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"You can touch her, but do not pull her from her spot." I am having trouble placing voices, but I feel a warmth melt up from where my hands connect with the twins and from Oliver's hand on the small of my back and the warmth sweeps around my body, up my neck and over my head like a blanket. More chanting and another layer of magical ribbon. This time the ribbon is making shapes in the air above the wolfsbane plant. I should know these shapes, I do know these shapes, but I can't think of their names, my brain feels like mush.

Another round of chanting and this time the ribbon of magic is red and angry looking. I can feel my emotions matching the color and I try to pull my hands away from Cam and Kota. I want to step away from Oliver. I don't want to be touched at all. My skin itches and I am on fire, nothing feels right.

"HOLD HER STILL, DO NOT LET HER MOVE FROM THAT SPOT!"

What the f*ck!? No one is going to hold me here. I start to struggle and pull, but my wrists are being restrained. I pull harder and the grip tightens. What is happening? Then a flash of the cells I was held in is all I see. I am struggling against the chains that are holding me to the floor. I can't pull my feet free even though I am so small. I struggle and pull with everything I have. My left arm moves and feels free for a moment, but in a flash the restraints are back. My right arm is being pulled down to the ground. I feel sick, I don't want to be on the ground, that is where the worst of the punishments happen. I

lifted up and threw myself backwards. I am flailing and thrashing. I hear screaming and yelling and that mind numbing hum will not stop. I can feel my body weakening, but I will fight until I die, there is no way I will go without a fight, so I keep fighting, thrashing, biting, kicking. I am in the dark and I can't see or smell anything. I have no idea who has me this time. I don't know what is going to happen to me now. More silver, more whips, maybe a metal pole this time instead of the wooden stick. My body has taken it all. I just want to die, I'm done, no more. Then blackness...it's always blackness.

Beep...beep...beep.

"F*cking beeping, just kill me right already? Somebody sucks at their job."

"Hey! She's up and pissed."

"F*ck off Dakota." Then I groan. Apparently the ability to talk is too much to ask for.

"Can you open your eyes? We have been waiting a while to see those beautiful gray eyes of yours."

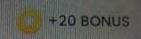
"Sucking up is not going to help anyone. What happened this time?"

"What do you remember, Bitty?"

"Is it just you three, or is the whole crew here?" I cough and then groan cause that made even my toenails hurt. "I really only want to answer questions once."

"Just us, but we can pass it along."

"Fine." I whine. "Add whining to the list of things that



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hurt." Someone laughs and then I hear an= smack and a grunt. "I remember the wolfsbane circle and chanting, then sh*t got really weird and I blacked out."

"That's a good summary now, tell us the truth."

"Asshole. Why don't you tell me your version, Oliver and I will fill in the gaps." 3

