## Chapter 0024

The next day, I'm feeling a bit more confident. My morning is the same, watching Cara take out my warriors. Trevor continues to be her biggest competitor, but even he is unable to take her down.

Then I meet up with Chase, who has my breakfast to go, and we head to school. Everyone is talking about Cara's secret admirer. I see Dean and walk over, knowing he's taking bets on who the mystery man is.

"Dean." I reach out and fist bump him and so does Chase. "So, who's in the running?" I ask.

Dean gets a gleam in his eye, "Why, you want in on the action?" he asks. I'm seriously considering it if I'm on the list. This way, I can divert attention, in case Cara knows to ask.

"Depends. Who's on the list?"

Dean gives me a shrewd look, "Well, you and Chase are in the top five."

"Is that so?" I ask.

"Why me?" Chase asks.

Dean gives him a look like he's missing the obvious, "

Because you can afford Ethereal, Beta."

Chase nods his head in understanding.

"Who else?" I continue my quest.

"Well, Trevor is also in the top 5, Alpha Liam and my biggest surprise, Jason."

"Jason, her friend Jason?" Chase asks. I'm as surprised as he is.

"Yep. Apparently some people think he's showing her in the only way she'll notice. At least that's what I'm hearing when the bets are placed."

I reach in my pocket and pull out some money. "Fifty bucks says it's Chase." I give my Beta a wicked grin. He goes very still before slowly turning to me and raising his eyebrows at me.

He reaches into his pocket and pulls out his own money, "Fifty on Rik." Bastard. He knows he's winning this bet!

Dean takes our money and makes a note of our bets. "

Awesome!"

"Now I need to recalculate the odds. Take into account that you could be trying to throw us all off course, with the possibility that it's really neither of you and you don't know that..." He continues to

mumble about modifying the odds as he walks away.

Satisfied that I've mucked up the betting pool, Chase and I walk to our first class.

When it's lunch time, I grab my lunch quickly so I can watch. It seems everyone that is not in class during this lunch period, plans to be in the cafeteria.

When she walks in, I see her look around, trying to figure out what today's surprise will be. Is that disappointment that I see on her face? Oh, I think it is. Don't you worry my sweet, today's gift is on its way.

When the quartet walks in, everyone goes quiet. Everyone knows exactly why they are here.

They begin to sing and I have to laugh when they sprinkle the rose petals over her head. I told them to make it fun, and that's exactly what they are doing. I love watching her laughing at their antics during the song, knowing I brought that smile to her face.

Everyone gave them a standing ovation and they deserved it. I see her ask them about a card and Harry pulls it out of his pocket and hands it to her.

I hold my breath while she reads it. Yesterday we made a clear claim for Cara and Artemis. Today, I am making my intentions clear. Kai and I want them and



we're willing to wait for them. I see Cara's eyes brighten with that sunlight glow and I know that Artemis has pushed forward again. Kai's rumble of approval reverberates in my head. We've made an impact on not only Cara but also Artemis.

After school, I head to training with Chase. Talk continues as to who the secret admirer is. Trevor continues to swear that it's not him. Chase and I just give everyone that asks us a death stare. We hear lots of theories that it's Alpha Liam. He's the obvious option since he and Cara have spent so much time together. The rumors are also rampant about what the cards have said. To Lacey's credit, she's not giving out much information, just basically saying that it's pretty obvious what his intentions are based on the gifts he's been providing.

