

## Chapter 0157

“Oh, really? I would like to see that. It’s not everyday you get a chance to beat an Alpha.” I giggle and wink at Cam who has an unreadable expression on his face.

“Alright little man, it sounds like you want a challenge and I don’t know how I feel about you taking my girl’s attention or holding her hand. I might not play fair now.

Brandon’s eyes go wide and he looks at his hand in mine and jumps back like I electrocuted him. “I’m sorry Alpha, that’s not what I meant at all. I just wanted Sky to watch, you know, since she’s been teaching us and all, and...”

“Brandon, relax, he was just teasing.” I try to calm the rambling boy down.

Was I though? If I’m not allowed to touch you, no one else is. Cam mindlinks me.

My jaw drops open, but Cam just turns around winking at me. “Come on Brandon, let’s show your fearless leader what you can do.” Cam walks off with Brandon, and I am speechless.

As soon as my brain checks in and I realize I should be

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moving, a massive arm wraps around my shoulder.

It's only fair that I get to be close too, even if it's a minute. Yes I'm jealous that an eight year old was holding your hand and from watching my brother hold you. Dakota mindlinks me, but doesn't look at me, just propels us forward where Cam and Brandon are setting up to spar. He doesn't release me like I thought he would though, just leaves his arm loosely draped over my shoulder.

"Alright little man, let's see what you got." Cam taunts Brandon who doesn't seem phased at all. He's bouncing around like a heavy weight boxer getting ready to start a fight.

They get into position and Cam grabs Brandon like they were practicing before, but instead of letting Brandon with the fight quickly, Cam puts more resistance on him and makes it more difficult for Brandon to break the hold. Brandon tries the release again and again, finally on the fourth attempt Cam lets him break the hold.

"Awe man, that was way harder this time. Did you just go easy on me to make me feel better the first time?" Brandon almost looks defeated. I move to go to him and try to help him understand that Cam is making him better this way, but Kota grabs my arm,

holding me in place.

“I would never do that to you little man. The first time was to show you how getting out of the hold works, then we keep working on it so the move is in your muscle memory no matter the situation, then as you get better, we make it harder and harder to break so you’re always learning. Besides, I couldn’t let you make me look weak in front of the girls.” He winks at Brandon whose smile lights up his whole face, making me smile too.

A low rumbling huff comes from the other side of the sparring circle. I look up sharply to see Oliver staring daggers at me with a scowl on his face. He rolls his eyes and turns to walk away.


He doesn’t get far before we hear, “Oh Goddess there you are! I have been looking for you everywhere. The Luna wasn’t sure where all of you were. Of course you are working with these sweet little pups, it’s so great how you spend your spare time with them. I just wanted to make sure that you boys left on time to get ready to take us to the mating ball. We have to be right on time for the grand entrance. I heard that Alpha Prince Alexander was coming too since he became such good friends with you all during the trial, so we for sure can’t be late.” Kaley’s high

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pitched tone came at us from the entrance of the arena. She is talking animatedly with her hands like a fairy in a movie.

“What are you talking about?” Sam asks coming up next to me. “We have plenty of time, two more training sessions and none of us are taking you anywhere. I know that we all made that perfectly clear. We are going as a group.” He points generally to the guys, Sierra and I. “And just to be one hundred percent clear that does not include yourself, Marnie or Jeanie. Please stop trying to force the issue or change our minds.”

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Kaley's face went more crimson than I have ever seen it before, but I'm not sure if it was from anger or embarrassment at this going down with an audience.

"My father said Cameron and Dakota will be escorting me, Mateo will be escorting Jeanie and Oliver will be escorting Marnie. I have no reason to think otherwise. He set everything up and I expect you all to pick us up on time so we can make our entrance properly as the future leaders of this pack." She raises her chin to Sam as if she is giving a command.

"I suggest you watch your tone to your future leaders." Oliver emphasizes the word 'leaders.' "Your father is not a leader in any way shape or form, and therefore has no control over us or really anything in this pack. As you have been told on more than enough occasions, we are going as a group." He gestures to the guys around the sparring circle again for emphasis. "The future Alphas, Betas, Gammas and Delta. You are none of those things. Do not expect any of us to show up to escort you anywhere. None of us can sense our mate, so this ball is nothing more than an end of year dance and formality for any of us. There is no reason to make such a big deal out of it. If

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you choose to attend we might see you later.” He turns and heads towards the entrance to the arena without a glance back at any of us.

I did not miss the plurals of ‘Beta’ and ‘Gamma’ including Sierra and I by our ranks. My heart stings watching him go, he’s still angry at me for wanting to leave and not listening to his pleas to stay. I take a deep breath and roll my eyes inwardly. He has to let me go. I can’t be stifled here.

Before Kaley can say anything else Delta Kyle comes up and claps his hands. “You all did very well today, we will see you next weekend. Make sure you work on everything that you learned today so you can come back stronger next week. The Luna would like a word with you all so I am going to take the rest of the training for today.” He doesn’t even spare Kaley a glance.

“Awe man! I was totally going to whoop you this time too.” Brandon stomps the ground.

“There’s always next time, little man.” Cam pats him on the shoulder.

I turn out of Dakota’s grasp. “I’m just going to grab my things then I will be on my way, you guys don’t have to wait, I’ll catch up.” I head swiftly towards the

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locker area.

I don't really have anything to grab, I just really don't want to walk with them. There's still a huge tension between all of us and I'm not sure how to get past it. I guess I'll have to figure it out soon if I want to hang out with all of them for the rest of the night though.

I fiddle around in the girls locker room for about ten minutes and figure they should be gone by now and if they aren't I will just have to deal with them walking me to the packhouse. As I go to grab the door it comes flying open and the momentum I wasn't expecting knocks me on my butt. Before I know what is happening I see a fist flying towards my head and then everything goes black.

 Comments

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