

## Chapter 145: Drilling

Claire

Zoey was very happy that we were shutting down the brothel and was willing to take in as many of the women as needed.

"Claire, there are men too. You need to know that. Franco didn't care who he hurt as long as his patrons and their 'tastes' were satisfied. I think most of them are omegas, but I can't be sure. You just need to be aware of that when you think about housing arrangements. They aren't all women."

"Thanks, Zoey."

"Hey, are we still on for your Luna ceremony tomorrow night? I wanted to talk with you when I see you in person."

I turn, looking at Tereshan who is finalizing the arrangements for tonight. He turns, looking at me, always in tune with me now that he can feel me.

"Are we still doing my Luna ceremony tomorrow night?" I ask him.

"Yes, I want you officially in place as the pack's Luna before you go into heat.

"Perfect!" Zoey says, having heard him.

"Hey, how's Jessie?" I ask her.

She sighs. "She's still struggling, but Amelia and I are looking after her. There's a woman here who lost her mate and never had a child. She has taken Jessie in and is willing to raise her. She's a good woman and Jessie is starting to improve with her."

"Good. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to help."

"Claire, we're all going to have our hands full by tomorrow night."

"United, we stand, Zoey. We'll make it work, if we work together."

Tereshan closes the door on the others as they leave to get started for tonight. He turns, smiling at me as he hears our word. Together.

I hang up with Zoey and walk to my mate. Goddess, how did I fall so hard and fast for this man.

'Because he's exactly the person he was meant to be. A great Alpha, a great mate and soon, a great father,' Damara says.

I roll my eyes, watching as Tereshan frowns.

"What's that about?"

"Damara has baby fever."

He takes my hand, leading me to the door. "Well, my sweet mates, I hope to oblige you both very soon, if I haven't already," he says, which reminds me that I want to go speak to the doctor.



"Zoey said Keegan is on his way over to the farm area," I tell him.

"Good, that's where we're heading. I figured we'd walk and do some searching around the area on our way there and on our way back if we have time. I'd like you to come with me tonight. I know you hate that place, but those women are more likely to listen to you than any of the rest of us."

"Of course, Tereshan."

"We've just stepped outside the packhouse when Lucy comes running up to us.

"Alpha, Luna. Feena told me about you buying the brothel. I'd like to go with you. The women there will trust me. I can tell them that things here are good and that it's not a trick. Nita wants to come too," she says, just as Nita comes running up.

"Yes, I do. We can help. Please," she says.

I look at Tereshan. I know he used to frequent that place and now he hates it as much as I do. I know because I can feel his emotions about the place. He looks at Lucy and Nita and I know he wants to tell them no, to have them stay here and keep them safe along with all of our pack members.

"Let them come, Tereshan. They're right, the women there will listen to them, more than even me. They know them, they know that they won't lie to them."

He looks at me a long moment before nodding.

"Help Feena make space for as many as we can take in."

Alpha Keegan and Luna Zoey are taking in some as well. We need to leave here between 3:30 and 4:00 pm so we can buy the place then go shut it down."

"Yes Alpha! We'll be ready!" they say before rushing off.

"Are you sure that's a good idea, Claire?" Tereshan asks me.

"I am. They will help them, and that will help us."

We walk hand in hand, looking over the pack lands until we come up to Keegan.

"Good morning, Tereshan, good morning, Claire and congratulations."

"Thank you, Keegan," I say, bussing his cheek before looking around.

"What's all this?" I ask.

"Your mate asked me to dig deeper. I have a drill here that I use when I'm concerned about getting into rocky terrain. So, I'm going to use this to drill down into the ground and see what we can see."

"Alright, let's see if you find anything," Tereshan says.

We stand back as the drill that's taller than I am turns on. It's set up so it's facing down, and they've got what looks like large weights holding it in place. The drill starts turning and the person manning it pushes a button causing the drill to start moving into the ground, pushing the dirt up and out of the hole it's creating.

"How long will this take?" Tereshan shouts over the noise of



the machine.

"Depends on how long you want to drill. I'm going to do it in phases, see if we find anything." Keegan shouts back.

I'm fascinated, watching the machine push into the dirt, pushing dirt out as it moves down into the ground.

A few minutes later, Keegan calls a halt, and we go over to look at the dirt. He pulls over a couple of his guys.

"Test this dirt, let me know if you find anything, but I'm not seeing anything just by looking at it." He says to his men.

They come over with something that looks like plates, scooping up some dirt and taking it over to a table where they have some water to rinse through it.

Once they're done, we stand back, and Keegan has them begin to dig a little deeper.

We go through this process two more times before he calls a halt again. This time, when the drill comes up, there's a difference in the color of the dirt. It has streaks of rust in it.

Keegan looks at Tereshan, but Tereshan is laser focused on the dirt.

We walk over and Keegan bends down, running his fingers through the dirt, before picking out what looks like a rock.

He calls over one of his guys who brings a small pitcher of water. Keegan steps away from the dirt, pouring water over the small rock before turning back to us, showing us what he's got in his hand.

**"Damn Tereshan, if this is any indication, it looks like you're fucking rich."**

**In his hand, he's holding a small chunk of gold.**