Chapter 0012

Kai is almost uncontrollable as he snarls, 'I don't care. I will kill him! She is ours! I will have her even if I have to kill Cyran to do it.' It's all I can do to maintain control of Kai before he acts on his statement. The last thing we need is a war between our packs.

I force the shift and take over in my human form, running back to the packhouse. Kai is fighting me and snarling in my head. 'Kai!' I yell at my wolf and stop running to focus on him. 'We are not starting a war because you have suddenly decided you want her. If you think she's our mate, then we need to be smart about this. He has a head start in gaining her affection, but if the mate bond is there, it will pull her to us. If we anger her, or worse, hurt her, it could drive her away from us forever.' That finally gets through to him and he calms down.

The packhouse comes into view and I find one of the many trees with hidden clothes, grabbing a pair of shorts before walking in through the back door.

The packhouse is never locked because people come and go at all hours. Those on patrol come in during breaks to eat or get something to drink, warriors train at all hours of the day and omegas work around everyone else's schedule. When I walk into the kitchen to get a bottle of water, I run into my mother. She's in one of my dad's shirts with a robe

over it and I don't want to think about why her hair is messy or why she's making two sandwiches.

"Hey mom.' I state, hoping this awkward moment won't last too long.

"Hey honey! Did you have a good night?"

I lied, "It was great and then Kai and I went for a run, so I'm heading to bed."

"Okay sweetheart. Oh, by the way, I forgot to mention to you when we were at the memorial Thursday night and you asked about Cara. I invited her to your party next weekend. I know we invite all of the pack members, but you mentioned that you've never met her and I realized that she doesn't really attend pack events, so you wouldn't have ever really had the chance to unless you knew her at school. I made sure your father told her that it was a bit more than a request so she'll definitely be there. And your father also made sure to invite her father with a strong emphasis on the request versus invite." She smiled at me.

An idea began forming in my mind about how I could start making an impression on my girl. "Thanks Mom!" I replied enthusiastically. "I really appreciate it. I don't like not knowing our pack members. Dad has made sure to drill the importance of knowing all our pack members into my head. And with her being the next generation Guardian, I really should know who she is and get to know her."

We said goodnight and I walked up the stairs to my room

thinking about my plan. I have one week until my birthday party. When I get to the third floor, Chase is kissing his redhead goodnight. As I walk by, I mind-link him to find me tomorrow so we can talk. He pulls away from the girl and looks at me, "Everything okay Alpha?"

I smile at him. "It will be, just come find me when you're up, no rush."

The next day after breakfast in the packhouse, I find my father in his office. I confirm that Cara has been in his training classes every morning, even on the weekends, and that he gave permission for her to be trained in the afternoons by her father rather than attending my training classes.

Afterward, I find my mother and give her my request for my party. She's so excited that I'm showing an interest in not only my party but also possibly finding my mate that she's willing to do anything I ask, although this is an easy request to complete.

Finally, I meet up with Chase and give him my plan for the week leading up to my party including the request of my mother.

"Dude, are you sure? You will basically be staking a claim once everyone figures it out."

I look at my friend. "I'm absolutely sure. So let's figure out the logistics."

