

Chapter 124: Weapons Training

Tereshan

After our discussion about the mate bonds and making a tentative plan for me to mark Claire after Zoey finishes her heat, Claire and Feena head out.

I walk Claire to the door, kissing her, more deeply than I normally would, but I want to keep this feeling between us going.

"I'll see you at weapons training."

"I'll be the little one that looks lost," she says, making me smile.

"You'll be great..." I hear Feena say as I close the door.

I return to my desk. "Okay, what's this about Tucker. Tell me he hasn't caused problems already."

"No, but I don't trust him," Jesiah says immediately.

I look at him. "If you did, I'd be concerned about you being my Gamma. I don't trust him either, that's why I sent him to you to get his assignments. Put him where we can keep eyes on him." I say.

"So you don't believe that issue with Claire was an accident either?" Dane asks.

"No, I think we all know that Tucker is a problem. I'm just not sure if he's a problem because he's an asshole or if he's a problem because he's working for Franco," I tell him.

"I have him running patrols right now. Currently, I've put him on the east side. If he is a mole, I don't want him learning how our patrols run around Keegan's pack," Jesiah says.

"Good idea. And Keegan's people are over there planting the flowers for the bee pollination now, right?" I ask.

"Yes, they started yesterday," Dane confirms.

"Good. Keep an eye on him. I gave him the option to leave, and I also told him that aggression toward any member of this pack would not be tolerated. I'll be keeping an eye on him during warrior training."

"You think he'll hurt one of the omegas?"

"If given the chance, I know he will," I say.

"Alright, we'll keep an eye on him. We'll see you at weapons training," Dane says.

"How's that going, overall?" I ask.

"The omegas LOVE it!" Dane says, Jesiah nodding his head in agreement.

"Honestly, I love it too. It's fun and for them, it's

manageable, easy."

"It's almost like, even though their bodies weren't meant to be warriors, that doesn't mean they weren't made to fight. Jacoby especially has really taken to it," Dane says.

Yeah, I remember him and that hammer.

"Hammer?"

"How'd you know?"

"Good guess," I say smiling.

I spend the next few hours getting paperwork done looking over my financials and wondering again how Franco has maxed his finances. He has money coming in from multiple sources.

I grab my computer and look up land development in my area. Nothing unusual pops up. Then I look up uses for a bulldozer. It's basically what Keegan said, they are used to move large amounts of dirt and earth. Along those same lines, I find excavators, graders and back hoes.

I sit back and think. Why would he need this equipment unless he's doing something on his pack lands. Even then, it should be costing him this much money. I pull up the list of pack lands. The actual borders as we know them aren't exactly the same as what is identified in land surveys. It depends on how much of the land is livable.

When I get frustrated, I call Eric again.

"Hey Alpha, I don't have anything for you yet," he answers.

"That's okay, I wanted to add another item to your list."

I hear paper shuffling. "What's that?"

"I want to know what Alpha Franco is doing with large equipment, things like bulldozers."

"Okay, I'll add it, but while I've got you on the phone, you should know that something shady is happening with that brothel."

"What do you mean?"

"I mean, it should have been easy for me to get the information on what is owed on that property, but it's buried. Deep. I'm still digging and I'm like a wolf with a bone, so I'll find it, but I thought you should know."

"Would it help you to know that I've heard Franco has leveraged that brothel to the maximum and it isn't paying the bills?"

"Interesting." He's quiet a moment. "Do you think he'd have gone to the human banks to get a loan? It's unusual for the wolves to mix with the humans, but if he were trying to keep this a secret, he may have gone that route."

"At this point, I wouldn't put anything past him," I say.

"I'll check it out. Anything else?"

"Not yet. I'll let you know if that changes."

"Talk soon."

I hang up and stand, still thinking about the possibility of Franco going to a human bank. The only reason to go to a human bank is if he's hiding something. Since I know he is, it would make sense. But having a human bank involved will get messy and make it hard for me to buy it out from him unless he defaults on the loan.

I walk to my room, changing for weapons training.

'Claire, where are you?'

'On the field with everyone else. You're late.'

I look at the clock. 'I'm on my way.'

When I get there, I see Feena working with a group of omegas and warriors showing them proper form and how to aim at the targets that are set up in front of them. As I watch, they all release their arrows. Some fall straight to the ground, some land part way to the target, some actually hit the target but not the center and one just gets tangled up in the bow and the person's fingers.

Instead of heading toward Claire, I turn to go watch Feena.

"Alpha, did you want to try?" she asks as I walk up.

I look around, finding the spare bows and arrows. "Sure," I say.

"Here Alpha, you can use my target. I'm not very good," Justin, the one who got tangled up says to me.

"You're fine, Justin, you just need to stop being afraid of getting smacked with the bow. If you followed my instructions, it won't hit you like it did yesterday."

I look at him. "You got hit by your own bow?"

"Yeah, it hurt," he says, kicking the dirt.

"Why don't you try with me, then. Show me the proper form that you've learned from Feena," I say, coming to stand behind him.

I chose the largest bow and arrow left on the ground. It still feels too small for me, but it will do.

I stand behind Justin. "Okay, show me what to do," I tell him.

His eyes are wide, but he gets into position and begins walking me through it. Feena guides him and therefore me to the proper posture, shoulders back, elbow up, breathe, before Justin says, "Now you release the arrow."

"Show me." I say and watch as he presses his lips together, a look of determination on his face. He doesn't

want to disappoint me.

He gets back into proper posture and this time, the arrow flies to the target, hitting the very edge.

"I did it!" He shouts, looking shocked. "I really did it!"

"Nice job, now let me see if I can do it."

"It's so easy Alpha, I know you can do it," he says still dancing around excitedly. I see Feena roll her eyes before I aim at the target and release. My arrow slams halfway through the target, eliciting a lot of ohhhs from my pack members. It wasn't dead center, but I hit it.

"Nice job, everyone, keep up the good work," I say, putting the bow and arrow back and smiling at the group as they chatter excitedly, ready to try again.

I turn to head over to meet up with Claire and my eyes connect with her grey-green ones. The proud smile on her face makes my heart feel light.

I walk to her, the rest of the world falling away. I love when she looks at me like this, like she's proud of me, of the man I am, of the Alpha I've become. Her acceptance has become everything to me.

I step up to her, covering her hand as she reaches up to stroke my face.

"Well done, Alpha."