I want to play it off, roll my eyes and ignore her. I really do. But something about the way she's talking about my guys sets my instincts off.

I want to fight her, pull her hair, break her nose and assert my dominance. But I don't, because that would be crazy. Except, I'm about to hop up to do just that when a hand lands on my shoulder.

"Hey Aly Kat!" Jay drops a kiss to my head and slides in next to me, pointedly ignoring Kate?

The rest of the guys do the same, being more touchy than they have since game night. And it settles something in me. I calm down enough to look up and see Kate seething. Probably trying to understand why they're ignoring her.

But why are they? Even if it's for my sake they weren't here when she was being bitchy so they couldn't have heard what she said.

Of course Kate singles out Jeremy, noticing he's the only one who didn't greet me when they showed up. She probably thinks he's a weak link to infiltrate their group through.

"Hi, Aly is being so rude not introducing us, I'm Kate," she sticks her hand out.

I'm rude? Seriously? I tense a little, maybe Jeremy is only a dick to me and he'll actually give Kate the time of day. That would hurt more than I expected. Nic lays a reassuring hand on my leg which has me melting a little.

There is something so comforting about Nic. He's so strong and steady that just being around him lessens my anxiety.

"Not interested," Jeremy doesn't even look up from the book open in front of him.

Huh, I guess he is just a dick to everyone but his friends. I've seen him actually relax and have fun with them when he's not focused on hating me.

Kate turns her attention to the rest of the guys, clearly sizing up where to try next. Before she can even try again Kiran cuts in.

"None of us are interested so don't even try, bye."

Damn, I should not be thinking about how hot that was. I feel protected by these guys. It's probably just that they want to study not get hit on but I'm going to take it as a personal win.

But the more I think about it, I've never seen these guys with any girls or even talking about them. Once Kate walks away I bring it up.

"Do you guys have girlfriends or something?" Shit that would be bad considering everything that happened game night.

Kiran and Jay start laughing, throwing their heads back and full on laughing. It's a sexy, throaty sound and I want to hear it again and again.

Nic cuts in, “no we don’t but we aren’t interested in girls like her.”

At my confused look, Jax pipes up, “we heard her putting you down. We aren’t cool with that.”

That’s so incredibly sweet and it melts my heart, but, “there’s no way you heard her. You guys weren’t even close yet.”

They all freeze instantly. I can feel the tension pouring off of them. What the hell is that about?

Nic breaks the tension, “we were right there Aly, you must have been distracted.”

And they all turn back to their books and move on. I’m about to point out that Kate would never have said that if they were there and I didn’t see them either but the thought just kind of floats away.

What was I wondering?

The guys are all focused on their books so I turn to mine too. They all seem to relax at that, weird.

## Twenty One

### Aly



I invited the guys to join us for Big House night tonight. I'm incredibly nervous for them to meet Anna. She's my best friend, my ride or die and if she doesn't like them, I'm screwed.

And I would trust her judgment. If there is something to distrust about these guys then I know Anna will see it. She won't be blinded by lust like me.

After the texting and blushing incident, she's been teasing me nonstop. I finally broke down and told her that we are friends but yes I have the biggest crush on them. All of them. Even Jeremy.

Anna almost died at that. Now she's talking about reverse harems and thinks I'm going to end up with all of them. She's even downloaded a few reverse harems on my kindle for 'research purposes.'

Since she knows I like them, she won't even be crushing on them. So she'll be impartial and I need that. Not because we are going to become a reverse harem (Anna is crazy for

thinking that) but because I haven't had a lot of close friends and I don't trust my judgment.

“Relax, I'm sure they're great! I know you think you can't judge a friend but you have great instincts. You can spot a creep from miles away,” says Anna.

“Thanks girl, I needed that. How do you always know what I'm thinking?”

“It's a gift.”

There's a knock at the door drawing my attention away from Anna's smiling face. She watches me take a deep breath before I head over to open the door.

Of course Kiran and Jay are right there almost bursting with energy behind Nic.

“Hey guys, come on in!”

I move aside, letting all five of them through. I'm shocked to see Jeremy with them but he never seems to want to be left out.

Anna is standing there, staring and smiling at them like a lunatic. Maybe I should have been more worried about what they would think about her.

“This is Anna, Anna this is Nicoli, Jay, Kiran, Ajax and Jeremy.”

They're all smiling and looking generally friendly. To my absolute shock even Jeremy looks pleasant. His scowl is mysteriously missing.

Bailey runs up to greet them all, “and this is Bailey.”

They all give Bailey some strange looks and pet him hesitantly. When he just nuzzles them and clearly asks for more, they relax. Maybe they weren't expecting me to have a pet in college.

Everyone settles in front of the TV making small talk.

“So Anna, how long have you and Aly lived together?” Nic asks.

I let her answer, “since freshman year. We were two scared freshman together in the dorms!”

“Aw, I can picture it. I wish we went here then,” Kiran sounds serious, like those lost years really bug him.

In fact, they're all nodding along like they agree. Anna looks downright gleeful about it.

Somehow I ended up on the couch between Kiran and Jay. Nic is next to Jay, Jeremy and Anna snagged the arm chairs. Ajax, just settles in on the floor in front of the couch.

“Oh Jax, we can fit you on the couch. Squeeze guys!”

Instead of squeezing in closer together, Kiran easily lifts me up settles me in his lap.

“There, now there is room for Jax.”

Ajax hops up and takes the spot I vacated. Shocking me, he pulls my legs into his lap and settles in.

I wiggle around a little, unsure about sitting on Kiran's lap. He stills my hips with his hands.

“Shh, relax, just making room,” Kiran whispers in my ear.

“Okay the show is on!” Anna shouts, stopping any protests. She grabs the remote and turns the volume up.

I relax back into Kiran and he wraps his arms around me. It’s surprisingly comfortable just being in his arms.

We talk about the show, Ajax and Kiran really know what they’re talking about with Anna and I. Everyone else joins in and seems to get into it. I can already tell Anna loves them, especially since she encouraged the lap sitting so easily. I know she’s going to give me shit for that later.

Kiran has been absentmindedly tracing a design up and down my left arm while I’m sitting with him. It just feels right to be in his arms. I’m sure that thought will scare me when I think about it later but for now I’m just going to enjoy it.

I’ve been checking on the rest of the guys to make sure they aren’t upset I’m in Kiran’s lap. But they don’t seem to care, they’re just watching the TV like normal. I guess if they really do just see me as a friend then they wouldn’t care that I’m on his lap.

I feel a pang of disappointment and hurt that they don’t seem to care. I shouldn’t, I can’t be crushing on all of them anyways. But it’s more than a crush now, I care about all of them.

At first I was worried they would be upset and now I’m upset they aren’t. I need to get my emotions under control.

It's halfway through the episode and a commercial comes on. Anna hops up right away.

"I'm going to grab some more food and drinks, does anyone want anything?"

"I'll help you," I start to get up but Jay beats me to it.

"Nah, I'll help Anna. You stay here Aly Kat."

I lean back into Kiran and he gives me a tight squeeze before standing up with me in his arms.

"Kiran! Where are we going? Put me down!"

"Relax baby, as much as I don't want to let you go, I'm just sharing the love."

He walks us over to Nic and drops me in his lap. I let out a squeak.

"Sorry Nic," I look up at him meeting his eyes.

I feel bad I just got dumped on him but he's smiling down at me without a care in the world.

"How do you know Nic doesn't mind having to share with me?" I ask Kiran.

I'm embarrassed he just dumped me here. But wasn't I just feeling hurt no one else wanted time with me? Sometimes I think Kiran can sense my emotions somehow. But that's crazy and the idea drifts away.

"Oh trust me, he does." Kiran responds cheekily.

"It's all good Aly, I don't mind. It'll be fun," Nic says then wraps his arms around me and tugs me closer. He moves me



around until we are situated and settles back in.

When Jay and Anna come back loaded up with goodies their eyes shoot right to my new spot.

Jay looks happy like always and Anna looks downright gleeful. She actually winks at me then hands things out to everyone.

The show comes back on and we settle in for the second half.

I'm distracted from the show by my thoughts. Is it wrong I'm just as comfortable and content in Nic's lap as I am in Kiran's? And why was Kiran so willing to give me up?

Do any of them have feelings for me? Because as much as I try to keep in the friend zone I can't help how I feel about them all.

They all mean something to me and if someone asked me to pick between them I don't think I could. I want them all. Maybe there is something to Anna's reverse harem theory. Would I ever get them to agree to that? First step, I need to know if any of them actually want me back.

## Twenty Two

### Aly



The next month goes by in a blur and that same comfort level with the guys just increases. I can't believe I went from not knowing them to being so tight. There has been no more kissing since that game night. It's kind of crazy I've only kissed Jeremy when he's the one who hates me.

I'd like to think of them as my best friends after Anna but the title just doesn't do them justice. There is way too much attraction and sexual tension to just consider them friends.

They aren't helping either, one of them is always touching me. They give me lingering hugs hello and goodbye and Kiran has even snuck in a kiss on the cheek.

What I don't get is if they're keeping it PG because more than one of them has feelings for me so it's better if we are all just friends or do they not mind if all of them, except Jer, show me affection. They really don't seem to mind sharing my attention with each other but I know that wouldn't last in a romantic sense.

I've decided I want to get to the bottom of things so I can move on if there is no interest on the other end.

We've made Saturday night our typical hangout but instead of staying in we are going to a party.

Anna and I are all dressed and ready making our way over to the boy's house. We decided we would meet up and head out from there.

"You good, babe?" I ask Anna. She's been distracted lately but she hasn't told me why.

"Huh, oh ya. I wonder who will be at the party tonight, I'm looking for a man. What about you? Any plans to finally snag one of the guys tonight?" She asks.

"It's terrible but you know I can't choose. I need to figure out if any of them are even interested but ya I'm hoping to make some ground tonight. What happened to the guy you had a date with?" I respond.

"We are still talking but he's just not putting in enough effort so I'm not going to limit myself! We have been texting some though."

We arrive at the guys place and all head out.

This fraternity is known for throwing crazy parties. Not only are they ragers but they come up with crazy game ideas based on TV shows.

Case in point, we are all staring at the stripper pole in the basement where they are organizing a contest. They literally

have heart rate bands to see which guy and girl can get everyone else's heart rate up the most.

“Come on Aly, you have to do this!” Anna practically starts pushing me towards the sign up.

“No, no, no that's not a good idea,” Nic looks almost territorial when he says it. Now I get why Anna is pushing so much, she clearly thinks this is a good way to see if the guys are interested.

“Don't worry she won't get hurt, I'll go sign you up!” Anna intentionally misunderstands Nic's concern and runs off.

“Aly Kat, are you sure you wanna do this?” Jay also looks like he wants to stop me.

“Ya, for sure, it's not like it's the first crazy thing I've done here!”

“Oh ya? Tell me more?” Kiran throws his arm around me and whispers in my ear.

“Maybe if you're lucky I'll tell you sometime,” I whisper back.

Anna comes back with a huge grin on her face, “okay Aly, they're starting in five minuets so let's go prep!”

“Wait! Be careful, okay?” Nic pulls me into him and looks deep in my eyes, I nod yes with a small smile.

Then he surprises me even more by leaning in closer, “A kiss for good luck?”

He gives me a chaste but demanding kiss that makes me fall even further into him. As soon as I'm ready to deepen the kiss, he pulls back and winks.

“You better get going.”

Before I can think of a response Anna pulls me away, when we are out of ear shot she whispers, “see this is already working! Now for the show, they have costumes for you to pick from!”

Ten minutes later I've watched five other girls go, Hot in Here by Nelly is playing and I'm in a sexy nurse costume. I'm regretting letting Anna talk me into this so easily but I love doing crazy, spontaneous things so this is right up my ally.

It's my turn and I come around the corner pulling my fake stethoscope tight around my neck, making my boobs push up. I make my way to the pole, wrap my leg around it and slide down.

I hear some whistles which boosts my confidence even more. I glance up and see Jeremy glaring around at the other guys in my room. Ugh, I know he doesn't like me but does he have to hate that other guys think I'm attractive?

I take it a step further walking up to Kiran, putting my hands on his knees and dropping low. His pupils dilate and I feel like a queen but I don't only want to see Kiran's reaction.

With my hands on Kiran's knees I lean next to him and start kissing Jax's neck. I can see the blush growing up his chest and I can't help making it worse with a small bite.

Next to Jax, Jay releases what I can only describe as a growl. I do a slow turn so I am coming up slowly with my ass right in front of him. Turning around his hands are gripping the couch so tight it looks like it's ripping.

My time is coming to an end so I run my hand along Nic's face then blow a kiss as I walk my way back. On one last glance back, I see Nic, Jay, Jax, and Kiran looking at me with so much heat I'm afraid my clothes will set on fire. Of course next to them, Jeremy looks like he's going to kill someone.

## Twenty Three

# Jay



Fucking hell, it's like Aly is trying to kill us. She looks incredible in that nurse costume.

The front shows off her incredible chest and it's the perfect length to show how amazing her legs are. Her very long, very sexy legs.

My wolf is absolutely raging at me because every guy in this room is thinking about how fuckable our mate is. Which is exactly what we knew would happen, Aly has way too much sex appeal to not be good at something like this. She's a natural at everything she does. She doesn't even notice the way guys' eyes follow her everywhere.

I look to my right and see multiple guys almost drooling as she walks away.

*"Someone needs to distract me or I'm going to rip out everyone's throats in here,"* I mentally send to the guys. I haven't felt this aggressive in a while but it is part of being a wolf. I'm turned on and feeling possessive, a bad combination right now.

*“Just remember that all these guys want what we have, in the end she came to us not anyone else.”* Kiran responds.

At this I can smell Jeremy’s anger and jealousy. I know he’s mad that Aly staked a claim on us four but not him. Really though, what did he expect? He’s been an ass to her. She’s not going to put herself out there in front of all these people.

The announcer comes back, “Okay, okay everybody that was great. On that note, here is a reminder that the guy’s rooms are off limits no matter how horny you are right now! So everyone was wearing a heart rate monitor and one girl got everyone’s heart rates going more than the rest.”

I have no doubt it was Aly. She was hot as hell and way better than anyone else. On top of that there’s no way our heart rate got going for anyone else but her.

“And our winner is, my favorite as well, our sexy little Aly Kat!” The announcer finishes.

What the hell? Does he know her? He used MY nickname for her and I feel insanely jealous. He said “our.” I’m losing it. I think I’m going to shift. My canines are lengthening and I’m pretty sure my eyes are gold right now.

Someone grabs my shoulder and tugs me around. I snarl at whoever it is before my vision clears a little. Nic is trying to calm me down and eventually it helps a little.

“Calm down, I’m sure he doesn’t even really know her. She came here with us.”



I take a deep breath and focus on where she's gone.

After a few minutes, she comes out, back in her regular clothes, with a huge smile on her face. She's directing that smile at us and it calms me down a little more.

Then the asshole announcer dude goes up to her. Her smile dims a little when he pulls her into a hug. Rage. All I feel is rage.

I can't take it any longer. My wolf is right up against my skin as I hop up and pull her away from him. Now that I have her attention, I lift her into the air with a spin. She starts laughing, looking down at me and I'm instantly calmer.

"Thanks Jay," she says with laughter in her voice.

Then I'm pulling her away, "come on, let's go celebrate with a drink."

"Sounds good!" She reaches behind her and grabs Kiran's hand, dragging him along.

I lead us over to the drinks. It looks like there's lots of options. I see beer bottles we can open safely and grab a couple.

"Beer good?" I ask her.

Aly nods and I pass her and Kiran one. The other guys come up and grab some as well.

I lean over and ask Aly, "do you want to dance?"

## Twenty Four

### Aly



Tonight was so much fun and now I know that Jay, Nic, Kiran and Jax are all interested. Or at least they thought I was hot dancing for them.

Now I need to figure out what that even means. Some secret part of me wants them all plus Jeremy but I know I can't have that. Does that mean we need to hit the breaks and run back to the friend zone?

This party is packed. People all around us. Jay is leading me to the dance floor. His hand in mine feels so good and this is the second time he's held my hand tonight.

Jay spins around when we get on the dance floor, with his hand still in mine he brings it up to his lips and kisses my knuckle. He's looking me right in the eye and there is so much passion there that I'm melting. Damn is he sexy.

He's swaying with me in his arms for a few minutes until he looks over my shoulder. Whatever he sees there prompts him into action. He flips me around so my back pressed against his front and he holds me tight against him.

Nic is walking up and I expect him to find someone to dance with. I get irrationally jealous at the idea of him with another girl. But I'm dancing with Jay how can I feel like that?

Instead of finding someone to dance with he steps up to me and presses against my front, sandwiching me between them.

Holy shit. For a second I worry Jay will get upset and leave but he doesn't move away. Instead, he presses in tighter, completely pressing himself against me and me against Nic.

They both move slowly and it gets hot and sensual. They get into a rhythm easily that has my brain melting for them. It takes me a while to catch up but then I'm getting into it with them too.

If they want this, I'm not going to stop them.

They dance with me for a while until Kiran cuts in taking Jay's spot.

"Hey baby."

He gives Nic a nod telling him to back off. That's more what I expected when he got there from Jay.

Surprising me even more, Nic actually listens and heads back to the table. These guys are surprisingly good at sharing.

"Aw baby, look at poor Ajax. He's too nervous to come over here and join us."

Looking at Jax, he's sitting at the table watching us.

"Maybe you should tell him to come join us," he says.

"How? You want me to leave you to go get him?" I ask

Our bodies are still pressed together. I can feel him digging into my ass.

“Nah, just wave him over and give him your best sexy eyes and I’m sure he’ll come.”

I do just that.

Jax finally gets up and makes his way over to us slowly.

When he gets to us he pulls me right against his body. Damn, that’s hot. I can feel my panties getting wet. Oh hell, I’m in a twin sandwich right now.

“Hey Jax,” I whisper in his ear over the music.

He smiles down at me then brings his lips to my ear. I shiver at the contact, “hey Aly. I like having you here like this.”

Damn.

Then Kiran’s lips drop to my other ear, “Ya baby, it’s like you belong here, right between us.

Apparently, these guys just needed a little push to show me how they feel and it feels like they all want me.

\* \* \*

We are walking back to the guys house right now after the party, making small talk. I love how these guys get along with Anna so well, it’s important all my friends get along.

Jax makes his way to the back of the group next to me, “how are you doing, Aly?”

Attention from Jax just makes me feel giddy. I am so drawn to mysterious Nic, Kiran's sex appeal, Jay is the perfect boy next door and I have the biggest crush on sweet Jax. But he's not always just sweet, sometimes he's more dominant and I think there might just be a hidden freak in there.

As for Jeremy I want him even though it's clear he doesn't want me. I have never been so attracted to this many guys at once.

"I'm good, do you think everyone had fun tonight?"

"Ya, although I was afraid someone was going to get hurt when you did your dance," Jax murmurs then immediately turns red like he didn't mean to say that aloud.

"Oh ya? What did you think?" I can't help flirting with Jax, I just want to get to know him more and more. I want to find out what's hidden behind his shy demeanor.

"I liked it, I don't mind sharing," he gives me an earnest look.

I did not expect that from him at all. Does he mean just then or all the time?

"Sharing?" I can't help asking.

"Ya, sharing Aly." Then he grabs my hand and gives it a squeeze. I love this confident Jax.

"Are you girls going to spend the night?" Nic asks from the front.

I know Anna well enough to know she wants to see a boy tonight. She is sticking with me to be a good friend but I don't need her, I trust these guys. Completely. Huh, when did that happen?

"I think Anna is planning on spending the night somewhere else," I grin at her to let her know it's okay.

Grinning Anna come back to me and gives me a hug.

"You sure girl?"

"Of course, is it close? We will walk you there." I want to make sure she's safe.

"It's actually right there," she points to a house a few feet away.

I nod with a reassuring smile and she veers off and heads to another house on the street, "see y'all later!"

"What about you Aly Kat?" Jay asks once Anna makes it inside.

"Well since Anna just ditched, would that be okay with you guys?" I ask, a little unsure of my welcome.

"Aly, baby, you are welcome any time. In fact we want you around as much as we can." Kiran replies, throwing an arm around my shoulder and squeezing me against him.

"Well how can I deny such a welcome," I can't stop smiling.

When we get back to the guy's place I start to feel a little awkward. I don't know where I'm going to sleep and I can't

help wondering if something is going to happen with the guys tonight. We've been all over each other dancing and I'm pretty worked up.

It's like they can pick up on my feelings, "What's wrong Aly?" Ajax asks.

"How do you know something is wrong?" I find myself asking.

"Just a guess." Ajax shrinks back from my question.

"Are you wondering where you are going to sleep baby? Cause you can always have my bed, with or without me." Kiran is so flirty with me. I want to find myself wrapped up with him in bed.

"Oh, she liked that. What do you want Aly?" Nic comes up and pulls me against him while he asks.

I feel choked up. What do I want? I want them all but I can't say that. They are all staring at me right now, even Jeremy.

"Aly Kat, I think you can tell we all want you." Jay breaks into my thoughts.

At that, Jeremy huffs and stomps off. I guess he wants to make it clear that not everyone wants me.

"All of you? What do you want from me then?" Do they want me to choose right now? I can't, I know I can't choose between them. This is what I was so worried about.

“Calm down baby, we don’t want you to choose. We don’t mind sharing, in fact we want to.” Kiran shocks me.

“W-What?” I am in absolute shock. They want to share me? This is my absolute fantasy, I feel like I’m dreaming.

“Take your time, we don’t need an answer now but you should know what we are offering.” Nic adds.

The guys all break off giving me time to think.

I know what I want though, I have wanted all these guys and they are offering that to me. I can’t help feeling like that won’t last forever but I want to take advantage of the opportunity while it’s in front of me.



## Twenty Five

### Aly



I have always gotten the feeling that Nic is somehow the leader of this little group. I have the need to start with him, give him the answer first.

Nic made his way into his room after dropping that life changing revelation. I knock on Nic's door but there's no answer. I think I can hear the shower on so I crack open the door.

"Hello? Nic?" There's no answer so I open the door a little further. He's not in his room but I can clearly hear the shower running now.

Knocking on the bathroom door, I hear Nic's voice, "come in!"

Entering, I feel confident. He must know it's me, I doubt the rest of the guys come into his shower often.

"Can I join you?" I ask through the shower door to Nic.

"Aly, you are always welcome in the shower with me," he responds huskily.

He turns to watch me undress and I get my first good view of him. His body is incredibly. Every muscle is clearly defined. He has a perfect v leading down to his cock. His very erect, very big cock.

I finish stripping my clothes off and join him in the shower.

“Mmm, princess you look so perfect. You are the best kind of temptation,” He whispers while he pulls me in closer.

Pressed up against his body I can feel every ridge of him. Nic is so ripped and muscular, I want to lick every edge. So I do.

Going down I start at his neck, sucking and licking. I work my way down to his chest and abs. He has an eight pack and I lick my way between every muscle.

Above me, Nic groans and grips onto my arms pulling me up, “Princess, you’re killing me.”

Lifting me up from my thighs Nic brings me in close to his body, rubbing his length along my slit.

Nic is so thick and long, I’m not sure he’s going to fit but I am willing to try, I want him that bad. I’m ready to jump right in but apparently he thinks better of it.

He brings his fingers down and rubs them up and down my slit.

“Princess, are you sure you want this?” He’s looking deep in my eyes.

“Yes, I want you so bad Nic. Please.” I whisper back.

With my encouragement, Nic keeps playing with me. He keeps teasing me until I can't take it anymore.

“Nic please!”

“I've got you.”

He finally impales me on his fingers and I scream out. He keeps going, working me up until I'm writhing on his fingers. He makes a come here gesture and I shatter.

He keeps going, working me through the orgasm until he pulls his fingers out.

“Do you want more Aly? We can stop right now if you want,” his voice is all husky and I know I'm not done.

“No I want more, I want all of you Nic.”

He lines us up and slides all the way in pushing me harder against the shower wall. The steam from the shower surrounding us.

I can feel every inch of him as he enters me. It feels amazing. He pumps a few times and he hits a perfect spot deep inside me. He makes me feel complete bliss.

He keeps thrusting and hitting that spot until I feel close to the edge. I can feel Nic wants more control but he's holding back. I don't want him to hold back from me, though.

“Nic, can I come, please?” I beg. I have a feeling he will like that question.

His eyes light up at my request and his thrusts get more intense.

“I don’t know, princess, can you? Or do you need my permission?” He brings his point home with a hard thrust.

“Nic, please, I need your permission and I want to so bad.”

“Come.”

With that, I see stars. He doesn’t stop while I’m coming all around him. With every thrust he gets bigger and then he’s coming with me. Filling me with his hot seed. It takes a minuet for us to both come down.

He sets me on my feet then brings his forehead to mine, “Princess, that was everything I’ve wanted.”

“Me too, I’ve wanted you for so long. I didn’t know how to make it happen though, Nic.”

“All you had to do was ask.”

“Are you sure we can do this?” I ask, feeling unsure again.

“What princess? Share you?” I nod in response, “It’s what we want, we all want you, even Jer.”

“Now I think you’re lying, let’s focus on the guys who actually want me.” I crush the hope I feel thinking about Jeremy wanting me.

“Okay, for now we will forget about Jeremy but yes we all want you. I know you don’t see why but we all want to share you. We all want you so much we are willing to take a piece of you so we can have some of you at all.” He looks so sincere.

My heart melts at that revelation. I don’t think I have ever felt this wanted but I know I want them just as much. I could

never choose between them because I like them all in different ways.

After the sexiest shower of my life, Nic dries me off in his room. I take a good look around.

Nic's room is exactly what I expected. It's simple, black and white but sharp.

“So, as much as I want you all to myself tonight, I think we should ease you into sharing. Do you want to sleep and I mean actually sleep with Jay tonight too?” Nic asks.

“Yes,” I whisper.

There's a knock on the door.

“Is that Jay? You didn't even get him yet.” How could he have gotten him without texting him? It's like they have telepathy sometimes, but that idea only lasts a minute.

“Come in, Jay” Nic says with a pointed look at me.

“Aly Kat! I knew you wanted us. I knew you wanted ALL of us.” For the second time tonight Jay picks me up and spins me around. How did he already know my decision? Because I'm here with Nic? A sharp pain shoots through my head.

“Jay! Set me down! You are crazy!”

Without putting me down Jay brings me over to Nic's bed. He tucks me in and spoons my back. He moves and positions me just how he wants.

“Come on Aly, it's time for bed.” Nic gets into the bed and brackets me from the front.

I never imagined being so happy and comfortable between two guys but it feels right being here. The warmth from both of them lulls me into sleep where I dream of being cuddled by three more guys.

## Twenty Six

# Aly



When I wake up I'm confused for a minute before I remember last night. When Nic told me that Jay, Nic, Kiran, Ajax and apparently Jeremy want to share me.

Honestly, I still don't believe that but I am going to take advantage of this opportunity while I have it.

Nic is still asleep in front of me but Jay is rubbing circles into my skin from behind.

I turn slightly to face Jay, confirming he's awake. He's smiling down at me.

"Morning, Aly Kat. How did you sleep?" Jay whispers then goes for it and gives me a forehead kiss. I love it, I want more though.

Jay looks so incredibly sexy in the morning, his brown hair mussed from sleep.

"Amazing, better than alone that's for sure," Jay's responding smile is just what I wanted, "although, it's hard being next to you all night when we haven't even kissed."

“Well we can fix that, Aly Kat.”

Jay leans in bringing his lips to brush lightly against mine. I can't let him get away with such a chaste kiss thought so I bring my hand behind his neck and pull him in close.

The kiss deepens until I give a soft moan, Jay takes advantage brushing his tongue against mine.

I give a little jump when I feel a second set of hands rubbing up and down my side.

“I want to wake up like this every day,” Nic whispers before nibbling my ear.

Still kissing Jay I jump into this, rubbing my ass against Nic's growing length. He pushes into me showing me exactly how much he likes waking up like this.

Jay and I are really getting into this when a sharp knock on the door interrupts us.

Jay growls into my mouth and keeps going.

In the back of my mind the growls registers as weird but it's instantly forgotten.

The knocker knocks again, “What?” Nic snaps.

“Anna is here looking for Aly if she can tear herself away,” Jeremy sounds just as growly in response.

I feel shame that Jeremy is judging me for this. Even though he is always judging me, I'm feeling pretty self conscious about the idea of these guys sharing me.



Pulling away from them I grab my clothes, get dressed and open the door. Surprising me, Jer is standing there glaring back into the room. Looking back I see Nic and Jay giving him a dark look too.

I leave that behind, heading downstairs to see Anna. She's standing there talking to Kiran and Jax.

“What's up Anna?” I ask, coming up and giving her a hug.

“Well I knew I was passing the guys house on my way back so I thought I would stop in and see if you want to walk back home together? I texted you but you didn't answer.”

“Shoot, sorry! I didn't plug my phone in last night.”

Kiran comes up behind me and wraps his arms around me, locking them in the front.

“We were going to make breakfast, do you girls want to stay?”

Anna takes in the way Kiran's holding me and how ruffled I look then smirks. I have a feeling she's guessing at what happened last night but I would bet she has no idea. She's probably thinking I chose Kiran.

“Actually, I do need to get back and take care of Bailey. A neighbor let him out for me but I don't want to leave him alone too long,” I respond.

“Of course, next time,” Jax responds with a sweet smile.

Nic and Jay have made their way downstairs now.

“I'm taking off you guys, I'll see you soon though, okay?”

How's this goodbye going to go?

Before I can overthink it, Nic comes up and plants a searing kiss on me. It leaves me a little brainless. Then Jay follows it with a kiss of his own.

Kiran, still wrapped around me from behind, gives me a squeeze and kisses my temple before pushing me towards Jax for a hug as well.

Well, I guess I'm going to have a lot to explain to Anna on the walk home.

## Twenty Seven

# Aly



“Hey Ajax, I’m stuck on this problem. I thought I coded it right but clearly something is wrong. Could you look over it for me?” I ask.

The whole group is studying at the library together. Even Anna has started joining us for what has become a biweekly tradition.

“Of course, pass it here.”

I pass my laptop to Ajax with a grateful smile. Having him in this class with me has been a god send. He is incredible at it and so willing to help me.

“

Well that’s good timing. I was hoping I could ask you for help with math Aly?” Kiran asks.

Kiran is adorable and smart in so many ways but math is not his subject.

“Sure of course,” it’s perfect I’ll help him and his twin will help me.

I'm pretty sure most of the other guys could have helped him but if he wants to spend time with me who am I to complain.

He's already next to me so he just sets his book between us. He points out the problem and I do my best to explain it to him.

Everyone else is ignoring us, working on their own homework.

His hand settles on my bare thigh, under my skirt. I ignore him continuing to explain.

He slowly starts bringing his hand up higher and higher then back down caressing me slowly. Each time his hand gets a little higher and it starts to become distracting. What is he doing? I shoot him a look and he just smirks back at me.

“Keep explaining baby I don't think I have it yet.”

We are in public and he's turning me on so I try to tug my leg away. He gives my leg a warning squeeze and continues his caressing. Eventually he hits the edge of my panties and he starts playing with the seam. I can feel myself getting wetter every time he inches a little closer.

Hopefully no one else at the table is paying any attention to us as he gets closer and finally touches me where I need him the most, playing with my wetness. He lets out a little moan and brings his lips closer to my ear.

“Damn baby you're so wet right now. Is this for me?”

I give a little nod and a whimper escapes. I have completely given up trying to explain the equation.

“Well you better keep going or someone’s gonna notice you stopped then I’ll have to stop.”

I keep talking but I’m pretty sure at this point it’s all nonsense. Kiren keeps playing with me but never going fully inside. Finally he does, giving me a little relief. I feel so needy right now. If we weren’t in a stupid library I would be all over him.

Just then Jay takes a deep breath from his spot across the table and jerks his head up. He makes eye contact with me and then shoots his gaze over to Kiran. It’s like he knows what we are doing but how could he, he’s on the other side of the table.

Kiran doesn’t stop even with Jay looking at us he just continues with small pumps.

Jay’s foot finds me under the table and starts caressing up and down my leg. I guess he wants in on the fun.

I am so on edge right now but I don’t think I’m gonna get what I need out of this display maybe I can convince Kiran to go into the stacks with me in my mind Jay is there too but I don’t think I’ll get that.

As I lean over to ask him Jax finally pops his head up from behind my laptop and interrupts all my fantasies

“I found it, it’s on line 34 you’re just missing a semicolon Aly.”

Jax brings some perspective back to me. We are in a library with a big group around us and here I am with Kiran and Jay. I pull Kiran's hand away and kick Jay's leg, lean forward and get the laptop from Ajax.

“Thanks Jax, I don't know what I would do without you!”

He blushes from my compliment going back to his computer and his own work.

Kiran leans in one more time to get his book back. His lips brushing my ear.

“I know what you'd be doing without him right now.”

Damn these boys will be the death of me.

## Twenty Eight

# Ajax



*Nic: come downstairs, pack meeting.*

I check the text and see he sent it to all of us. We've been calling ourselves a pack for a long time. Since Jay is a wolf, his instincts require he has a pack. We are that for him. It's how we got the ability to speak in each others minds, and we formed a pack bond.

I close what I'm working on and make my way downstairs. Everyone is already settled and looking at Nic expectantly, me included.

Nic called this meeting for all of us but I'm pretty sure I know what it's about. All we talk about anymore is Aly, much to Jeremy's displeasure.

"Listen up, things are getting more serious with Aly and I think it's time we tell her the truth," Nic sounds dead serious.

Honestly, I think it's past time we told her so I'm glad we are having this conversation.

"I agree, we can't build a real relationship with her on lies," I reply.

Everyone looks a little shocked I'm speaking up first but spending time with Aly has helped build my confidence. She wants to hear what I have to say. I know my friends do too. Plus, when it comes to something this important I can't keep quiet.

"What if she runs away or is scared of us," Jay sounds terrified at the idea of scaring his mate.

"She might not believe us, what if she thinks we are crazy?" Kiran adds in.

"It'll be pretty easy to prove we are telling the truth and not crazy. We have to tell her at some point. I'm afraid if we wait any longer she could see it as a breach of trust. Now that the relationship is turning more romantic than friendly, it's not fair to keep it a secret," Nic is holding strong and I agree.

"You're right, we're just scared. She means too much to us to lose her now," Jay says nodding his head at a nodding Kiran.

"Okay, how do we want to tell her?" Nic asks.

"Can I go? This doesn't concern me," Jeremy speaks up for the first time.

"Doesn't concern you? As much as you might wish it's different, she's your mate too! It's a disgrace to us that you're fighting the bond. We should all be brothers by mating," Kiran sounds serious and outraged.

Jeremy looks a little chagrined but he still just shrugs. He turns to leave but Nic cuts him off.



“We aren’t going to lie to her, you’re her mate too. Once she realizes what that means do you really want to hurt her more than you already have?”

Jeremy keeps moving out the door but Jay says something to stop him this time.

“She’s my mate. If you hurt her, I will hurt you. Whatever your issue is, tell us so we can help or stay the hell away.”

Shit, this is getting serious fast. We all have the urge to protect Aly but none as strong as Jay’s instincts. As a wolf, his mate comes first no matter what. He’s not seeing Jeremy as a friend or future brother by mating. He’s seeing him as the cause of his mate’s pain. And he’s right, once Aly knows, she’s going to be devastated with the way Jeremy is treating her. Whether she cares or not, it’s part of the bond.

I need to diffuse this situation, “Jeremy I know someone hurt you but you’ve spent time with Aly. You must know she’s nothing like her. She’s kind, caring and loyal. She will love you if you give her the chance.”

He doesn’t respond but he doesn’t leave either. That’s enough to calm the situation down. He leans against the wall and listens while we continue deciding how to do it.

“She’s coming over tomorrow, let’s tell her then. I think we should just be straight up about it,” Nic says.

We all agree but before this conversation is over there’s one more thing we need to think about.

“Have you guys ever noticed how she never comments on anything that could be considered strange in a supernatural sense? Like how we reacted when we met her or when I almost said mates? She looks like she’s going to say something then a blank look comes over her face and she never does.”

“Do you think maybe she knows something and just never says anything in case we don’t know?” Kiran suggest. He sounds excited about her possibly already knowing about supernaturals.

“It would certainly make things easier if she did. It’s good we are getting it all out on the table,” Nic responds.

And that’s that, tomorrow we tell Aly about our powers and see what happens.

We all leave the kitchen, heading out to different areas of the house. Kiran follows me into my room and makes himself comfortable on the bed.

“Do you really think it’ll all be okay?” He asks. He sounds so nervous and unsure. It’s hard seeing my overconfident brother look so anxious.

Usually he’s the one making me feel better but this time I know I can help him.

“Think about her man, you know she’s going to handle this amazing. She’s so open and accepting, she’ll probably be excited about it all.”

He looks mildly better so I continue, “she really cares about us. She shows it in everything she does. She introduced us to Anna and you know how much that meant to her. She helps you with math, she unconsciously tries to give us equal attention and she was afraid to have feelings for any of us because she was afraid of what that would do to our friendship.”

And I’m right. Just saying it out loud to make Kiran feel better washes away any lingering doubt I may have had.

Tomorrow is going to be great and the beginning of forever for all of us.

## Twenty Nine

### Aly



The guys invited me over like they do every Saturday. I've officially blocked it on my calendar as time spent with them.

It's a nice day for a walk and I'm enjoying making my way over to the guys house.

When I get there they all seem nervous. Usually someone gets me from the door and we settle in the living room for whatever we're doing that day. Sometimes it's games, movies or sometimes if it's a busy week for school we do homework. That's only happened once or twice though.

So I'm surprised when all five guys are there waiting for me when Nic opens the door.

"Hey Aly, come on in," Nic beckons me in.

Again, normally they all hug me or something but today each guy except Jeremy holds me for a longer hug. It feels like they're squeezing me tighter too.

Shocking me the most, Jeremy gives me a little side hug then practically runs to his spot in the living room.

“What’s going on guys, you’re acting weird?” I ask.

Confirming how weird they’re acting, they all freeze and look guilty at that. What could they be this worried about? I thought things were going well between us? We were finally starting a relationship.

Oh god, is that the problem? Did they change their minds? They don’t want to share me anymore. Are they making me choose? Or are they all ending things?

It feels more like they’re worried about my reaction which makes me think they’re going to make me choose. But I really can’t, how will I make them see that?

They must see the panic on my face because they all switch their faces to a reassuring smile. Even Jeremy, which makes me feel worse.

“Aly, you look like someone died. It’s okay, just come in and relax,” Jay says.

He pats to the open spot on the couch next to him. When I take a seat there I’m even more suspicious because ever since Big House and meeting Anna, they’re almost always pulling me into one of their laps.

“Maybe we put some TV on and relax a little?” Kiran suggests.

But there’s no way I can sit through a TV show and not know what they clearly need to talk to me about.

“Guys, I can tell something is up. Can you just spit it out?” I ask.

They all turn to Nic who turns and faces me. He's making intense eye contact.

“Aly, there's something we need to tell you. I know it'll be hard to believe but please just try and keep an open mind for us.”

“Okay,” I whisper, agreeing to try my best. I trust these guys so I want to at least hear them out even if it feels like they're about to admit to being serial killers or something equally crazy.

## Thirty

### Nic



“Supernatural creatures exist and we are all one of them. For example, I’m a mage. I have control over magic and can perform spells. We are telling you for two reasons, one we think you’re one too. Two, Supernaturals have something called a fated mate. It’s the person or people who are made just for you, and you’re ours. All of us,” I spit it all out in one go.

I figure we can go back through each point but she deserves to know everything. She might run out of here right now and I don’t want her to have half the story because I tried to take it slow telling her.

Understandably, she has a look of shock on her face. She opens her mouth to say something but suddenly a look of confusion comes over her face. Then it’s suspiciously blank. Almost like what Jax mentioned yesterday.

“Sorry guys, I think I blanked out for a second. What were we talking about?” She asks so innocently.

“Uh, what? Aly are you in shock? We did just drop some big news on you...” Kiran trails off looking as surprised as the

rest of us.

“Listen Aly, I know it’s a lot to take in but we are mates which means you are destined to be with all of us but that doesn’t mean we will put any pressure on you. We understand it’s a lot. It does mean you can trust us though,” Ajax adds, we are all treading so lightly here.

Again she has a look of shock on her face which quickly transforms into a blank confusion.

“What the fuck? What’s going on?” Jay whispers.

Oh shit. How did I not realize this sooner. I guess I assumed she wasn’t picking up on anything because she was human but even a human would have questions. She’s spent so much time around us and things have slipped out.

“She has a memory loss charm on her, she can’t remember anything about the supernatural.” I declare with a hint of surprise. Those are incredibly hard charms to perform for an extended period of time.

“Guys my head is starting to hurt, what’s going on?” Aly looks so confused staring at us. I feel horrible we are causing this.

Who would put this on her?

“Can you remove it Nic? We can’t move forward if she can’t even remember who we are to her.” Jay demands.

“I can try but it’s going to be rough,” I step towards Aly making eye contact with her, “Aly, sweetie, do you trust me?”



“Yes,” Her worried eyes still hold a little sparkle when she answers me. I’m grateful for that trust.

I bring my hands up to either side of her head, close my eyes and send a surge of magic through her system. I need to find where the memory charm is stored before I can start removing it.

I find it in her unconsciousness which explains how it reactivates every time she learns something new about magic. This also makes it ten times harder to remove.

I’m chanting an incantation as I start weaving my removal spell through the strands of the memory spell. I’m looking for the root when the memory spell starts fighting back. I’ve never seen magic rooted so deeply before.

My heart breaks when Aly releases a bone chilling scream of pain. The guys rush forward but I bite out, “stay the hell back, you’ll only make it worse if you interrupt.”

Suddenly the scream cuts short and Aly collapses into Jay’s waiting arms. I don’t think I have the power to do this but I can’t stop now.

“If I stop now she might never wake up, I’ve never faced magic like this before. I need more power,” I bring my eyes up to meet Jeremy’s, “it’s the only way Jer.”

It’s not commonly known how powerful demon’s blood is but it can enhance a spell and bring someone back from the brink. It’s exactly what you need when a spell goes wrong like this. It helps the spell finish and saves the recipient. Except,

this time it's not that simple. Jeremy knows that and I don't know if he'll do this.

Jeremy only hesitates for a second, a look of anguish on his face. For all his bluster, he would never let her die. But he's giving up a hell of a lot to help her live too.

"What the hell are you gonna do?" Kiran snaps grabbing Jeremy's arm.

"Save her," Jeremy admits. He steps out of Kiran's hold and comes up next to me. He takes the knife I materialize and slices deep into his hand.

Next, he takes Ally's hand and slices just as deep with a grimace on his face.

"What the fuck," Ajax whispers looking white as a ghost.

Jeremy brings their two bloody hands together as gently as he can. Blood is splashing onto the ground from their hands. He's merging the power of his blood into hers.

A breath of fresh power and magic runs through Aly, her breathing picks up and color starts coming back to her skin.

With this surge of power I'm able to pluck the root of the memory charm from her unconscious. At least now we will be able to explain what we had to do to save her life. It's going to take a lot more explaining than the conversation we had planned.

Opening my eyes, I lift up her shirt. Just enough to see her ribs. I see it start to form on her right side. Winding and weaving the black through her skin until Jeremy's pentagram

stands out in bold black against her creamy skin. Or what I assume is his pentagram, like any demon, he doesn't share it easily.

I can only hope she'll understand we had to and forgive us.

Everyone is staring at her ribs in shock and some fury. Kiran opens his mouth no doubt to rake us through the coals when Jeremy drops to his knees.

He clutches his chest over his heart pulling in ragged breaths. Almost instantly he looks up at Aly with a look of wonder I doubt we will ever see again. The bond must have clicked.

He lifts his shirt revealing his chest and there carved into his skin is a mark like no other I've seen before. It looks like it was carved with a knife, red and healed over.

Two arrows cross creating an X over his heart. It looks like some sort of ancient warriors mark.

What the hell kind of mating mark is that?

# About the Author

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Also by D.M. Page

## **Captive (Forgotten Gods Reverse Harem Romance)**

<https://www.amazon.com/dp/B08N6WF8WD/ref=nodl>

I was a normal girl, until one day I wasn't. The very same day, men stole me away and held me captive. They imprisoned me with four guys, all with powers of their own: Apollo, Ares, Hephaestus and Hermes. They keep me sane while we plot our escape. But will we make it out alive?

\*This is a medium burn, paranormal prison fantasy, reverse harem. The story changes POVs between the main character and her men. The steaminess factor will go up as the series goes on and is intended for 17+. This is a short novella for the first book, 30,000 words and ends on a cliff hanger\*