

Chapter 0315

"So we are for sure going on this run then? I wonder if they will try and take us Thursday or if they will bide their time, if you're right about them being a part of the rogue group."

"No idea, but we should talk to Osiston and Nickolas. It will give Nik something to focus on and hopefully bring us closer to finding Gentry. Then I really do have homework to finish."

"Were you able to talk them into letting you stop doing the high school work? I can't believe that your teachers back home wouldn't give you a break on that."

"I don't think it's my teachers. I'm pretty sure it's the principal and one of the board members, who just so happen to be the two adults that gave me the worst time while I was in school. You would think that these guys were the teenagers with a grudge to settle. I'm not sure what I did personally to the principal to deserve his hatred, but the board member's daughter hates me with every fiber of her being and has her father on board with matching hatred. It's sad, but I actually understand that motive. She's a good manipulator and he's a power hungry Delta that was passed on for his brother, who is far superior as a Delta. I am a Beta's daughter, so I rank higher than both of them and am friends with all the future leaders and the current Alpha and Luna. Neither of them like that at all." I just roll my eyes. I feel like I have been doing that a lot lately and I internally

cringe at the thought and make a mental note to stop the habit.

"Damn, no wonder you wanted to get out so badly. She's the reason you have scars, isn't she?"

It's a question that's not really a question. More of a confirmation. I nod, not explaining further.

"You do realize that when we go back to your pack, and we will be visiting your pack at some point, I am going to figure out who this girl is and beat her ass, right?"

I take a deep breath and let it out slowly, fighting the urge to roll my eyes, and internally laughing at the stupid struggle. My stomach aches at the thought of going back to my pack, to my friends and my old life. I just don't know if the ache is a good one or a bad one.

"Why on earth would we go to my pack?"

"Don't you think for a second that you are keeping those fine as hell friends of yours away from us, my friend. Sierra needs to see her boy toy, it is all she talks about, and Lillian and I deserve the eye candy experience first hand. I've seen that picture in your room at the compound, you can't tell me I don't know what I'm talking about. I think a private lesson in the training yard will be needed, even if I can't get excited about a hot boy rolling all over me, my brain can still appreciate the effort." She tries to look serious, but it only lasts a few seconds before she busts up laughing. "Also I

want to be there when Miss Wannabe sees you now. If she was intimidated enough by you to harm you multiple times then, I can't wait to see her jaw hit the floor now." She snaps her fingers across herself dramatically like a Drag Queen, "You are just coming into your hotness. Even Xander and Oscar have made comments."

"She would never give me the compliment. She's good at hiding emotions when she wants or needs to. And I am not hot, don't make it weird. I know I don't look terrible, I'm not stupid and I have filled out a bunch since we started training with the warriors, but I look no better than you or Sierra or any of the other warriors."

"And yet, when your boys come crawling on their hands and knees drooling all over you she is going to lose her sh*t and I want to be there for that trainwreck." She laughs at me again. This time I don't fight the eye roll as I move to grab my backpack. I am as far ahead in my high school syllabus as I can be, and none of my teachers are going to give me a hard time. Everyone I have right now is actually on my side and they know what Cunningham has done to me. I am also a sophomore doing senior level and now also doing college level work, but I am not giving anyone a reason to doubt me.

"Let's go downstairs and let Osiston and Nik know what we think and I can get started on homework while we talk about what the game plan is for Thursday."

Chapter 0316

Osiston and Nickolas agreed with me that the circumstances were too coincidental to take lightly. More warriors have been posted around campus for our protection. Mina and I even suggested bringing in Wyatt and Nathaniel, they would pass as students and could be in class with us. Osiston tabled that idea for now. He doesn't want to scare the rogues away from us and if it looks like we have males near us giving off any type of territorial vibes the rogues might decide we are too much of a hassle to deal with and we could lose them.

The week went by quickly and I talked to Tyler almost every night through text. Mina said that talking to him on the phone is the next step closer to dating and I wanted to stay as far away as possible from giving off any of those signals. Text was nice though, because we could just continue a conversation sporadically throughout the day.

If he is just doing a job to get my attention, he is very good at it. They chose wisely in their recruiter. I cannot say the same for Robbie. That boy looks like someone put dog sh*t under his nose anytime we come near and I don't know why.

Neither Mina or I have gone out of our way to talk to him, but we haven't gone out of our way to be rude either. But, Tyler and even Mike have been pleasant to talk to and they have taken to walking with us to classes, 'making sure we


get there safely' when she and I can't walk together.

As the run approaches, I feel myself getting nervous. It's not a real date, logically I know that, but this is still the first time a guy has asked me to go do something. The guys don't count. They always did things in a pack and Sierra and I just became a part of the pack. He invited me and I decided Mina was coming with me because this sh*t is scary.

I know I told Tyler I would wear baggy sweats, but I have found myself wanting to try a little bit to impress him. It's weird, because I don't get the tingly butterflies in my stomach at the thought of him, or anyone for that matter and I don't have any urge for him to hold my hand or any of that mushy stuff, but I still enjoy the attention he gives me. It's a very strange, very platonic thing.

I opt for a cropped black t-shirt and gray joggers with my usual running shoes. My very long blonde hair is pulled up into a ponytail. I look like me, just put together. I stopped Mina from trying to put make-up on me. That was going too far and not anything I would normally do anyway. We are going to workout and then shift and run full force. I could not care less about how I look.

This was the part my wolf and I are so excited about. We have been practicing the shift while maintaining clothes on and working with our mind link. We have also been going in and out of wolf form during sessions with Nickolas, which has actually been a lot of fun, but we have not run full out

 +25 BONUS

since being off the warrior compound training grounds. I'm a little afraid of what my stamina is going to look like and Mina only laughed at me when I voiced my fears.

"Seriously? If you struggle even a little bit, you will still probably smoke the rest of the guys we are running with. Maybe you will look a little closer to 'standard warrior.'" She air quotes at me while using a mocking voice.

"What are you talking about? You keep up with me just fine. Are you going to show them up tonight?"

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Chapter 0317

"I barely keep up with your slow pace and that is because my wolf and my ego demand it. And yes, if I have the opportunity to look like a badass in front of these guys I will. The point is to make them want to be around us, and if they are part of the bad guys, to want to take us. As long as we don't have to spar with them we will be fine. Showing them our strength will be a bad thing, but being friendly competition to their speed will make them want to chase us and we both know guys like a good chase."

"I don't know anything of the sort. Nobody has ever chased me." The minute I said it a memory flashed in my head. The smell of the damp earth beneath my feet, my heart pumping and just feeling the release of the day's tension. Then hearing the thudding of paws behind me and voices in my head asking me to slow down and stop, to just talk after all of their actions that day that caused my pain in the first place. Then shifting in the air on the run for the first time. The exhilaration my wolf and I felt as we worked in tandem and more in sync than we ever had before.

"Liar!" I see that look on your face and it says everything. You are terrible at hiding those deep down emotions. You have been chased and are somewhere in the middle on how you feel about the topic. You had a look of calm and then one of absolute irritation. This is a story to table for a later

date and possibly drinks so you actually tell me the whole damn thing, but now we have a hot date with your hot ecology guy. Let's go!"

She grabs me by the arm and marches me down the stairs and out the door before I can argue. Osiston, Nickolas and the rest of the team left an hour ago to get into position. They can suppress their scents so it won't come off as if we are being followed. Since we live on the south side of campus we chose to drive to the north end to meet up with the guys. We could have easily run it, but I have no idea what is in store tonight and don't feel like wasting energy on a 20 minute walk across campus.

"We are close ladies, just let us know what you see, hear, even smell. Anything can be information we can use. Keep your links open and we can just listen into the conversations." Osiston advises over the link.

"Why does that feel like a double edged sword?" I ask.

"Because you are already super awkward when you flirt, no we can all hear how awkward you are." Mina so helpfully informs me.

"Thank you for that. Now it is going to be weird. How about Mina leaves her link open and I will just report in?"

"Not a chance, I want first person POV on this train."

"Now I really am shutting you out, jackass." I laugh at Mina.

"Alright you two knock it off. If it will be distracting Sky just report in, but you will have to figure this out. Keeping a mindlink open, no matter what you are doing, can be vital to an op." Osiston stops us and brings us back to serious game planning.

"Understood, but Mina is right and this whole flirting with a boy thing is hard enough and I don't want her or anyone else in my ear about it." I say as we pull close enough to see the fitness center up ahead. "We are about two minutes out."

"We are all in place. Two warriors are currently following you and will monitor the building and your car while you are gone. Alyssa is northeast of you, close to the bonfire sight. We followed them in and watched the set up, so far no signs of anything off. I am to the west of you and will be running parallel the whole time. Nickolas will be doing the same to the east of your position. We won't be more than five minutes away from you at any time. Let us know if anything makes you feel uncomfortable, we will get you out no matter what."

Chapter 0318

"Got it." Mina and I say together.

We pull in next to a big truck. It's not new, but it's well taken care of and the smell coming from it is from Tyler and Mike. There are days that I do really appreciate my very distinct sense of smell.

"Tyler and Mike are here for sure. Mike drove them here in his truck." I tell the group.

"How do you know it's Mike's truck? I just smell them both here."

"Let's just say I have a unique sense of smell and can pick out different scents, even blended together like this. Mike's scent is stronger on the driver's side."

We walk around the truck to the side of the building where more cars are parked and I can hear a low murmur of voices.

"Hey! You made it! I was wondering if you were going to stand me up." Tyler comes running over to us.

"We are right on time, unless you lied to me to try and make us late. Were you trying to avoid introducing us to your friends?" I look at him seriously but smile, hopefully it came off as teasing, but I'm interested in getting this party started and I need names for the team to run later.

"Would you be mad if I said maybe?" He bumps me with his elbow as he leads us over to the group milling about. He hasn't even acknowledged Mina, something is going on for sure.

"You brought more girls? There's already too many." "A voice whines from the left of the crowd.

A platinum blonde bigger than me, but smaller than Mina steps out of the crowd. Clearly the queen bee here in this group.

"Janice, this is Skylar and Mina. They are new and I thought they could use a group to run with, so yes I invited them."

"Are you so quick to get bored with the other girls here Tyler?" She's questioning him, but it feels like reprimanding too, maybe a sly way to let me know he's a player.

The problem is, I already know he's a player, she's the idiot not me.

"Not bored, just being friendly."

"Whatever. Just don't get in our way. We take this run seriously. The last girl he brought couldn't keep up for even a mile. Don't be a little b*tch and stay out of the way, got it?"

"Yep." I responded, popping the 'p.'

"Sky, you keep your head on straight. Don't let her bait you into a competition. She's trying to see what you'll do."

★ +25 BONUS

Nickolas chimes in.

"Thank you captain, I have never been in any form of competition before where people try to get in your head. I never would have thought of that. This is actually the part I am good at guys. I appreciate the vote of confidence, really."

"Maybe, but this is your first op, and a little close to home. I just want to make sure you're thinking clearly, now stop acting like a petulant teenager."

"You do realize that is exactly what I am, right? Like literally a teenager."

"Shut up, smart ass. Go run and show us all how wonderful you are at it."

"Now who's the smartass?"



Miss L Author

"*I have not found a better way for the mindlinking to translate other than to keep it in italics. Sorry, this is in the chapter notes at the end of the chapter, I didn't want to take up paid for space with a basic explanation.*"

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