

Chapter 153-1

It's been three months since we published the article and we've not heard a single thing from Lucas. Seth still doesn't know if their baby made it, and the guilt is eating him alive.

After the article went to print, we started receiving information throughout the kingdom. Some have been quite helpful, and some have not, but weeding through everything has helped to keep me occupied. We've been able to complete a trail that they've taken across the kingdom and, due to its size, we know that they have been stopping to rest somewhere along the way. The Alphas that Seth believes he can trust are investigating pack members to try and locate them.

Shortly after it printed, my brother kept being called to the border because people were trying to cross it. Many packs started sending a few warriors to help protect me, which was so unexpected, but very kind. Seth and Robbie decided to allow some of them to stay but eventually, Robbie had to turn some away because there just wasn't enough room to house them. There are quite a few tents around in random places where members of Lunar Falls opened up their properties and some, even, opened their homes.

I was surprised that the article was so well received. Shortly after, Peter announced that after the pups arrived safely and we are able to return to the palace, that he would be stepping down and handing the throne to Seth. Thankfully, that seemed to be enough to placate the anger of the kingdom, though I think that the knowledge that I was able to forgive him truly helped them to do so as well.

Stella shifted in December and my brother asked to meet with her on her birthday. She was nervous, but I reassured her that it wouldn't be something bad and, well, we didn't see them much for a few days. They seem quite happy and she has jumped right into the Luna role. It's also been nice having her around as I'm not allowed to do as much.

The babies should be here in just a few weeks and while the tea from Lily helped with the sickness and exhaustion, it doesn't do anything about the pain from growing two large and active pups. I'm so sore, and they never quit moving. I've not been able to move anywhere as quickly as before since I'm lugging my belly around.

Sofia says they are growing well and have stayed on schedule since her initial check. I'm assuming the doctor at the palace was incorrect and it makes me that much more thankful that we decided to stay at Lunar Falls.

Albert and his new pack are doing quite well. They finished construction on his house and have been working hard towards becoming financially stable. Electricity lines have been run to the houses that wanted them, though some did decline, and wells have been dug so they have running water. After some time, the pack agreed on the name Waxing Forrest pack, honoring their growth and the land that they're on. They've been welcoming to me when I've visited and they're even warming up to Seth a bit.

Seth has been taking such good care of me, something I've come to learn from reading Cora's journals never truly happened to her. Joseph forced her to carry another baby after a terrible first pregnancy because they needed 'a spare'. It almost makes me have a little sympathy for Lucas. As I've read through the journals, I can see why Seth does some of the things that he does. It is important for him to be better than past generations and he has definitely succeeded in that.

Seth is going to visit Alpha Blake tomorrow to inform him that he is aware of his involvement with Lucas. He will be forced to step down and Chris will immediately be named Alpha. He seemed like a really nice guy and I wish he could become Alpha under better circumstances, but it just isn't that way for everyone. George and I have been working on putting a plan in place for him for the pack finances and Seth agreed that the palace would help out for a bit until they can get on their feet.

I asked to join Seth on the trip since it is just the neighboring pack, but he completely refused. He did, however, agree to let me take a walk through the woods in a few days, but demanded it be a path that is reasonable and flat. I was thinking about what would be best but then he informed me that Oliver would be joining us and leading the way so they could make sure I didn't pick anything too crazy.

My mom had been decorating the nursery for me, and then redecorating it after everything was pink the first time. Everyone is so excited that I'm having a girl, that they keep forgetting that I am also having a boy. Audrey has had a few video calls with us to show us the nursery she's put together at the palace since we aren't there to do it. Sometimes it gets a little overwhelming, having so many parents involved, but I often remind myself that they just love us and the babies and there's no need to be upset when there's just so much love for my children. They won't always get that from the world, especially our daughter.

"I'm thinking of naming Michael as your head guard," Seth tells me, unbuttoning his shirt and throwing it to the floor. "I wanted to check with you first, though. I know you also really like Toby."

I smile and shake my head at him. "Toby doesn't want the job."

"What?" he asks, looking confused and concerned. "Why is he here then?"

"He wants to be on baby Cora's guard," I tell him, trying to ease his concern. "He knows she may not have a wolf and said it sounded like a fun challenge. His ultimate career goal is to be HER head guard, though he didn't seem upset at the thought of remaining in mine."