



Chapter 0439

We get a couple more hours of sleep before we have to be up for training. I'm tired, but I still feel better getting actual sleep than I have felt in the last couple days.

As we head downstairs to get something to eat, I hear my name from the stairwell. I stop and look at the twins behind me. They both shrug.

"You all might as well come on in too. You're going to follow her anyway." Alpha Lucas says.

We walk into the Alpha's office and I can feel the tension. Something happened. "What's going on? Is everyone okay?"

"Why don't you take a seat, this is not going to be a fun conversation and I know you all have plans today. They are all alive, but your warrior friends were ambushed. Osiston just got into contact with me."

"That's why no one has checked in yet? It must have been really bad." Lil stands behind me.

"Yes, clearly they had other priorities. There were no casualties on your side, they just confirmed with everyone in the last hour. Your friend Wyatt was sent back to the Royal pack though. He was cut with a blade that had something on it and he's having a bad reaction. Full disclosure, I do not think any of this information is helpful for you, but I was told

you need to hear everything I am about to tell you.”

He takes a deep breath and rubs his face, like this is the worst information he could give me. But he just said all of the warriors survived so what could be worse than that?

“The rogues still appear to be moving in this direction, but they are dispersed among several packs, so it looks like whatever this attack is going to be it will be big, we need to prepare and since you seem to be the main target now...” Growls sound all around me. “Knock it off, she’s been ‘a’ target we have always known that. Now we believe she has become ‘the’ target now that they know of or suspect your abilities.” He looks right at me. 1

“What in the hell are you talking about?” Mateo blurts, forgetting who he is talking to.

Alpha Lucas ignores him and looks right at me. “Elena, said your training is more important now so she brought this.” He shoves a bound package to me. I already know what it is without even looking. “There is a note with specific instructions. That’s all I was told.”

I nod and pull the book close to me. I have to train myself in magic, this should be interesting.

“Alpha Reggie has his pack on lock down, right now, no one in or out and he has advised the same for the surrounding packs. Which means you ladies are here for the foreseeable future. You will still receive training and orders so pay

attention to your link, but they are focused on the injured warriors and resetting their plan of attack so it might be a couple days.”

He stops talking and closes his eyes. He takes three deep breaths and I can tell whatever comes next I’m not going to like. I hear a faint growl from his chest. Is he talking to his wolf?

His eyes fly open, but they aren’t their usual soft blue, they are a deep crimson, the eyes of an alpha, and I jump back in my seat. His wolf has never come forward to me before.

“A message was delivered for you, Lucas does not want to share this information. It is not pleasant and we would both like to shield you from horrors like this, but it cannot be helped.” He leans over and picks up another small box. My hand flies to my mouth, but I have no idea what could be inside. They said all of the warriors were accounted for and alive. I just start shaking my head.

“What is that and why do you look like you’ve seen a ghost?” Jena asks. I yelp. I completely forgot they were all in here with me.

“The last time we had a box like that in the pack, the severed fingers of a Luna were in it.”

A chorus of different curses come from all of my friends.

“Have you looked at it?” Cam asks.

“We can’t, it won’t open for anyone who has tried so far. My guess is it was sent specifically for Skylar.” He slides the box towards me.

“Absolutely not! What the hell Alpha?” Oliver slaps my hand down as I reach for the box. “We know they are using magic now, what if they put some kind of spell on this to incapacitate her, or worse?”

“A dozen people have touched it and Elena looked at it while she was here. She did confirm magic, but nothing she tried would open it. She suggested that Sky open it and we all be ready for anything.”

“NO! We don’t know this Elena, what if she is working with them.” I can feel Oliver vibrating with anger next to me.

“I’m with Oliver, find someone else to try it. My sister isn’t going anywhere near that thing. Did you see Luna Ava’s face when we found those fingers? Not happening.”

“Yeah, Alpha, it seems like too much of a coincidence to me. We need to look more into it first.” Kotas says from somewhere else in the room.

“Bitty, you’re giving me a migraine. You need to calm down. Please. I know this is scary...”

“You think I am scared?! You are all morons. Why don’t we start with ‘let’s ask Skylar what she thinks about the mysterious package,’ Before you go making decisions for

her while she is sitting in the f*cking room!" I get loud. "Let me see the box."

"Bitty, no. It's not safe, we need to..."

"Oliver, I love you, but if you want to maintain the use of your arm and vocal chords, stop talking and step away from me... now." I look up at him and he stares at me for a long moment. He must see something that lets him know I have this.

Alpha pushes the box towards me and I hover my hand over it and I can feel the magic radiate off of it. The sensation is like feathers tickling my skin. Now that I know how to feel for magic in a space or on an object, I can't turn it off, I sense magic everywhere. Elena taught me how to feel for different types of magic. It's not really the magic, it's the intention of the spell that makes it good or bad. Good or light magic feels like feathers. Dark magic feels prickly, like when your foot falls asleep and you have pins and needles running up your leg.

The box is simple, off white, nothing exciting at all, and tied off with brown string. Well I'm sure if anything was on here to poison then all the other people who touched it would be sick now. I untie the twine and slowly lift the lid off of the box and drop the lid as soon as I peek inside.

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I am instantly lifted and sat in a lap. Warm arms are around me, pulling me back to a warm chest. "Breathe, Bitty. You're safe, we're here. Take a breath and tell us what's in the box." Oliver gives me another little squeeze. I feel my whole body relax at his contact and gentle honey scent. He just knows.

I do what he says and take a deep breath, then I look at Jena. "It's Tyler."

"What do you mean 'it's Tyler?' How is that Tyler?" Jena points to the eight inch square box in front of me.

I take another deep breath and lean forward, lift the box lid gingerly like it might explode. I slide the top of the box and my friends lean closer. Jena gasps and slaps her hand over her mouth. My brother has her in his arms in a matter of seconds. She just stares from the box and back to me.

It's a pair of green eyes. Just the eyes, removed from their body. Green eyes I looked into many times and tried to figure out what he was thinking, how he was playing me, wondering how he could be involved with the rogue group when he seemed so sweet, before I knew about his mate. They are wrapped in a tattered piece of material that I think was the t-shirt he was wearing when we escaped, his scent strong, it's in here on purpose. They killed him, for helping

me and I feel sad about that, but at the same time I feel nothing at all because he was willing to sell us out for a mate that was not true to him. 5

"Hey, talk to us." I feel hands on my face and I blink hard a few times, trying to focus. "Tiny, you're freaking us out, say something please."

"Umm, Tyler was one of the rogues on campus. He was how we made contact with them in the first place. We kind of became friends. I mean we were both working an angle, so it wasn't real. In the end his mate was sleeping with Mike, who wouldn't let them reject each other so he could inflict pain. In the end he helped Jena and I escape." I took a deep breath and blew it out slowly letting my cheeks puff out. 5

We left him behind like he asked, left him to his fate like he asked so he could finally be with his mate. I know that he screwed me over and I guess I understand his reasons, but I can't find it in me to hate him. I just pity him and hope he finally got what he wanted. 1

I feel fingers rub my cheeks. Cam is still in front of me, Oliver still has his arms wrapped around me, holding me tight. This is the thing I have missed. The comfort that their friendship brings. We are stronger like this and I can't forget that again, no matter how far I go, I can't cut them off again. It hurts too much. 2

"You guys need to go, you have a pack to run and a moron

to punish." I look at Cam. "I have orders I need to hear and follow, we will meet up with you, okay?" I place my hand over Cam's and squeeze it quickly before removing it.

I go to remove Oliver's hands from around my waist. "Not a chance, Bitty. They can go and take care of pack stuff, I'm not leaving you alone." I take another deep breath and let it out slowly rolling my eyes at him being overbearing. "Don't you roll your eyes. One of us is going to be with you all of the time, get over it." How did he know? He can't even see my face. He has always been direct and a little dry with his comments. But I appreciate that he is straightforward with me.

"I'll stay too, this is clearly a threat and I want to know what is being done." Mateo says and I really look at him for the first time. He has Jena sitting across his lap, wrapped in his arms, tears are falling silently down her cheeks. She hasn't said anything since my very brief explanation of Tyler. I'm glad he has her. The memories of being held captive can't be pleasant for her and having it thrown in her face like that was probably a shock.

"I'm going to go with the guys and see the patrol loop. I want to get an idea and be able to report back to Nathaniel and see if we can get his eyes in the sky. Mateo is right, this is a threat and the way the rest of you reacted, this is not a new concept for you." She's looking between Alpha Lucas and the rest of the guys.

Alpha Lucas just seems to be taking everything in before he takes a deep breath in and agrees with our basic plan. " Cameron, Dakota, Sam and Lillian you take the early morning patrol, Take your time and scent the area, keep Lillian furthest from the border though. If anyone comes across her scent they may use it as confirmation that Skylar is here, since they seem to team together often. Mateo and Oliver can act as a protection detail, until I have a full understanding of what is going on."

We all nod and they all make contact with us on the way out. "Oliver, you're going to have to let me stand. I need to pace and move or I am going to go crazy and I really don't want to hurt you." I huff and smile a bit trying to break the tension.

"Alright, Sky I need details, from the beginning, even the bad stuff." I look at him worried and then look at my brother and Oliver.

"Umm, some of the bad stuff is really hard..." I look at Jena again and she looks terrified. "And, not my information to tell." I am wringing my hands and pacing the office. "Where would you like me to start?"

"How about from when you got onto campus. From what I understand you were just there to help, how did you end up as a student? I know I had to give permission for your transcripts to be sent over after Principal Duncan gave Warrior Brogen a hard time."

I nod my head and start from when we moved into the house and got Mina settled at school. I told them about the partial brand and how long it took both of us to recover from it. Why I started school with Mina, meeting Tyler, Mike and Robbie. I glossed over the runs and my birthday. Finally getting into more detail of the night I was taken and what happened with Tyler's mate.


I talked about captivity, leaving out anything that had to do with Jena's abuse. It's not my story to tell and she has been frozen since I started talking. I may have to stay with her tonight, her nightmares are going to be terrible.

I finish with how Robbie helped us escape. Now I know that Tyler was killed for sure, I am worried about Robbie. I shouldn't be, he was one of the guys to lure us in and take us, but he never laid a hand on me and if he was around, neither of us were assaulted. I think he did his best to protect us, while also maintaining his status with the rogues.

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