

Chapter 0556

"We didn't move. Or at least I don't think we moved." Cam says sitting down on a long bench and pullin me onto his lap. I will probably never sit in my own chair ever again.

"Yeah, nothing changed for us, we were just trapped in the funnel." Dakota adds sitting next to us.

"We had a few things to figure out before the magic that was trapping us would let us go. How long were we actually in there? Lil said 'weeks.' How many exactly? And what's been going on since we went in." Oliver asks, sitting on my other side.

"Shorty's birthday is in three days." Mateo looks at all of us.

I gasp and look at my guys. We've been in there for almost a month. What the hell? "It felt like hours to us. That's crazy."

"That explains why I'm starving now." Dakota laughs at me, then stands. "You want anything Sweetness?" He asks, grazing my cheek with the back of his knuckles.

"Umm, Yes, please."

"That's so weird to watch." I look over to Nathaniel, my confusion is probably clear on my face. "You're letting someone do something for you and not fighting them. It's just weird."

All of our friends laugh and I join in, he's not wrong.

"I like it when you blush Bitty." Oliver whispers in my ear and grabs my hand.

"We'll have to find other ways to make her blush." Cam mutters back and I just shake my head.

When Dakota comes back he has a tray of food for all four of us. We dig in while the others tell us about what's been happening since we disappeared. ANd we tried to explain what was happening in the inside of the tunnel. But how do you explain insecurities to all of the people who are supposed to follow you?

They brought Mike back and put him in one of the cells in the basement. Jena made sure that they pulled out all forms of comfort and shackled him to the wall by his arms and legs. Gentry has been in charge of his food, making sure he gets the same blend of herbs that was given to us. All of the guys have been taking turns going in to beat him each day. After some serious arguing, Mateo let Jena go in with him to deliver her own brand of torture to him. I don't think my brother was ready for what she did, based on the look on his face when she re-lived it for us. Mike will not sit properly for a very long time. But he's still alive for now. I feel like that is a ticking time bomb, and we are asking for trouble, but they want to see if they can get any other information out of him using his own tactics. 2

Gentry and Elena have been trying different things for the fire, some of the protections around it have been brought down, but whoever set this up didn't trust anyone and gave it more protections than necessary. They must have known that Kaley and Kevin couldn't be trusted or might mess up the setup.

As I sit here, listening to my friends, I find my focus going to the fire over and over again. I can't help thinking now that I have my primary element in fire, I wonder if I could touch it without getting burned. What if the solution is just that simple? All I have to do is reach in and pull out the source of the fire. I'm pulled from my thoughts though when Sam speaks up.

"Alright, now that we have all the formal 'what's been happening conversations.' Is anyone going to mention the fact that the guys went in as twins and a Gamma and came out triplets?" He's looking around at everyone and I can tell he's been holding that in for a while. "I mean that is crazy, right? Even their eyes match. Even Little Bit's eyes are the same, somehow you got skipped over on the physical enhancements though, you are still the smallest person I have ever seen, but damn guys. I can only tell Oliver apart because he has tattoos. That is trippy, and you all give off the same aura. Eh, Little Bit's is stronger. That's probably the only not surprising thing about all of this." He laughs at his own joke after all his rambling.

"Well now we have to get matching tattoos, so we can keep throwing people off." Dakota laughs, "But what I really want to do is sleep. We didn't get any in that vortex thing and now I'm starting to feel it."

"No sleep, huh? Are you sure you're going to get any now?" Sam keeps laughing.

"NO, no! We are not talking about any of that. I can't do it." My brother stands up waving his hands and I can feel my face going even more red.


"Like we said it felt like only a couple hours, you d*ck." Oliver throws a pillow at Sam. "Stop making your Alpha self conscious."


"Oh, damn. There are four of you as Alphas now. Who's going to be our Gamma then? I mean, we don't really have a Luna either, which is who the Gamma is for. You know, you make my brain hurt sometimes, Midge." Lil laughs. 2

"We'll figure it out. I'm sure the Moon Goddess has something planned. But, I'm tired too, let's go and we can keep hashing this out in the morning with everyone. Cam stands with me in his arms, but for the first time in a really

Chapter 0556

long time, he lets me walk into the packhouse on my own two legs.

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