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Epilogue 1 - Sky's 18th Birthday

"Why are you not ready yet?" Sierra yells at me from the door of my bedroom.

"What are you talking about? I have been ready. What else is there to do?" I look down at myself. I have the dress she chose, the hair style and make-up we have practiced at least three times this week. I had to beg Sam to keep her busy to give me some peace.

He took it like a man and told her he wanted to redecorate the boys' rooms. Their second son is due in just a few months and Sam has actually been holding her off from redecorating since the baby stuff shouldn't really change in his opinion. I agree with him, but I will never say that out loud to my best friend. She has been extra moody with this pregnancy.

"Ugh! I have to make sure everything is perfect! I can't have my best friend look ridiculous when she is becoming an Alpha Luna."

The title she has given me is so stupid, but another thing I can't say because she will either try to fight me or burst into tears and she's right, today is not the day for things to go wrong.

"Hey, breathe. It will be perfect. You have done such a wonderful job on everything. Now take a deep breath and stop stressing my nephew out." I reach out to rub her baby bump. She is such a natural mother. She has even taken on the kids who lost their parents in the war with Adrielle

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and Vincent. The packhouse is a revolving door of children and we all love every second of the craziness.

She takes a deep breath and lets it out slowly. "I know, I know. It's just really important, and everyone is here and it's your birthday and we haven't done anything yet and I know that we always do something special for birthdays, but the packhouse is jammed full of people so we are missing out on that too." I jump up from my chair and put my hands on her shoulders making her take my seat.

"Stop! Right now. Don't make me Alpha command you. It will be perfect. Everything you do is always amazing. And we are doing something for my birthday, it's just a little different than normal. Everyone agreed that this was the best day for everything to happen. I turn eighteen, there's a full moon tonight, we have the Luna ceremony. It's all supposed to happen tonight and everyone will stick around for a couple days and then we will have the house to ourselves and we can sit by the pool and grill burgers to your little pregnant heart's content."

"SILAS! NO! YOUR MOTHER IS GOING TO KILL YOU AND THEN ME AND NOT NECESSARILY IN THAT ORDER!" We hear the yell from outside and both of us rush to the balcony.

I love this view. The way the guys designed the packhouse is perfect. The 'U' shaped design has the main common areas in the middle and the living spaces on either side. We are in the west wing on the top floor and I have a balcony that takes up the whole wall that overlooks the massive pool we have in the back. The rest of our Alpha Suite has windows that overlook the central courtyard or the forest that surrounds the packhouse and my greenhouse.

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Just as we get to the edge of the balcony I see Silas take a running jump from one side of the massive waterfall that circulates the pool water, to the other side. The boy is only six months old and already a handful. He has scaled everything that is possible to climb and he learned to walk and run on the same day. It takes all of us just to keep track of him. Sam is running after him screaming about keeping his clothes clean and really wanting to be alive to see him reach at least five. We are both laughing hysterically. There is no way either of them come out of this chase clean. 1

"I told Sam those were his clothes for the ceremony and he had to stay clean or else he was sleeping with the pups in the dorms for the foreseeable future." She giggles holding her tummy.

"Even I know you wouldn't dress Silas until about thirty seconds before he has to run down the aisle, how does Sam not know that?"

"Men are stupid." She shrugs. "I think Jena is having just as much trouble with Mack, but he knows how important today is for you. That boy's sense of duty for his beta blood is stronger than yours ever was. I would send him after Silas if their communication skills were as advanced as their physical ones." She laughs again. 1

"Okay, we really do have to head down. Is there really something I am missing, or were you just being dramatic?" I walk away from her a little and do a spin. I don't bother looking in the mirror, she's better than any piece of glass at making me look my best.

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I have this gorgeous white gown that has all the pizzazz Sierra thinks it needs, but it is still my simple style. It is a mermaid styled dress with a bunched satin material making up the top of the bodice. The rest of the dress material is a matte white hanging from the satin, hugging all my curves in the right places. The bunched satin continues over my shoulders and crisscrosses between my shoulder blades and wraps back around the front creating this sexy wrap look. It finally finishes in the back, just above my tailbone where the satin attaches and hangs like a pleated train to the floor. Sierra has my hair loosely pulled to the side and over my shoulder. The beach waves are pinned strategically to look effortless, but they will not move at all. Luna Anne sent my silver shoes so I could wear them and tease the guys a bit since Xander got to see me in a dress for the first time before them. They probably won't even notice, but the nod is still funny to me and Xander is sure to bring it up if he notices.

"No, you look perfect. Let's go." She laces her arm with mine and we walk out together. Lil and Jena meet us as the elevator stops on the next floor down.

"Oh yes! They are going to die when they see you!" Jena coos and Lil laughs.

"I bet Dakota tries to get you in the greenhouse for a quickie before the ceremony starts."

"You're on!" Jena laughs. "There's no way Cam is going to let anything stall this ceremony. It has taken too long to happen as it is. And besides him and Oliver would never

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let Kota have all the fun while she looks like that. I bet you go into heat immediately.”

I look down at my feet knowing my face just turned beet red. I don't know why it still embarrasses me to talk about my sex life. At this point we are all adults and everyone here, but Lil, is mated and two of my friends are mothers. This is not new territory, but something about my sex life with three mates fascinates everyone and I don't enjoy it when it comes up.

“At least now she looks like the innocent little Luna she's supposed to be and not the well versed bedroom goddess she is.” Lil prods, sending my embarrassment through the roof. “I'm actually surprised you can walk most days.”

“Oh, stop.” I cover my face trying to reel in the heat in my cheeks. “You act like we do nothing but have sex.”

“I mean...if my mate looks like you or any of your guys, I probably wouldn't leave our room for a month. So, take the compliment. You are hot, they are hot and so far you have had the luxury of being mated, early I might add, with no heat or any of that craziness to deal with. If it was me, they would be tied to the bed, ready to ride.”

“You need to get laid, my friend.” Jena pats her shoulder.

“That would be great, but my brand didn't conveniently disappear so I could find my mate early like some of us. So, you all will just have to deal a little longer with me living vicariously through you.”

“Is it weird to be able to think about sex and mates and all of that? Be completely aware of it, but not be able to act on it.” Sierra asks in research mode now.

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"Yes and No. I mean, I don't have any urges, but I can appreciate a good looking person when they are in front of me." She looks at me and wiggles her eyebrows.

"I guess the real question is, are you hoping for a male or female mate?" I ask her, liking that the conversation has deviated to her.

"Can't I have both? Why should you be the only one with multiple mates? It would never be boring!" She laughs and then stops as the elevator doors open and she steps out to look around. "The coast is clear. Looks like everyone is where they are supposed to be. Do you two want to wrangle your gremlins for their adorably crazy entrance?" She looks at Jena and Sierra who just roll their eyes and laugh, but don't argue as they walk off.

Lil is in Gamma mode now. She is my right hand and I couldn't ask for anyone better. We have just a few minutes of silence and then she turns to look at me. "It's time, boss." She winks and I roll my eyes.

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Epilogue 2 - Alpha Luna Ceremony

The ceremony was beautiful. I don't think there was a dry eye in the area. Sierra and Ava did a beautiful job with the clearing behind the packhouse. It's now a retreat for all of us with benches and flowers strategically planted amongst the natural growing vegetation. It's a nod to the small garden that Ava had for me here at the original packhouse and the maze that Uncle Reggie would let me get lost in at the Royal packhouse. We love it, the kids love it and anyone in the pack can come here for a bit of peace.

As we all thought, my nephews stole the show and I am glad to not be the center of attention for a little while. Their cute and wiley ways kept most of the attention off of me as I took my place with my mates as the new leaders of the pack. Much to my dramatic friends' dismay nothing exceptional happened at the Luna ceremony. I don't know what they were expecting, but lightning did not strike, the Moon Goddess did not visit us, no otherworldly tornados to lock us in time, nothing. Actually, I shouldn't say nothing, all of our pack members got to welcome all four of us as their new leaders and we officially accepted the positions. We said a farewell to Lucas and took the titles of Alphas of the Blue Crescent Pack as a normal Alpha and Luna ceremony would go. It was never in question who the next Alphas would be, but like Ava, Brett, Kyle and my dad pointed out, our members missed a lot of the chaos and they came back to a pack that was destroyed and without the alpha they knew and loved.

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This ceremony was a way to bring them back and give them a feeling of control over what was going to happen moving forward. A sense of peace. We decided to relight the forever fire. That was a debate that went on for days. So many were afraid of the magic that was used against us, but in the end Elena, Gentry and I won out. Magic is a part of this pack now, whether anyone likes it or not. We will not hide it or shield our members from it. We will educate our members on what it means to have magic among us. For those of us who have been given gifts from both goddesses, we want them to be comfortable in their skin and know they have a place here with any of their gifts.

We have even opened up our pack to Gentry's coven since Adrielle decimated the land they were on as well. They love the ocean and have taken well to pack life. 1

My brother finds me off to the side just watching everyone as they mingle around the pool and inside the kitchen. This is what we always wanted, full inclusion, while still maintaining some sense of privacy for those of us who live here. I want everyone to feel welcome and wanted.

"What are you thinking about so hard over here, Shorty?"

"Nothing really. Just enjoying the bit of normal that we finally get to have. Is it strange that I still look over my shoulder, expecting something bad coming our way?"

"No. For you I think it is completely normal. Have you ever had a day when you weren't looking over your shoulder?" His brow furrows after he lets the words all out of his mouth.

I just shook my head. "I actually can't think of a time, no.

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Is that bad?" I look at him, really wanting an answer. I still sometimes think that I am too broken to be in the position that I am. I am a warrior and I just fought the biggest war of my life. What am I supposed to do now that it's over? Oliver was right my 'switch' has been turned on to fight mode for so long, I don't even know what it means to be 'off.' 1

"No, it's not bad, and you are meant to be here. You were always meant to come home. I am so sorry that what took you away was tortures happening right under our noses. I will never stop being sorry for that. But I can't be sorry for the person you are, the Alpha Luna that changed our world." He nudges me with his shoulder using that stupid title of Sierra's. I just rolled my eyes. "So, when are you going to tell them?"

I look at him sharply. "What are you talking about?"

"Apparently there are things you can hide from your mates and friends that your brother can see straight through. You are doing a great job suppressing the aura and scent, but I don't think that will last much longer, especially now that the whole pack will be hounding you." He smiles widely and winks.

I stay quiet and look back at the group surrounding the patio and pool behind the packhouse.

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