


Chapter 0143

That's strange, I thought he wasn't going to say anything to the pack until he actually had something to tell. My wolf questions.

Maybe news from the Alpha King set him off. We aren't in the pack house so we aren't privileged to that info anymore.

Or he just thinks it's a good idea to be prepared. I mean, it's the reason we train pups so early, isn't it? She has a point.

I guess we'll find out tomorrow. Are you sure you're okay with this? Being away from the guys and all. You are getting so strong, I don't want the separation to harm you too.

I have a feeling it will be alright and we are still close enough that I can talk to their wolves, they really aren't that far away. That's enough for now. When you all are done being emotional humans let me know and we'll set things right. 

I just roll my eyes. Goodnight.

Goodnight. Luna Ava said to tell you goodnight as well and your room will always be available and

waiting for you. I just smiled.

We got up early the next day feeling a little better. My stomach is still in knots at the thought of staying away from the guys, like I'm physically not well, but I push past that so I can focus on getting out of here. I force myself to eat a few of the protein bars I stashed along with a bottle of water.

Mateo and Oliver stayed by my door last night. They might have even slept against it with how strong their scents were wafting under it. I will say the scent was calming and I had a calm dreamless sleep. They get points for perseverance that's for sure, but I have to keep my mind on my goal. My goal is to get trained to be the best warrior I can be for my pack. I can't let my, as my wolf calls them, 'human emotions' get in the way of that. I can feel it in my bones, that I need to go do this, more than I need them by my side at this moment.

I pack a bag with a change of clothes so I don't have to leave the training arena after we are done. I will just shower and change there, again like old times. As soon as I have everything I will need for the day, I head out my trusty window, making sure to take a good look around to make sure the coast is clear. They aren't stupid and will figure out what I'm doing

sooner rather than later. But I will use my advantage for now.

I know Sierra said I was her priority, but she may think telling the guys I can sneak out would be helping me. So I am treating everything as if I can only trust myself and my wolf implicitly. We make it out okay and head toward the diner, Sierra met me outside and we headed to a table in the complete opposite corner of where the guys normally go. A fact Martha was quick to point out.

“We just needed some girl time and didn’t want them hounding us about being here without them. So we’d rather leave our scents way over here and hope they don’t notice if they do come in.” Sierra says easily and I don’t know if Martha buys it or just decides to go with it. She brings everything out in to go containers and a wink.

“Luna Ava gave me a heads up and you have about three minutes to clear out. Enjoy your day ladies!” She is way too cheerful about this sneaking around thing than she should be.

“Wait! How much do we owe you?” I ask, confused.


“I told you. You eat for free! I haven’t had this much fun in so long. The looks on those boys’ faces when

they think they know what's what and either of you put them in their places is so entertaining, it's worth it. Now go out the back I think." She winks again and we laugh as we take off.

When we get to the training arena a note on the outside gate says training has been postponed today while the warriors are in planning meetings so we head off to find a place to eat our breakfast in peace while we wait for school to start.

We were not as lucky in our avoidance tactics at school. The guys came and were in all their broody glory, snapping at anyone who got in their way. They caught up with us and walked wordlessly to each class we had together and managed, somehow, to be even angrier when they realized that Sierra was no longer in their classes if I wasn't. We didn't approach the subject of why none of us were talking and I only interacted if and when absolutely required for class.



Sierra and I were leaving English, one of the few classes the guys aren't in. "I officially hate you for how smart you are, just so you are aware. How do you even understand what she is saying? It's English, it's not supposed to be that hard." Sierra groans. "You are going to have to do my homework for the rest of the year if I stay in that class. I'm pretty sure that one is

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for seniors.”

I giggle at her, but my amusement doesn't last long as we walk into the lunchroom. Sam walks straight to us, but doesn't make eye contact with me.

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“We all need to report to dad after school, all warriors fifteen and older are going to start running patrols. He wants to pair underage warriors with seasoned warriors so we can all learn the routes and procedures. Ride with us or don’t, it’s up to you, but we’re all going to the same place.” Sam huffs at both of us, still not looking at me, before heading off to get lunch.

The rest of the guys stand in the hallway a little longer just staring at us, then they all walk away as well.

“Well they must really be pissed at me if Sam is the one giving the cold shoulder. You should go sit with them, you both do not deserve to be caught up in the BS between the twins, Oliver and I. I swear I will be okay on my own for a little bit. I promise I will even sit close enough for you to keep an eye on me.” I look at Sierra, who’s staring longingly at Sam’s retreating back.

I walk away, not waiting for her to respond, to a corner table no one is occupying, my appetite is lost after realizing what my behavior is doing to my

friends' relationship. This time I can't just give in when they say sorry though. Their opinion won't change, but neither will mine.

It's nice and quiet over here. Most people don't like it because it is tucked into a corner, you cannot see a portion of the lunch room and, more importantly, you can't be seen. I can keep Sierra in my sights, which means she can see me, so I'm technically not alone. I pull out a book from our strategies class. We are working through wars that have happened in the last hundred years and analyzing why they started in the first place, what ultimately ended them and how each side was either successful or failed. Our teacher also posed the question of should they have started in the first place? 1

I was so caught up in a war that Alpha King Reggie's grandfather fought in, I didn't see my brother sneak up on me. Another downside to this corner is the AC unit blowing across my head making me upwind, I didn't smell him coming up behind me either.

"You need to see this from our side, Shorty. We can't protect you if you go away and we don't know who you'll be with or what they are going to do with you and that scares the sh*t out of all of us."

I didn't look up from my book. "I will accept your

position...” He took a deep breath in, sighed it out loudly and relaxed next to me, but I wasn’t finished. “When you all accept my position. You do not NEED to protect me. I’m sure in our short time together you have all at least figured that out. As far as who I will be hanging around with, get over yourselves. Do I need to remind you that until Sierra came, none of you gave two sh*ts what happened to me, or who I was with. So find a new excuse for your behavior. Just because you care now doesn’t change that. I am doing my best to not hold that against you, but it’s hard when your archaic misogynistic sides come out in all their flying colors.”

“That’s not fair, you never said anything, never asked for help, never complained. Had you said something we would have stepped in sooner.”

I take a deep calming breath, I cannot lose my temper here. “Did you just say it’s my fault that dad treated me the way he did? Pawned me off on a nanny who wasn’t allowed to do more than feed me and get me to school. Or that getting bullied was my fault? What happens to me now, I will fully own, it is my choice to take the burdens of those younger and weaker than me, but not originally. You did not take notice and I won’t let you put that blame on me.” I am full on glaring at him now. “I’m not going to let you make

me feel guilty for how you feel now.”

“That’s not what I said., and you know it.”

“That’s exactly what you just said! At least I know how you really feel. It won’t matter how many times I beat you and the guys, you all think you are better than me and that I need you and can’t survive life without you. Thank you for clarifying Mateo, excuse me, I have class to get to.” I shoved everything in my bag and got up to leave. I wasn’t waiting for anyone to catch up with me.

I got to our Health and healing class and made my way to the back of the room in the corner, hoping that people would sit around me and none of them could come near me. I was not lucky enough though, no one was going to mess with the guys looking the way they did when they came in the room. Sierra sat next to me, Oliver in front of me, Mateo diagonal, and Sam, Kota and Cam finished out the back row next to Sierra. Again we all only speak when necessary, but you could cut the tension in the room with a knife. If this keeps up, I may go to the Luna and see if I can just finish my classes remotely. This is ridiculous.