

Triplet Alphas Gifted Luna 160

3 - 49 Grindstone

KAI'S POV

On our way home from the mini beach vacation, I mind linked my brothers.

"We've all had uninterrupted time with Thea the past few days," I said. "I'm going to take her for our one-on-one time at the cottage tonight."

Conri and Alaric discussed amongst themselves for a moment.

"Fine," Conri mind linked me. "But I'm next."

"Fine by me," I said in mind link. "We agreed to take turns when we could."

We made the rounds when we got home, making sure everything was good with the pack. We visited the three girls. I mind linked the kitchen and asked them to stock the cottage with food.

It was Misty's birthday, so Thea was texting her all day. She shifted around lunchtime and sent Thea a picture of her wolf. 1

Then Thea called a meeting with Delta team.

"Thank you for everything," Thea said. "I know there's been a lot going on. I'm asking so much of you all. If you need

some time off, let me know."

Delta team shook their heads. They went on the beach vacation too. My mate, always making sure everyone is happy.

"Okay," Thea said. "Then I think it's time to get back to the grindstone. I have a feeling we're going to need to go around to all the packs, make sure no one evil is in power, and free any slaves we find. Can you do recon on the next packs, working out geographically from where we've been? If they're good, we can ask them to join the alliance. If they're bad, we give the pack to neighboring good packs."

"Yes," Garrin said. "We can recon the next packs."

"Thank you," Thea said. "Now that we've taken care of the fires in our backyard, we need to research the big bad. Hit it hard. Start making strategies, tactics, everything. We have to know what we're going to be fighting."

My beautiful mate. Our leader. Always thinking about the next thing.

"This is what I want you to start thinking about and researching," she said, walking to the whiteboard. "What do we know about the packs that were desolated? Why did the big bad choose those packs? What did they get from them? We don't know if books were missing from their libraries because we don't have a roster of what should have been in them. Did they have artifacts? Did they have gifted? Oracles? Were the leaders important? Are they knocking

down legs that hold us all up? Did the bad guys have a connection to someone in each pack? Did they know the weaknesses, so it was convenient? Was geography important? Why the east coast? They have to be based there, right?" 1

"It's a safe assumption," Liam said.

"What do we know about the area? Historically and currently. What's the supernatural presence like there? We need to know everything about the places they've already hit. They have to be using a strategy, and at some point, we have to see the pattern of that strategy. I want you to make a narrative out of the chaos. Cover the things I missed. Do what you do better than anyone else out there." 1

"Yes, Luna," the men said, preening a little at the praise.

Thea took a deep breath in and let it out.

"I know there are only so many of you, and time is limited. We need to decide what leads are worth our time. Do we think there's a connection between the people interested in kidnapping me for my goddess gift and the big bad wiping out packs?"

"It seems likely," Liam said. "Considering their trail went cold, and nobody knows where the big bad holes up."

"We exhausted all potential vectors of information leaks," Hunter said. "Everything was benign. The only things we couldn't clear were the people sneaking onto our land and

the ones who attacked you. We couldn't track them."

"There's nothing you guys can't track," Thea said, thinking.

The men smiled at the confidence she had in them. I smiled at how she boosted their morale in these subtle ways. No wonder they followed her. She was a natural leader.

"If they got away from you and no one knows anything about the big bad," Thea said. "I'm calling it and saying they're related."

"Agreed," everyone said, nodding.

"So, what do we know about the people who were interested in my gift?" Thea said.

"They could sneak onto our land without us knowing," Maverick said.


"They were patient," Landon said.

"The attack was a rogue and a witch, and there's the shadow person you saw," Owen said.

"I keep forgetting about that," Thea said. She wrote it on the whiteboard.

"We all do," Jayden said.

"Would there be a point in identifying packs that stole goddess gifted in the past? See if they have anything to do with anything?" Thea said.



"We can be reasonably certain the big bad isn't a weaker pack looking for power," Ryder said. "They already have power. Power we don't understand. Like staying hidden and escaping without a trace."

"There's always the risk that a bad Alpha or witch or vampire will hear about you and want your power," Wyatt said.

"But that's why you'll always have a protection detail," Alaric said.

"Right," Thea said. "We don't need to waste resources preempting that. Those threats would have nothing to do with the big bad, and we can deal with them when and if they come up." She made a note.

"Also, we're surrounded by allies now," Kurt said. "Like Alpha Conri said, we're building a stronghold of good packs. It will be an impenetrable fortress. Lone agents won't be able to get to the Luna."

"Even if they did, she could take them out with her gift," Shaw said.

"Or Xavier would take care of it with his lightning-fast speed before she knew there was a threat," Maverick said with a laugh.

Thea laughed along with the rest of the room. Conri slapped Xavier's back, and Xavier cracked a smile.

"Okay, we're not going to worry about that," she said. "We

have redundancies.” 2

Everyone nodded in agreement. I realized I wasn't worried about Thea's safety anymore. Maverick was right. Xavier was our ace in the hole.

“As we're expanding our alliances, taking out bad packs, researching the big bad,” Thea said. “The next step is to reach out to other supernatural species and build alliances.”

The room got tense. Even I got a little tense.

“I know we're all leary of it,” Thea said. “But the goddess herself said it has to be done.” She sighed. “Does anyone have any ideas?” 4

“We'll start recon on it,” Garrin said. “We can develop plans when we have more information.”

Thea nodded. “I'm working on my relationship with Allegra. I know she's on the east coast, but she's talking to local covens. Maybe she can smooth over an introduction if her meetings go well.”

The men were nervous at the thought of Thea with a coven of witches.

“Come on, guys,” Thea said. “If I can be open to the possibility that they're not all evil, so can you.”

“Anyone—witch, human, wolf—could be tempted to take or control your power,” Dillon said.

“Especially if they’re aware of the coming threat,” Dolf said. 1

“We will take any steps forward cautiously,” Thea said. “But we are taking them.”

The men nodded. We talked a little while longer. Finally, Thea concluded the meeting.

“Say goodbye for the night,” I mind linked Conri and Alaric.

They hugged and kissed her.

I took her hand and led her out of the pack house.

“What’s going on?” Thea said.

“We’re staying in the cabin tonight,” I said. “Alone.”

“One on one time?” Thea said excitedly.

“Yes.”