## Chapter 0425

We all get into position and I give Lillian the lead. She's in front of them now and can see what they are doing. She holds her hand up to stop us. They are all looking at something, heads close together.

Then all hell breaks loose. The silence was broken by a low, guttural growl that reverberated through the woods. I was thrown forward, but recovered quickly rolling to the side as another swipe of an arm blew past my head. I lost track of the girls, but I'm sure they were keeping just as busy as me. A second guy joined my fight. Both of these guys were bigish. I guess when you compare anyone to my guys they are just -ish. But everyone is always bigger than me and the stupid ones think that makes them better than me. These two were no different.

One lunges at me trying to get at my legs, I turn away and use the move I used on one of the guys forever ago and used one of his arms to swing me up and jab my elbow into the soft spot on his lower back making his muscles spasm. He drops to recover while his buddy comes at me, grabbing one of my arms. I twist under, but he doesn't let go right away and the skin to skin rubbing burns like a b\*tch. I manage to break his grip though as I continue to move behind him and kick his knee in. It was too much to hope I broke something, which would slow him down.

Bonehead number one comes at me with a couple wild punches. I manage to grab one wrist and use his forward

momentum to pull him towards me, punch his face, and knee him in the thigh. I push off of him and move onto his buddy with a side kick to the center of his chest knocking him backwards. I'm not trying to let them get their hands on me. Number one comes at me and I throat punch him as he reaches for me and number two grabs me from behind, lifting me off the ground. Number one smiles his yellow rotted smile and stalks forward, panting hard. Fighting is clearly not their main job. When he gets close enough I kick up hard, catching him in the jaw. This time I heard bones crack as his head whipped back unnaturally and he fell backwards and I let my body weight pull me and number two down and forward. I reach back and grab two handfuls of hair throwing him over my shoulder and onto his back. I pull out one of my wrist blades and stab him in the upper chest and twist the knife making it harder to heal.

I hear a yell for help from Lillian, so I leave this douche to his wounds. Number one didn't get up, I made a quick check for his breathing, nothing. Not sure how that works, but I'm also not going to question one less dickhead to deal with.

I take off for the sounds of my friends. Jena has one guy fallen in front of her, she's got two more battling for her attention. Lillian's guy has her pin up to a tree and a knife at her throat. He's talking to her, but I can't hear what he's saying over the rest of the fighting noise. I move up behind him. I'm downwind so he shouldn't scent me coming.

I put my own blade on his throat. "Where's your boss hiding?
Is he too much of a chickensh\*t to come and find me

himself?" I dig the knife in. I don't care if these guys die, that really should bother me, but I can't dissect that train of thought now.

"You little b\*tch. You're not worth the trouble. He can have any p\*ssy he wants and he chooses the biggest pain in the ass he could find. He didn't say you had to be pretty when we brought you back..." He swings back and catches me with his elbow. My knife digs in and slices across his throat, but not enough to be lethal. "URGH! Just for that, I'm going to f\*ck you so hard up against this tree that you can't fight back anymore."

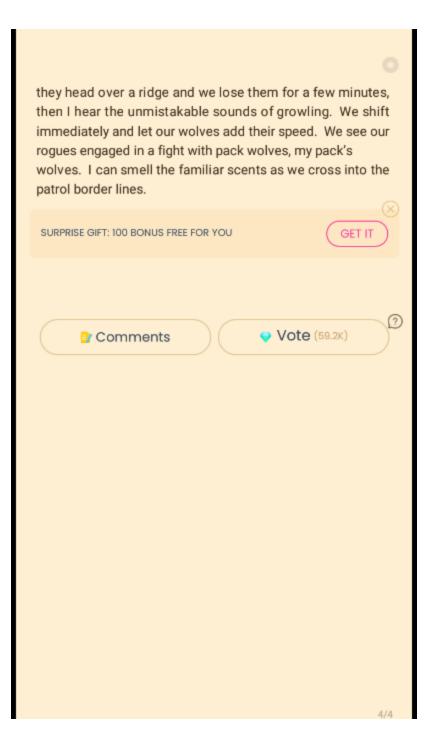
At his words I see red. My wolf and I seem to almost connect in our anger. This is the type of guy that needs to never walk this earth again. I don't even know what happened, but when I blink I am straddling him, two knives in my hands and blood everywhere.

Lillian grabs my shoulder and I flinch away from her.

"It's just me, let's go, Jena needs help." We both take off and Jena's guys are at least smart enough to know we pose a bigger threat than they thought. They take off and we are in pursuit.

"We caught up with several guys, No Mike. Four down and we are chasing two now." I basically scream into the mind link. I don't think I have ever had to report in while chasing down someone before. It's a little irritating.

I have no idea what direction we are running in. I do know that we are not letting these guys get away from us though and we have adrenaline on our side right now. They shift as



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2-117.5

The clash of fangs and claws echoed through the forest, and the wolves exchanged ferocious blows. The movements are so fast it's hard to tell who caught these guys. I am stuck momentarily watching the beauty of the movement. Then I see it, the dark gray, almost black wolf with a small white patch on his front, crouches down and snarls at one of the mangy looking rogues. Oliver. It's Oliver's wolf and he's beautiful in his furious glory. Before I can even say anything, he lunges at the rogue, clamps down on his neck and rips back. The rogue stood no chance against him. He turns towards the other rogue engaged with his partner.

"Oliver! I need him alive!" I shout through our link and it feels almost rusty and slow.

Oliver's wolf whips his head towards us as we run forward, then looks back to the rogue lunging forward and sinking his teeth into its back flank. The rogue howls in pain, but there's enough damage that he can't fight anymore. The rogue falls to his side panting and whimpering.

Oliver's patrol buddy shifts and it's one of the teens that trained with us forever ago. I can't remember his name, but he has certainly grown up. I don't pay much attention though, I only have eyes for my friend.

I slowly walk up to him, still in my wolf form and he lets out

a little growl which makes me pause. Then he shifts and stands there in all his naked glory.

I shift back, fully clothed and he gives me a curious once over. I can feel Lillian and Jena behind me, they have shifted too.

"Oliver." It comes out like a whisper.

"You're here?" He says it like a question, but it also sounds accusing. I nod and take a tentative step forward. "But not to stay?"

I shake my head 'no.' "I'm sure you all heard the rogues are on the move, we chased these two here after we took out four others. We need to question this one. I'll find out where Osiston wants him."

"That's it? All business now. Too caught up in being a warrior to even check in with your friends?" Yep, he's angry with me.

My breath catches, but before I can say or do anything else I am tackled to the ground by a white and ginger wolf who starts aggressively licking my face. I hear exclamations from the girls, but I start to giggle and it feels amazing.

"Sam, stop! I'm so gross, covered in blood and dirt and who knows what else." He licks my face one more time and then jumps off of me shifting. He also stands up completely naked. Reaching a hand down to help me up.

"I had to see it with my own eyes, you're really back!" His smile is infectious as he picks me up in a hug and spins me

around.

"Midge!" Lillian shouts as the underbrush around us starts to rustle aggressively, then my brother and the twins run out. My brother doesn't even stop crashing right into me.

"I am so happy to see you!" He breathes into my hair.

"Me too!" I tighten my arms around his neck.

"Tiny, what's going on?" Cam moves to my side and I look up at him. I let go of Mateo and give him a hug around the waist then moved to Dakota before answering again. I don't want to keep explaining myself.

I pull a silver collar out of one of my cargo pockets and take it over to the rogue. He's shifted back to his human form, his injuries too much to handle. I lock the collar around his neck.

"You try to shift the sliver in this collar won't kill you, but suffocating while being poisoned slowly by the silver will." Then I stand and turn to my guys. "Yes, Oliver, it's all business right now. I need this rogue alive, for now." I side-eye the rogue. "He needs to be questioned. Can we put him in the cells until I have my orders?" I look back to the twins who are glancing between Oliver and I. If he is going to be a d\*ck then so am I.

"Of course. Any idea how long you'll be home?" Cam asks, staying neutral.

"No, we didn't think the rogues would make it this far. We need to connect with Osiston and Alpha Reggie and have

our guys expand the perimeter they have set to include where we found these guys."

"Declan, take this guy down to the cells. Little Bit, it's late or early depending on when you slept last, so let's get you and your friends back to the packhouse, cause you know Luna Ava will kick your ass if she finds out you were on the territory and didn't stop."

At the mention of my friends I turn around and look at Jena and Lillian hanging back, but still flanking me like the dedicated soldiers they are.

"Oh, umm, Jena, Lillian," I gesture to each girl. "These are my future pack leaders. Cameron and Dakota, future Alphas. Mateo, my brother and the future Beta. Oliver, future Gamma and Sam, future Delta. Declan is one of their warriors. Guys these are two members of my team. Sierra, Wyatt and Nathaniel are stationed with other groups."

"Come on, shorty. You have some explaining to do." Mateo puts his arm around my shoulder and leads us back towards my pack.

I'm home.

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