

Broken 451

Chapter 451

One year later

Life is amazing! After the hunter war, after everything settled down with the missing humans and after my mate woke up, things

finally began to fall into place.

The birth of my son, Emerson, was the most amazing moment of my life. Well, that is until today. Today, I am holding my baby

girl for the first time. Emlyn Grace. She's beautiful, perfect, just like her mother. And while I love my son more than I could ever

put into words, there is something different about holding my daughter. A fierce protectiveness flows through me. It's a feeling

I've had with Emerson, but it's different, more intense. There is something special about the father/daughter bond and I vow that

no one will ever hurt my little girl.

I lay her in my mate's arms, watching as now the two most precious women in my life curl up and fall asleep together. I gently

kiss them both on the tops of their heads before leaving them to rest.

I head back to the packhouse, picking up Emerson from Carlos and Amber. Our baby boom has continued, and Carlos is

expecting their third child any day now. Sirona and Noah had their babies back-to-back, a girl then a boy. Angel and Liam have

had two boys in the last year and Cara finally convinced Rik to have another baby, a boy this time. The sprites aren't any better

than Angel and Liam and soon we'll have our own pack of hybrids if this keeps up. Especially now that more sprites have mated

with our pack's wolves.

"How is our Luna?" Amber asks me, rubbing her stomach in a gesture I've become accustomed to seeing from Grace.

"She's tired. Emlyn took her time, but they are both sleeping peacefully now. Come by later to say hi and meet our little girl."

“We definitely will.” Carlos says, coming up behind Amber and wrapping his arms around her, rubbing the spot that she was

rubbing a minute ago. I learned that when I did that for Grace, both of our babies would calm down. They like feeling their

fathers. Carlos seems to have picked up on it too.

my

I head to my office, putting Emerson in his chair that he can push around office while playing with the toys attached to it. He can

walk without it now, but this way I can keep track of him as he runs into things around my office.

I look over the pack financials. I’m happy to see that our pack is now thriving and has become financially independent. We’ve

paid off our debt Liam and Rik and

can now afford to build homes without having to borrow money.

Our nursery is so full, that we’re using the space in the children’s home while we build another one. Nearly all my pack members

have a job either in one of our local shops, in the packhouse or with Liam’s company.

Joel and Peyton opened their own shop, selling smoked meats and hot sauce, They didn’t exaggerate the popularity of that hot

sauce. As soon as he began marketing his product, the humans contacted him and the sales went through the roof. He has hired

a full staff of people to help him produce and distribute his hot sauce. Peyton still works part time smoking meat and making jerky

for the kitchens, but half of her stock of smoked meat is now sold in their store.

We had Jeremy build us a greenhouse so we can grow our plants year-round. The sprites are happy to be in charge of the

gardens and even I have to admit, they are very useful. Year round, our garden is at peak performance keeping our kitchens well

stocked and still providing food for the market to sell to the other packs. I’ve even had packs from farther away contact me

asking if we have supplies of certain foods.

Amber’s idea for chickens was another fantastic boon for our pack. We now have hundreds of egg-laying chickens as well as

eating chickens. It's a great way to get the young pups involved in the pack and keeps them busy while earning a little money.

And while it doesn't produce as much money as some of the other businesses, it saves a ton of money, since we never have to

purchase eggs or chicken meat for the pack.

With all of the baby booming, one of our omegas has recently opened a baby food store. She makes it all from the food grown in

our garden. Between all of the packs, she can barely keep any in stock. She sells out nearly every day.

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We do continue to get people coming to our borders, but it's not so frequent. We always make room for anyone that needs

assistance, and we now have a full team of medical professionals who can treat the ones that come to us injured or sick.

After finishing my work, I pick up Emerson and we begin walking back to the pack hospital. I'm not sure if Sirona will release my

mate tonight or make her wait until tomorrow. Either way, we're ready. We have the bassinet in our room for Emlyn and the crib is

in the nursery for Emerson. By the time Em is ready for the crib, Emerson will be ready for his toddler bed which is due to be

delivered next week. He's currently into dinosaurs, so that's what his room is getting decorated in.

When we walk in, my mate is awake and nursing my little girl. She looks up at me and I see the love for our daughter in her eyes

shift to her love for me, before she shifts her attention to our son.

"How's my little man?" She asks Emerson.

"Mama. Mama." He says, putting out his hands and squirming in my arms to go to his mother.

"Hang on, bud. Mom's feeding your little sister. Do you want to meet her?"

"Yeth." He says in his baby version of yes.

We walk over and I sit him beside Grace, at Emlyn's feet. "Do you remember what I told you, son?"

He looks at me. He's such a smart boy, I swear I can see the wheels turning in his head. "We protect your mom and your sister

with our lives, don't we."

He smiles, as if he remembers this conversation. "Yeth."

"That's right, that's what good Alphas do."

Grace scoffs. "Emerson, meet

sister isn't like your mother ur baby sister, Emlyn. And, you better hope your

or you'll be lucky if she doesn't beat you for trying

to protect her. She's an Alpha female in her own right."

"Can you say Emlyn, Emerson?"

"Emin."

Grace and I look at each other and smile. "Close enough." She says, as Emlyn finishes nursing.

She hands her to me to burp while she puts herself back in order and sits up to see her son, but he is all eyes for his sister.

After she burps, I ask Emerson if he wants to hold her. He holds out his hands. I carefully place her in his arms, her head toward

Grace in case he drops her head. Grace puts her hand under Emerson's to help hold Emlyn.

"You're already such a good big brother, Emerson." She tells him and he bears at the compliment.

Sirona walks in with her clipboard, looking up to see all of us are here. "Good afternoon, Alpha. Hey Emerson. What do you think

of your baby sister?"

"Emin." He tells her.

"That's right. Emlyn. Aren't you a smart, young Alpha."

"Yeth." He says, very seriously.

Sirona smiles at him before turning her attention back to us. "Did you hear the news? Cara just went into labor." Cara got

pregnant with their third child around the time Grace got pregnant with Emlyn.

"Wow, how many kids is that in the Alpha families for the three packs?" Grace asks.

"Well, currently, Liam and Angel have their four, Rik and Cara will now have three and then our two. So, nine." I tell her, before

smirking. "We're behind, we need to catch up."

She bursts out laughing. "Maybe we should wait a day or two, Alpha." She says with a glint in her eye, making my dick twitch in

my pants. This woman. I can't get enough of her. And she knows exactly what she's doing to me.

"Yeah, wait at least a day or two. Our Luna needs to heal. But if you can promise to give her time to heal, she can go home

tonight."

"I can promise whatever you need as long as I can sleep curled up around my mate tonight." I tell Sirona.

That night, I lay in bed wrapped around my sleeping mate. I can hear the soft baby sounds coming from Emlyn's bassinet and

the gentle snores coming from the baby monitor in Emerson's room.

I give myself a moment to enjoy the sounds of my family, all safe and sound in their beds before I let myself drift off to sleep.

Chapter 453

Nine years later

It's a beautiful day. The sun is shining, the weather in early fall is cooling down and the kids are all happy, healthy and currently

running around like crazy people. Cara, Angel and I all had our kids around the same time, so our total of 13 kids are being

raised together. Most of them have paired off by age, except poor Richie, whoops, he goes by 'Rich' now that he's a mature 10-

year-old. He's sort of the odd man out, being the oldest male followed by two females who are best friends.

It helped that Liam and Angel kept having babies, so when Cara and I had space. in between our three each, their kids filled in

the age gaps. Of course, that doesn't count for Reagan. That's who Angel calls her "oopsie baby". Oopsie my Alpha ass. That

girl wanted another baby, and she made sure Liam gave it to her. After her difficulty with the twins' delivery, I'm not surprised.

She almost died giving birth and it terrified Liam, so he said no more. Three years later, Angel wins by getting her last baby.

And then there's my little family with Eli. Not to be outdone by all the baby makers in our pack, six months after we had Emlyn,

we had another baby girl, Riley Paige. Eli and I had agreed that she should have my mother's name. It was too sad for me to

think about calling our daughter Paige, but Eli convinced me we could still honor my mother by giving our third child her name as

a middle name. Where Emlyn is my tomboy, running around with Cayden, Cohen and Clint, the three boys that were born within

six months of her, Riley is my girlie-girl. She's best buds with Angel's twins Quinn and Malin. Those three are going to be

trouble, I just know it.

Once you add in the Beta and Gamma children from all three packs, the sprites. who gave Angel and Liam a run for their money,

and just regular pack baby booms, we are all full to the brim with children. Alexander and the twins had 14 in total. Seven from

each twin and every single time, the babies were born at the exact same time. Cara's pack started making bets on it after a

while. Thomas and Tula have six of their own and not to be outdone, Fanella and Christopher have four. And that doesn't include

the other wolves we have mated to sprites that are still pumping out kids every six months.

So, we made the area in between the three packs a children's playground area. Jeremy and some folks from the other two packs

built a giant jungle gym for the older kids, swings, seesaws and other smaller type objects for the smaller kids, sand boxes, water

areas, pretty much anything you can think of, they included.

There's even an area for wolves to play. Now that several of our children have started shifting, they are enjoying that area as

well.

As I watch, Rich, Lily and Levi run around the wolf area with Hope. When she finally shifted a year ago, we realized what her

other shifter was, a bear. Usually, when two shifters mate, the child is one or the other type of shifter. However, the hunters did

something and in Hope's case, she's a blend of wolf and bear. It's a strange combination. She's built more like a bear, but she's

smaller and with markings like a wolf. I don't know if it's the bear in her, or if her father was an Alpha bear, but the girl is strong.

Carlos has had to work with her to make sure she doesn't hurt other children her age. He's brought her in to the warrior training,

because, at least there, she can't hurt the adults, or at least not permanently. Personality wise, she's split down the middle. She

loves being part of a pack, but unlike wolves who constantly want to be around others, she needs alone time. I know she gets

teased at school, but when she's here with all of our children, no one dares to say a word to her.

In an interesting twist of fate, Benny became someone's second chance mate. Her mate had passed away and after recovering

from his death, she had decided to travel the country to get away from the memories of her life with her mate. She happened to

come through our territory and stopped in at the diner. And the rest, as they say, is history. She joined our pack and now she

helps Benny manage the diner.

Cammy, Summer and Autumn all found their mates at our mate gatherings. Cammy and Summer stayed in our pack, but

Autumn left to join Rik and Cara's pack with her mate. Paisley also found her mate, but she's been resistant to agreeing to

another mate bond after the issues she had with my father. I hope she finds peace, in whatever decision she makes.

Chapter 454

We created the Supernatural Council years ago. After the hunter war, we were asked to intervene in supernatural issues. When

we created the Council, it was two of the three Guardians, a vampire and a fae. Currently, Aolis sits in for the fae, representing

his people. King Urien, the first vampire to come to Angel after the vampire war, sends his son as a representative and my

sisters voted to make me a permanent fixture in the Council, since I am an Alpha female. One of them rotates on the council as

well. After being petitioned to allow other supernaturals on the council, we agreed that, rather than making them permanent

members, we would include a representative of any supernatural species not represented on the council when they were

bringing a case to the Council for review. So far, this has worked well. We only had one instance where a demon thought he was

going to throw his demon aura around to get his way. Angel and I shut him down, draining him of his energy before kicking him

out of the hearing. As punishment to the demon community, we refused to allow any of their members to attend hearings for a

year. The next one that showed up was much more respectful.

I love these moments at home. They are made more special by the battles we all fought to get here. All of us have had to

overcome trials, loss and heartache. But we've persevered and we're here today, making a beautiful future for our children and

the children of our pack members.

I'm sitting at a table with my sisters, under an umbrella, all of us sitting in our mates' laps. Someone had the great idea to put a

convenience store out here, and we all pitched in for that. This way we don't have to trudge food and drinks every time we come

to spend the day together. There are grills for cooking or we can go into the building and buy food. There's a bar to order adult

beverages and right. now, my sisters and I are enjoying iced cocktails while we watch our children. playing.

As I look around, I think Ailduin was right. I think it was always meant to be this way. The Guardians were meant to be with their

fated mates. Every one of our girls shows signs of being a Guardian. According to Ailduin, this is the first time in the history of the

Guardians that this has happened. It started with Cara, coming from two Guardians who were fated to be together. Now, all of us

are creating another generation of Guardians. It makes me wonder if our Guardian. spirits will reincarnate again after our lives

end. It feels like we've done what the Moon Goddess wanted us to do. We're creating a generation of stronger wolves that can

fight for what is right in this world. They can fight for those that can't fight for themselves.

As I lean into my mate, I push my love for him through our mate bond. Then, I begin sending him images of what I plan to do to

him later, feeling how much I'm turning him on and knowing that I have a long, fun night ahead of me.

Cara looks out at the forest, pointing in the direction she's looking.

"Do you see that?" She asks.

Angel and I nod, but none of the guys can see it.

"It looks like a couple and...are those large dogs or wolves?" Angel asks.

"It feels like.... it feels like my parents." Cara says softly.

Angel and I look more closely, reaching out with our auras. She's right, I can feel Clint. I look at Angel and I can see that she

must be feeling what I'm feeling but from Lily.

"I think it is them." I say.

Cara goes to stand, but the couple raises their hands, as if saying goodbye and they fade away.

"Do you think...?"

It's Rik that answers her. "If it were you, any of you," he says, looking at the three of us, "would you allow death to keep you from

watching over your family?"

We all look at each other and smile. Nothing, not even death, could keep us from watching over our families. And I know, deep in

my heart, that my family, all of our families are safe.

Chapter 455

Hello everyone.

First, thank you for your support in my initial foray into writing. Your support has been amazing and has definitely encouraged me

to continue writing.

As you know, my book *For the Love of a Guardian* is out now. This is Clint and Lily's story which, as you may have guessed, will

span to the end of this book. It will primarily focus on their life together and Clint's life without Lily, but it will follow until the end of

this book. This book will move into the primary spot and will begin having daily updates this week.

Also, I have started another series, The Elemental Dragons, and Book 1, The Arena went live today. This will be a completely

different series from the Guardians but I hope you'll give it a try and as always leave me a comment and let me know what you

think. That book will become my #2, updating Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays until Love of a Guardian is complete.

Many of you have asked if I will continue the Guardian series. I hadn't planned on having the possibility of so many spin-off

options, but when I started thinking about it, there are many I've considered an entire Beta series focusing on the relationships of

the Betas in the Guardian series (Chase and Lacey, Dustin and Sarah and Carlos and Amber). I've also been bumping around

the idea of an Ailduin stand alone that would start back during the time where he met Jinelle and then extending to the current

time when he meets Anastasia. Beside those, there are the possibilities of Paisley, Levi, Hope, Thomas and Tula, Alexander and

the twins, even Audra (my husband's favorite). Hope is sort of pushing in my mind for her own book and I'd love to see where

her character goes, so that's a strong possibility in the future.

I've also been thinking about a "NextGen" group of books focusing on the kids. I have been planning a spinoff of Aolis and Lily

since the first book and that is still being considered. However, Richie, excuse me, Rich's book has almost completely written

itself in my head. So, once Clint and Lily's story is complete, I'll start on Rich's story. I'll let you know when that book comes

available.

One little tidbit of information you might find interesting, I had never planned to write about the fae in these books. However,

when my husband was reading Broken Warrior and got to the part where Ailduin brought The History of the Guardians to Cara,

he turned and looked at me saying 'I hope you're going to write more about that fae. I'd be interested in learning more about him'

and so the Guardian chronicles were born.

Thank you again for all of your support and your comments. I really do read and appreciate all of them. If you haven't yet and

have a chance, please review any or all of my books. The reviews help boost my rankings and give my books more visibility on

the app.

I'd be remiss if I didn't thank my friends Sarah and Amber. They have supported and encouraged me through this entire journey

and became my Beta females for that reason.

Chapter 456

*This book is a prequel to the Guardians Trilogy. However, while it starts before the first book in the Trilogy and can be read as a

stand alone, it will span the timeframe of both Books 1 and 2. This book will contain spoilers and references discussed in the

other books. It is recommended that you first read Book 1, *The Broken Warrior's Daughter*, and Book 2, *Alpha's Guardian Angel*

before reading

this book.

I don't know when I fell in love with Clint Nelson. For years, I thought of him as an egotistical man who believed he was the

Goddess's gift to women. He isn't completely wrong. He is a gorgeous man, with wavy, dark brown hair and emerald green eyes

that stand out like jewels on his tanned, chiseled face. His body looks more like it was carved from stone than muscle, and I

would know, just like every other she-wolf in our pack, I've had a good look at what he's packing. He isn't exactly shy and is

definitely not self-conscious about the way he looks.

If being the best friend of our future Alpha wasn't enough, he is also a Guardian. For as long as werewolves can remember,

there have only ever been two Guardians at one time. They are strong, powerful wolves and are coveted by packs and their

Alphas. It worked out that Clint and his wolf, Donovan, were born as a male and were already friends with our future Alpha. It meant that he would be the Guardian for Anders, our Alpha heir, when he takes over as the Alpha of our pack. Because of their friendship and Clint's strength, it was already planned that he'd become Alpha Anders' Beta. But now, he will be his Guardian, protecting him as if he's Anders' own personal bodyguard.

Female Guardians are not always as lucky as Clint. Rumors have spread that female Guardians have been forced into mate bonds with their pack's Alphas. Because of the strength they bring to the pack, Alphas are unwilling to let the Guardians leave if their fated mates are in other packs. Forcing a Guardian into a mate bond ensures that the Guardian will protect their Alpha with their life while increasing the overall strength and power of the pack.

But none of that mattered to me. I have wanted to be a warrior since I got my wolf, Andra, at age 10. My parents are not ranked wolves but I can be the strongest she-wolf possible. I can ensure that I make myself into the strongest wolf possible, so when I find my mate, I know he will not only be proud to have me as his mate, but I'll also strengthen his pack if he is from another pack.

I have earned the respect of the warriors in our pack, The Canyon Ridge Pack, and even some other nearby packs have taken notice of my strength.

All of that changes when I wake up one day in the middle of my 17th year and my eyes glow gold. A Guardian had died and now, Andra and I have the reincarnated Guardian spirit. My life is about to change forever, but I'm not sure it's for the better

Chapter 457

"Hey Lils." My bestie, Calista, says walking up to me as we meet on the road before heading to school. We're in the last half of our senior year.

"Morning Call"

Calista and I have grown up next door to each other. We're the same age and while we may not always be in the same classes,

we've always gone to the same schools, done our homework together and have literally been best friends our entire lives. We

were born a month apart and our parents babysat for each other and put us in the same afterschool activities through our

younger years. Thankfully, we liked each other right away. Otherwise, it would have been miserable.

"How was training?" She asks me. The one thing we haven't done together since she was able to be excluded two years ago.

Where I want to be a kickass warrior, Calista is a more gentle soul. She completed the required five years of training but was

able to back out after that.

"I got Lucas today." I tell her beaming.

"You took him down?" Her eyes widen in disbelief.

"Yep, pinned him until he tapped out." I'm practically bouncing on the balls of my feet. Lucas is set to be our next Lead Warrior

and for me to beat him is a huge feather in my cap.

"Lily, that's amazing! I'm so proud of you!"

"Thanks Cali."

As we walk, I hear a car coming up behind us. We move to step out of the way, when the car slows down and the window rolls

down. Alpha heir Anders looks over at us, Clint in the passenger seat smirking at us.

"Good morning, ladies. Want a ride?"

Cali has stiffened next to me. Anders has been pursuing her for a couple weeks now. Ever since the day he walked up to her and

asked her out on a date. His face was priceless when she turned him down flat. You could tell no one ever said no to our future

Alpha. Neither one of us understands why he's suddenly interested. He never showed any interest in her before. It's almost like

he's enjoying the chase and it's making him more determined to catch her.

"Good morning, Alpha. Good morning, Guardian. Thank you, we're good." I

reply for both of us.

“What about you Cali?” Anders ignores me and asks Calista.

She gives him her best fake smile, making sure he knows it’s fake. “As Lily said, we’re good, thank you.”

Clint leans over the arm rest. “Nice job today, Lily.”

“Thank you, Guardian.”

“Clint. Call me Clint, Lily.”

I look at him, but don’t say anything. Other than when we’re at training, Clint has never bothered to speak to me. He’s always too

busy chatting with the bevy of women that constantly surround both him and Anders. If it weren’t for training, I’m pretty sure he

wouldn’t even realize that we’re in the same pack. That is, until Anders set his sights on Cali. Wherever Anders goes, so does

Clint, and Cali and I have always been attached at the hip.

“Last chance ladies, you sure you don’t want a ride?”

“It’s a beautiful morning for a walk, Alpha.” I say.

“Maybe next time. See you in class Cali.” And they pull away.

When they are out of hearing distance, Cali grunts. “Ugh, he is so annoying. Why won’t he leave me alone?”

“Because he’s an Alpha and he’s used to getting what he wants?” I guess.

“Well, he’s the last man I want to be with. He’s practically slept with every girl in our pack. Who would want to be mated to an

Alpha that can’t keep it in his pants?”

“Ummm, aren’t all Alphas like that, Cali? And to answer your question, pretty much every she-wolf other than you and me.”

“I hope my mate is a kind, unassuming man who wants a quiet life.”

I look at my dear friend, frowning as we enter the school parking lot. “You do realize we’re werewolves, right? Unless you’re

mated to a human, that whole ‘quiet life’ is unlikely.”

She sighs. “Yeah, I know. Hey, what was that with Clint? I don’t remember him ever speaking to you before.”

“He hasn’t. I guess me pinning Lucas made me worthy,” I make air quotes as I say it, “of his attention.”

“He’s cute.”

“First, ‘cute’ isn’t the word I would use for him. Sexy or hot would be words to describe Clint. Second, he’s just as much of a

player as Alpha Anders, so no way am I getting mixed up in that.”

As we walk into the school, we see both men standing next to the lockers surrounded by a group of mostly girls. I’m about to roll

my eyes when Clint’s emerald eyes lock onto mine. He’s talking to someone, but he makes a point to wink at me as I walk by.

Really?

I shake my head just enough for him to see that I can’t believe he just did that, and I get an answering smirk in return.

Chapter 458

As we walk toward our lockers, Cali leans into me. “Did Clint just wink at you?”

“Looked like it.”

“Obviously you made an impression on him.”

“I guess. Whatever, it doesn’t matter.” I say as a hand comes down on my open locker door and heat seeps into my back. I look

over my shoulder and see Lucas. I want a rematch tomorrow, beautiful.”

“Are you sure you’re ready for that kind of embarrassment Lucas?”

He leans his 6’2” frame down to my smaller 5’6” frame, his lips grazing my ear. “Winner buys dinner Friday night.”

“Is this your creepy way of asking me out Lucas?” I say closing my locker door and turning toward him. From the corner of my

eye, I see Clint scowling in our direction. I wouldn’t be bothered, but Anders is making his way toward Calista and Clint is right

beside him.

“What if it is?” Lucas asks me.

“Then I’d say you need better lines, Lucas.” I turn to Cali. “We’ve got to move, fast.”

Her head pops

and starts layer. She sees Anders and Clint headed our way. Lucas turns too

and starts laughing. "Good luck with that."

We take off in the fastest walk we can without actually running, ducking in and out of other students to get away. "You can run,

but you can't hide Calista." We hear Anders chuckling as we head to our classes. He's right, since they have two classes

together.

My first class is fine, but my second, Chemistry, I have with Clint. Today, he decides that he is my new lab partner. "Kevin, switch

partners with me."

I raise my eyebrow at him. "Excuse me. Kevin is a great partner and I have no desire to switch." Okay, that's not exactly true.

Kevin's a mediocre partner but having to stand close to Clint during our labs every day for the rest of the year, possibly touching

him, sounds like torture. I may not want to be with the man, but that doesn't mean that my body and my wolf are immune to his

power and dominance.

'Mmmm, and have you seen his wolf?' Andra asks me.

"Yes, Donovan's as big or bigger than Zakai.' Zakai is Alpha Anders wolf. 'You know that's because he's a Guardian. They have

the strength of an Alpha, or in Clint's case, I actually think he's stronger than Alpha Anders.'

'I'd love to rub myself all over that fine specimen.'

'Down girl. We need to get through this class without smelling like we want to jump his bones.'

"Done talking to your wolf?" Clint asks me and I see that Kevin has moved away. It's not like he was going to challenge Clint to

stay.

"Yes." I say and grab my chemistry book to begin today's experiment.

I'm trying to ignore Clint, but he leans in. "I bet she likes me."

"You're implying that I don't like you, Guardian."

A soft growl comes from his chest and he's standing so close that I can feel it. "I told you to call me Clint."

"Right, Clint. Well, my wolf is like every other she-wolf out there. She is drawn to strength and power and we both know, that as

a Guardian, you have both. So, your statement of the obvious seems like a pathetic way to have me give you a compliment. If

your ego is so fragile that you need me to tell you that my wolf finds yours appealing, then consider yourself complimented." I say

before turning back to my book.

I hear him chuckling before I feel his breath against my neck. "Beautiful, there is nothing about me that is fragile."

"Good to know. Let's get started, shall we?"

I'm pleasantly surprised that he's actually knowledgeable about chemistry. He's a good lab partner and where I had to carry

Kevin through the labs, Clint not only keeps up but is one step ahead of me at times. I can feel my competitive nature pushing

forward as we both try to show the other up.

At the end of class, as we're cleaning and putting our items away for the next class, he compliments me. "You're good at

chemistry. I wasn't expecting that."

I give him my best fake smile. "Well, I'm not just a pretty face, Clint. And honestly, you surprised me as well. Nice to know that

you use all your muscles, not just the ones that the girls swoon over when you flex them."

"You really don't like me, do you?" He asks and I swear I hear a bit of hurt in his tone. But that can't be right, why would he care

what I think of him.

I turn to give him my full attention. "It's not that I don't like you. It's that I have no intention of being just another girl in your

revolving doorway. I don't know why you are suddenly giving me attention, but if your goal is to get me into your bed, then I

suggest that you walk away now." I tell him before turning on my heel and heading to my next class.

Chapter 459

I turned 15 over the weekend. I had really hoped to meet my mate on my actual birthday, but that didn't happen. Anders and I

had gone out both Friday and Saturday nights, hoping that I would find her. Since it didn't happen, I had settled on the idea that

Anders and I would have to travel around to find her. He turns 18 in a couple of months but he's already feeling a pull to Calista

Johns. He thinks she is his mate. He's been pursuing her but she's completely uninterested.

It's frustrating him because he's never had to pursue a love interest. Women usually fall at our feet. It doesn't even matter how

old they are, we've both had women old enough to be our mother that have found their way into our beds.

I found the entire situation hilarious until Monday morning, when I showed up at training and smelled the most delicious scent of

orange blossoms and ginger. I followed the scent and found Lily Raines sparring with Lucas, Anders future Lead Warrior. He's

already decided that Lucas will take that position, and I agree. Next to me, he's the strongest warrior in the pack. At least I

thought he was until Lily pinned him.

Seeing Lily sprawled on top of Lucas, even if his face was to the ground had Donovan snarling in my head. He didn't like seeing

her touching another male, much less straddling one. Her long, curly brown hair was up in a ponytail, and when she looked up in

triumph, I could see her eyes are a stunning azure blue.

I knew she was good, Anders and I have been training her for years, but I didn't realize she was that good. Maybe I just wasn't

paying attention, but I am now. Both Donovan and I are proud that our mate is strong.

What I wasn't expecting was for her to give me the same cold shoulder that Calista was giving Anders. Now it's not nearly so

funny. What's worse, it's pretty apparent that she doesn't even like me.

Donovan needs to be closer to her, so I switch partners with hers in Chemistry. I realize quickly that she's not just beautiful and

strong, she's intelligent. And thankfully, I take Chemistry seriously. It's something that, as a Guardian, I feel I need to have

knowledge of, whether it is to save my life or Anders, you never know what type of concoction other supernaturals or worse,

hunters will try to inject in you.

When she tells me she thinks I'm after her only to sleep with her, I know I've got my work cut out for me. Yeah, I've been pretty

indiscriminate with my bed partners, but I've never given any of them any reason to think that they were anything more than a

short-term good time. I've always wanted my mate, I just

didn't really think about the need to wait for her, or how she might feel about me given my extensive history. Honestly, none of

the other women I've been with cared that I'd slept around. I guess that's why Lily is my mate, she does care and now I need to

do some damage control.

First and foremost, I need to figure out when she turns 18. Then, I need to woo her until then so she's willing to accept our mate

bond when she finally feels it. Two classes later, I'm sitting in Literature. I could care less about books written hundreds of years

ago. It will do nothing to make me a better Guardian, but it's required to graduate, so I'm here. I'm lounging in my chair, my eyes

closed and contemplating a nap, when I smell her scent. My eyes snap open as she walks past my desk and sits three seats in

front of me. How have I never realized that she was in my class?

Chapter 460

'Because you're an idiot.' Donovan says to me. 'Move closer to her, change seats with that girl behind her.'

I stand, grabbing my bag. "Hey Anna."

"Hey Clint." She looks up at me and practically purrs. Damn, I didn't think this through. I've slept with Anna and unlike Lily, she

doesn't seem to mind being my bedwarmer.

"I was hoping I could get you to switch seats with me." I give her my best smile Out of the corner of my eye, I see Lily's body go

rigid.

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I watch Anna's face go from excited to confused before she looks at the back of Lily's head. "Oh, uh, sure."

She grabs her things and goes to move past me, placing her hand on my waist and sliding it across my abs. What would have

once had me going hard and making plans for tonight, now is just aggravating me. I don't want Lily getting the wrong idea.

"Maybe I'll see you later?" She asks, her hand sliding to the edge of my jeans.

"Uh, yeah, maybe." I say getting more and more uncomfortable.

Our teacher comes in and Anna moves to my seat, while I sit in hers. I look at Lily, her back is ramrod straight.

The teacher begins discussing whatever novel we're supposed to be reading. I lean forward when the teacher's back is turned.

"Hey Lily." I whisper quietly. The teacher is a werewolf just like everyone else in the class.

She ignores me, so I reach out and begin to tug on her hair. It's really soft and all I can think about is wrapping my fingers in it

while kissing her.

Lily reaches back and pulls her hair out of my hand, glaring at me over her shoulder. I smirk at her and do it again.

"Mr. Nelson, perhaps you can focus more on the class and less on Miss Raines' hair." The teacher calls me out. I hear the class

snicker, but I don't care.

"Sorry Mr. Roberts, but Lily's hair is like silk. It's hard to resist."

"You're a Guardian Mr. Nelson, I'm sure you'll find a way." He says before turning back around.

Lily grabs her hair, pulling it over one shoulder and glaring at me before turning

+25 BONUS

back around. I'm lost in her scent and have no idea what the teacher is saying. Lily on the other hand, seems to be totally

unaffected by my presence and is asking and answering questions.

When class is done, Lily grabs her bag and tries to move past me, but I stand up and get in her way.
“What are you doing after

school?” I ask her.

“Going home.” She tells me, her head tilted up so she can glare at me, as I’m nearly a foot taller than her. I get lost for a moment

in the blue of her eyes.

She goes to push past me, when I remember my point. “Anders and I can drive you and Calista home.”

She steps back and looks up at me again. “No thanks, now move out of my way.” I lean in toward her.

“And if I don’t?”

In one second, I went from feeling in total control of the situation to the next where I am completely at her mercy. Without a care

in the world, she reached up and grabbed my balls in her hand, twisting it just to the point of pain. “If you don’t, I’ll make sure that

you and Anna can’t have any fun tonight. MOVE!” She demands, and I step out of her way.

I watch her walk out of class without a backward glance.

‘Smooth move idiot. You pissed off our mate. Fix it!’ Donovan growls in my head. ‘Do you have any bright ideas?’ I ask my snide

wolf.

“Yeah, stop trying to coerce her and get her to like you.’

Easier said than done.