

## Chapter 169: Demonstration

Claire

In the end, Emine didn't need to talk to me or Zoey. We spent some time together, but very little. Somehow, being here or finally just spending time with Nicolas was impacting her enough that she chose to spend the evening in his company rather than ours.

I'm glad and that night, I fall into bed exhausted, my mate curling around me protectively as he always does. Zoey and I had both taken the time while the others were away to catch a quick cat nap, but it was still a long, exhausting day.

The next morning, I wake early again, knowing that at least the first part of the day is going to be as grueling as yesterday. After making sure that everything is ready to go in the kitchen, I enter the conference room, seeing that everyone is already here, milling around.

"Good morning, everyone. Breakfast is on its way, along with coffee, tea and water."

"Thank you, Luna," they say.

When the food arrives, everyone settles in at the table and begins eating. Once he's finished eating breakfast, Keegan stands to address the room.

"As you are aware, when Franco was Alpha, I shut off my connections to the stores and offered to have you buy direct



I laugh as I wait for Tereshan, and we walk hand-in-hand toward the afternoon training area. I called Feena, Jacob, Elise and Vivienne to come demonstrate their skills with their weapons.

When we get there, I look at Tereshan.

"Take it away, baby," he says, letting me lead this part of the conversation.

"After Tereshan realized that I was his mate, he acknowledged that the omegas in our pack were not strong enough to fight, and most weren't strong enough to shift. We hadn't previously trained omegas in our pack with our warriors."

I see Adam and Elio nodding their heads. They don't train their omegas to fight either. I'm a bit surprised that Nicholas apparently is.

"Not only did we begin training our omegas several months ago, but Tereshan believed that, while omegas will never be as strong as a ranked member or maybe even a warrior, that doesn't mean that they can't be trained to fight and win. We began training our omegas with weapons. Some of our warriors have chosen to learn as well as our ranked members, except for our Beta couple. They actually teach the class."

I step up to Feena. "For those of you who don't know her, this is Beta Feena. She is our Beta female, but before she was mated to Beta Dane, she was the Lead Omega in our kitchens. Feena's weapon of choice, is the bow and arrow. Feena," I say, stepping back and letting her take over.

"I was actually born into a Beta family, so my training was that of a ranked member until my family was killed and I was made to be an omega. In those early years, my father taught me to shoot a bow and arrow and now I'm teaching our omegas," she says before turning and aiming at the target behind her. She pulls the arrow back, releasing it and a moment later, we hear the thunk of the arrow sinking dead center of the target.

"Wow! That's great, but no offense, you have ranked blood, I'm not surprised that you're adept with a bow and arrow. My own father taught me when I was young too, although I'd probably need a refresher course, I'd expect that I could become lethal again quickly as well," Alpha Adam says.

"Of course," I say stepping back up. So, our next demonstration will be with Jacoby. He has only just started to learn how to throw hammers and axes. Jacoby," I say, stepping back and letting him come forward.

"Good morning, Alphas. As Luna Claire mentioned, I have only been training with weapons for a few months, but I found that an axe or hammer in my hand, felt right. I actually used them when we were attacked by Alpha Franco and his pack. I wasn't the only one who fought, but I helped to keep the omegas in our breached safe room from being killed," he says, and I can see that his words are more impactful than Feena's.

Almost without thinking, Jacoby rips an axe out of the belt Tereshan had made for him and turning, he tosses it at the target, the axe head slamming dead center.

"Holy shit!" Emine says.

"I second that," Nicholas says.

Jacoby turns back to the group. "The hammer is good for taking out your opponent, especially when they have a height advantage, which ranked members do versus omegas. This time, I will hit the dummy hanging from the tree," he says, indicating one of three dummies filled with sand that we use to help train."

Once again, it's as if the moment the thought comes, the hammer is leaving his hand. It hits the dummy at the spot you'd expect to be right between an opponent's eyes.

"Well done, Jacoby," Tereshan says, making Jacoby smile proudly.

"Thank you, Alpha."

I step forward again. "As you may have guessed, the hammer and axes don't work well for everyone and in particular, the female omegas tend to prefer a smaller, more easily handled weapon, such as a knife. For this demonstration, I have Elise, one of our teenage omegas, and Vivienne. Vivienne is Weston's mate. I believe you met him yesterday," I say before stepping back.

"Elise, would you like to start?" I ask.

She nods.

"Excuse me, young lady. May I ask why you chose the knife?" Nicholas asks her.

"Well, it's as Luna said. The hammer is too heavy after a while and the axe scares me, but the knife is lightweight. All

of us, me, Vivienne and Luna, agree that the knife is our favorite."

They all turn and look at me. "You didn't mention that you are good with a knife, Luna," Emine says, smiling.

"I wanted to give my pack members their chance to shine. Elise was also in the safe room that was breached. She helped to protect the omegas in that room."

Nicholas turns back to her. "Show us your skill, young lady," he says.

She turns, looking at me and I wink at her, letting her know I support her. She nods, taking a deep breath and turning to the dummy. I watch as she weighs the knife in her hand, before flipping it to hold it blade first. I watch the Alphas and notice that they all saw that Elise didn't look when she flipped the knife. Her comfort level with the weapon is clear.

As we practiced, she takes a breath, then raises her arm and throws the knife. It flies end over end, landing in what would be the center of an opponent's chest.

"Well done, Elise!" Tereshan says to her.

She stands up a little straighter, her smile wide as she turns back.

"Very impressive young lady," Nicholas says to her.

"Thank you, Alpha," she says stepping back.

"And last, we have Vivienne. She is also an omega that has been practicing for a few months. Her preference is also

knives," I say, and she nods at me before turning around.

"You've got this, Viv!" I hear Weston say, as he comes jogging over. "Take their eye out like we talked about," he tells her.

I watch as Emine stares at Weston before finally turning her attention back to Vivienne as Weston comes to stand beside Tereshan.

"Hips straight," he says quietly, correcting her form. When she throws the knife, it lands exactly in the spot that a person's eye would be.

"YEAH! That's my girl!" Weston says, rushing over to grab Vivienne and swing her around.

I turn back to the group, seeing Emine watching Weston again, this time with a frown on her face.

"So that is our demonstration for today," I begin.

"Actually, Luna, I'd like to see you throw a knife, if that's okay. The young girl, Elise, said that you are also good with a knife. May we see your skill as well?" Alpha Elio asks.

I look at Tereshan. "Show them what you've got, baby," he says. Since Tereshan has been training me individually, my skill is better than Elise's or Vivienne's. My intent had been to give my pack members a moment to shine, but since he asked....

I go to the weapons bag and pull out two knives that have the weight that I want. This time, Tereshan speaks.

"Unlike the omegas, who train with Dane and Feena daily, I

have been training Claire," he tells them. "Because she is my mate and the pack's Luna, I wanted to ensure that she was as deadly as possible as quickly as possible."

I wait for him to finish and nod at me before turning to the dummies.

"Just like we practiced, Claire," Tereshan says, and I focus on the dummies.

I take a breath, squaring my hips and then I release my knives together, one hits where the heart would be and the other is right between the eyes.