

Chapter 51 - Bullied Mate Of The Alpha Triplets

Ember's POV

I stared at the clothes in my hands in shock, wondering if I should take it or not. It didn't seem right that I would have such an expensive dress from one of the brothers when we had not made our relationship official.

Sighing, I caressed the fabric lightly. It seemed so smooth in my hands and I chased back the urge to put it on. "Oh, Moon Goddess! Guide me on how to handle this issue better. I don't want to ruin my relationship with my hands, but I don't know what to do." I muttered to myself.

It was at that moment that my phone rang. I sighed as I placed the cloth back on the bed. Stretching my body slightly, I was able to grab my phone from underneath the pillow.

Zealina's name flashed on the screen. I smiled as I quickly pressed the answer button.

"Have you been kidnapped?" She asked almost immediately. "Did the triplets stick their dicks into all your holes? Are you out of this planet or you're in this world?"

I blinked as I took the phone out, and then, her name didn't quite change. I replaced the phone on my ears and tried to be calm as I said, "What the hell are you talking about right now, Zea?"

"Don't act so clueless," she scolded.

I huffed in disbelief. "I don't have time for all these. So, you better spit out whatever you wish to say right now, or I will deal with you, huh," I snapped.

"Look at her tone," she said in disbelief.

"Zea..." I whined in frustration.

"What?"

I closed my eyes. "I swear you can be so impossible. I have no idea how that handsome man you call mate copes with you," I pointed out. I sat up lightly as I pulled my hair behind my ears. "Anyway, I know that you are acting up because I haven't called you for some time now."

"Is that not something to worry about?" She whined.

I rolled my eyes. "You're just being dramatic."

"Allow me," she said smugly. "You need to apologise to me right this moment, and don't even try to claim that you're right."

I bit my lips as I suddenly had the urge to laugh. "Alright. I'm sorry," I said at last.

She grinned, and I couldn't help laughing with her. Zea could be so impossible at times, but I loved her a lot, and nothing was ever going to change about that. She made me believe that friendship could be fun, irrespective of our station in life.

"Ember, I heard about Caleb. I need the whole gist," she whined.

I smiled. "I have little time to talk because I'm preparing to go on another date with Tristen this evening."

"Are you serious?"

I bobbed my head as though she could see me. "Yes, Zea," I admitted. "I'm going to tell you about everything when I see you in the next few days. It's been such a hectic and fun week."

"I can hear it in your voice. I'm seriously so happy for you, Ember," she gushed.

I grinned at that. "I know."

There was a slight pause, and my eyes moved slightly to the dress on the bed. It lay pretty, but I was not sure of what I should do with it.

"Zea?" I called softly.

She whistled in response. "You sound like you want to talk to me about your life secrets."

I rolled my eyes. "I need your advice concerning the date I'm about to go to."

There was a shift, and then, someone was doing some weird ass things in the background before Zealina came up on the phone once more. "Sorry about that," she said softly. "OK, tell me what you need advice on."

I took a deep breath as I looked at the outfit again. "I know it sounds completely stupid, but I need you to take me seriously at least."

"I promise I will."

Taking a deep breath, I touched the cloth again. "The thing is Tristen wants to take me to an exhibition and I'm pumped about it. But, this afternoon, he brought over this expensive gown for me and is making me wear it. I don't know if it is right to listen to his words. You know, we are not official yet, and I don't wish to tamper with my self-respect. I'm scared of the things that could happen at this point."

"Oh, Ember..." She trailed off.

I said nothing, unable to defend my thoughts. If she put it like that, maybe I was making some sort of mistake.

"Look, I know you've gone through a lot with the boys. And, even though they would lead the pack one day, I'm not actually in support of the way they have handled some of the issues. But, you have to trust me in this... Wear the outfit. It doesn't mean anything at all, if it truly makes you happy then you shouldn't worry too much about anything "

I licked my lips. "I don't know..."

"Trust me, Ember. Men love to feel as though they are cherished. He would be happy when he sees you wearing the outfit he had set out for you. So, do what you have to do now, and have the best night. Exhibitions can be dicey, but I trust Tristen to make it worthwhile for you," she emphasised.

I smiled as I felt as though something had been lifted off my chest. "You're right. I will call you later, Zea."

I disconnected the call as I proceeded to strip. There were so many things to do now, but what was at the forefront of those things was that I was finally going to be able to do something for Tristen. If wearing this dress would make him feel special, I had no business refusing.

The next couple of minutes, I spent it making up in dull colors, and then, it was time to dress up. I was so late, and he must have been going crazy, thinking that I would not be able to come, but that was not going to happen.

When I was done, I avoided looking at my reflection, as I thought that Tristen would be my mirror. I grabbed my purse and tickets next and made my way out of the room, and down the stairs, only to meet Tristen right at the base of the staircase.

He was looking dashing in an open-neck suit. I had never seen him look so dressed up, and I was positively elated by it. His eyes were also roaming over my body, and when he looked up, he growled lightly, pulling heat between my legs in the process.

"You look like an angel," he said softly.

I smiled. "Thank you."

There was nothing fake about his pleasantries and I could see the awe on his face. He couldn't believe what he was seeing and that made me smile even wildly.

"Your dress... It's perfect on you, and I love the way the dark and gold colours play with your skin. How could I be so lucky?" He asked out loud.

His fingers slowly shot forward, and I placed my hand in his. "Stop with the flattering, Tristen." I replied shyly.

He winked at me. "Let's head into the best night of our lives!"

Chapter 52 - Bullied Mate Of The Alpha Triplets

Ember's POV

Tristen and I moved like twin flames in the dark of the night. My gaze slowly rested on his face as he walked me towards the car. I could hear the soft pulse of my heartbeat and it made it difficult for me to think straight.

'Just calm down, wolf,' I muttered to myself.

A white limousine suddenly cruised to a stop in front of us, and I blinked in shock, staring at it. Ok, I was definitely not expecting that tonight. Were they all doing things to outsmart each other? It sounded like what they could do.

"Are we going to the exhibition in this?" I asked in shock.

Tristen simply winked at me as he placed his hand on my back, leading me towards the car. Everything felt so surreal, and I almost assumed that this was happening to someone else and not me.

"Come on," he said softly.

I pulled myself together as I got into the car. Tristen was right beside me, and he was looking as good as ever. We sat opposite each other, and Tristen wouldn't stop looking at me. It made me so subconscious, and I found that all I did was pull my hair behind my ear consistently.

I felt like my wolf was about to leap out to the surface to reclaim her mate, and I had no choice but to push her down. There was a need to use my brain here to handle certain issues, and I would have to do that now.

"You look so good," he said softly.

I licked my lips. "You keep telling me this."

He grinned at me as the driver drove us through the quiet nights. My heart skipped a beat as I fought back the blush. It felt so good to have him right where he should be by my side, and I just couldn't take enough of it.

"Well, I can't help it because you're so gorgeous, and cute. I feel like doing so many things to you," he pointed out.

"Like, what?"

He leaned closer as he looked at my cleavage and back to my face. "Something like taking you on a wild ride."

I looked away from him as I bit my lips. He was so crazy with his dual meaning, and I wasn't sure I could be able to keep up with it all. His gaze was hot on my cheeks, and I blushed furiously.

There was something so primal about going on exhibition with Tristen, and believe me, it had nothing to do with the arts, but more of the mate bond. I spared him another look, and he winked at me before licking his lips so slowly, that my stomach did some heavy-duty flip-flops.

The car suddenly pulled to a stop, and I looked out of my window to see we were in the middle of a park. At the side, there was a beautiful makeshift building standing in the middle, and a few couples dressed like us, walking around, talking.

"Ember," Tristen called. I turned to him and watched as he stretched his hand forward. "Would you permit me to give you the best night ever?" He asked softly.

I smiled lightly, placing my hand in his. "Ok, but no funny business," I teased.

He smirked. "I won't promise that part."

And, just like that I was led out of the limousine and the driver drove off. We took a short walk to the makeshift building that had lights everywhere. It was like being alone in the wild, and whoever idea it was, had done a great job exhibiting things like this.

The walk was so cute, and despite my resolve not to feel a thing, I found I liked the way Tristen's hands held mine. Maybe, he wasn't doing one of his mean games this time, and he really cared for me. I hoped that was true for my own sake.

"Welcome," a man dressed like a glass cup shot out as we stepped in front of the porch.

Tristen tipped his head down a bit and then proceeded to give him our cards. Next, our names were announced to the guests inside that we had arrived. I blushed as I held onto Tristen more.

"Stick with me," he mumbled softly, caressing my ears in the process.

My smile didn't waver, but I fought a moan that threatened to escape from my lips. I chose instead to focus on where I was heading at the moment. Tristan's hands never left mine as we moved through the few people gathered to a spot on the left.

"Pretend I'm not here please," he announced.

I looked at him as his eyes flicked to black, and then, back to green. "Do you go through this all the time?" I asked softly.

He pulled me around, his hand slightly on my waist. "No, I don't. I have never enjoyed having a woman as beautiful and fun as you are on my arm."

"Not even..."

"Not even those girls," he said softly, getting what I wished to say without words. "Let's not ruin this night with tales of them. This night is about us, and no one else," he said smoothly.

I smiled as I allowed him to lead me to the various oil painting portraits that adorned the walls. It was so different, but yet so beautiful. Tristen brushed the subject of what they all meant, and I found myself interested in it too, talking intently and asking questions before he let go of my hand to get us a drink.

I slid my hair behind, noting that a few women were looking at him like vultures. However, there were others who didn't care that he was right there with them, and respected both I and Tristen.

When Tristen returned with a lemonade in two glasses, I huffed in response. He raised his brow amused at my childish display.

"Would a princess take my drink?" He asked softly.

I rolled my eyes. "I don't want something that everyone seemed to have gotten already," I whined. For some reason I felt jealous seeing the way some of the girls looked at Tristen, what irked me more was knowing that he had probably slept with the majority of them

He stepped even closer to me, and I found myself looking at his green eyes, which had darkened considerably in the cool light. "If you'd let me claim you they'd back off knowing I already have a mate" Tristen replied. I was surprised he was quick to understand why I was acting up.

"Tristen..."

He shook his head lightly and stretched his hand holding my drink to me. "Take it, Ember," he urged.

My brow furrowed in annoyance debating whether to collect it or not, and before I knew it, he took a sip of my drink, flicking his tongue at the side. Fuck! I thought about him cleaning my wetness down there, and I tried not to squeeze my legs tight.

No words were needed as he slowly led the glass to my lips, giving me enough time to leave, but I just couldn't. I found myself drinking from the very same spot, and having my nipple harden considerably.

"Did you enjoy the taste of my tongue?" He teased darkly.

My gaze met his, shyly. "I think we should behave," I said instead.

He smirked. "I would have to correct that. Did you mean, you think we should dance?" He asked cheekily.

I blinked. "Here?" I asked shakily, there were so many people present and the thought of dancing in front of them made me want to bury myself under the floor.

He shrugged nonchalantly. "Why not?"

Chapter 53 - Bullied Mate Of The Alpha Triplets

EMBER's POV

The music seemed to have filtered towards us, and when I looked around, I noted that some of the attendees were looking at us with pure envy. It made me smile a bit, knowing they wanted to know how much I was a part of Tristen's life.

"Ember?" Tristen said softly, bringing my attention back to him. "What are you thinking about? Let's have this dance."

I smiled as I placed my hands in his. He looked absolutely dashing right now, and though our paths had been rough, I knew that this moment meant a lot to me. My wolf was excited about this like she had just been marked, and I couldn't blame her. Tristen was different from his brothers, and that made him unique.

I licked my lips coyly as I said, "I would like to have a dance with you."

The next thing I knew, he had his hands right on my waist as he twirled me around so delicately like I was a china doll. I placed my hands on his shoulder, careful not to step on his foot. I was not a dancer, but I knew a bit of salsa.

"I love it when you smile," he said as he moved.

I shook my head. "You're starting to rival Lucas in being a flatterer."

This made him laugh as he did a particular move that made me bend lightly, and then, he sprang me back to him in full force. My heart skipped a beat at once, and when I looked into his eyes, I thought of one thing, he was delectable.

"Ember, I don't need to rival my brother in such a simple thing. You need to know that every word I say is fact. I'm not one to play with words, and you are not one to take whatever I say without thoughts," he pointed out.

I smirked. "You're right, Tristen," I said softly.

And, just like that, everything and everyone seemed to fade away, leaving only our bodies to do the talking. I clung to Tristen as we danced to the beat. His eyes were more beautiful than I had thought and I couldn't just stop looking at him.

Maybe, I was a fool to feel this way...

I don't know.

But, everything inside me wished to be with him. I could feel my wolf pulsing with life, and I just couldn't breathe.

"Do you feel it too?" He asked softly.

I nodded, too immersed in the moment to let out a coherent word. He laughed lightly as he leaned closer, brushing his lips against my temple. I grasped his shoulders tightly in response as my eyes flickered close. This was indeed paradise.

"I wish we could suspend time, but we have to stop," he said softly.

On cue, the music slowly strummed to a halt. Tristen pecked me once more on my temple, and then, he let me go. "Thank you," he whispered softly.

I blushed, unable to believe that the last few minutes had happened, but it seemed that it had. I could simply smile as I pulled my hair behind my ears, and turned away from him. The guests were still looking at us in amazement. There was one thing for sure, we had made quite an impression here.

The rest of the night passed so quickly, and before long, we were on our way home. All I thought of as we drove through the half-empty route was how the night had been so magical. I had no idea if I really wanted to forgive the boys, but they were surely making it difficult to keep a hardened heart.

When the car stopped in front of the pack house, Tristen stepped out of the car and slowly helped me out. He pulled me close to him as he kissed me on my forehead once more.

"Good night," he said softly.

I gulped. "Thank you for the date," I couldn't help but spill.

He smiled at me as he winked. "I'm glad you didn't experience boredom. I know it can be..."

"No, it was perfect," I said at once. I sighed as I touched his arm slightly. "Good night, Tristen," I said softly.

With that, I gathered the gown in my hand as I ran up the steps leading to the house. Turning the door open, I stepped open, only for a hand to grasp mine. I gasped in shock. What the hell?

"Hey!"

The soul turned towards my direction, and all I could see was Lucas. His hair looked dishevelled and face effortlessly handsome.

"Don't be too shocked," he said softly. "I want to take you on a small date."

I blinked in shock. "No, you won't," I said as I hurried after him.

"You don't have a choice."

"Lucas!" I whined.

He grinned as he looked forward. "I want to spend time with you, and this is the only way I know how to do so. So, you really can't refuse. Tomorrow is not guaranteed, but at least, we get to live in the moment. This is just what I need right now."

I sighed. What has come over him?

Knowing Lucas, he was right. He was not going to take no for an answer. I wished to smack him on the back of the head in anger, but I knew I could not do it. My heart wouldn't take it.

He pulled me up the stairs, to the other side of the room where I doubted people went into. The whole place was dark, and I shivered in response. Despite the eeriness, I felt a pull to Lucas that I couldn't deny.

His shadow flickered across the room as he released his hold on my arm.

"Where are we going to?" I asked, trying not to drool at how his shadow seemed to fit on the wall. It was the most beautiful thing ever, and that was just facts.

The lights suddenly turned on, and I blinked in shock as my eyes took in the whole area. There was a giant cake on the table, and then, around it were small pans and a throw pillow which seemed oddly fitting.

The whole ambiance was so beautiful that I wanted to weep. "You did this?" I asked in shock.

"Yes," Lucas said as he moved over to the table. "This is my passion. I know you couldn't eat the other day because we messed up the whole thing, but I want to show you how good I am in the kitchen."

I smiled. "I would like to see that."

"Good," he muttered.

We looked at each other for a time, and without being able to control ourselves, we threw our heads back and laughed hard.

"So, you're not mad that I didn't let you go back to sleep," he teased.

I smirked as I struggled to regain my composure. "I don't think I was really angry," I said softly.

He smirked. "Really?"

"Yes," I said as I made my way to him.

Two steps from where he was, he suddenly took one of the pans, using it to pull me close to him. I gasped in shock as I looked up, only for his lips to find mine in a searing kiss that knocked me off my feet.

Chapter 54 - Bullied Mate Of The Alpha Triplets

Ember's POV

Oh, Moon Goddess!

I sighed as the sounds of howls made my eyes flutter open. What the hell was going on? Was it a crime to have some rest in the afternoon? I sighed as I stepped out of the bed to the other side of the room.

My head hurt with a curse. Groaning lightly, I held onto the rod, hoping to be able to calm myself down a bit. At first, nothing seemed to happen, but then, the whole thing became clearer, and I was able to see what was right in front of me.

It was then that I saw a group of werewolves down the stairs as they howled as hard as ever. Lucas was in front of them his blue eyes shone as a light, and it reminded me of the moments we had shared the previous night.

In the whole brothers, he was a sharpshooter, and there was something about him that made me weak to my knees. I had no idea what it was, but it made me feel safe. Safe... I had never imagined that I would associate that word with any of the boys.

Even now, I wondered if I was doing the right thing to understand where they were all coming from. I wanted to hold onto my anger even more than before, but it was getting increasingly difficult to do that. Everything seemed to point to the fact that my emotions were getting the best of me, and I had no idea what I could do to stop that.

Should I even try?

My hands combed through my hair as I tried my best to control my emotions. This is not going to help me. If I can pretend for a minute that the boys didn't exist, and do some other things, maybe, I might understand what I could do.

With that resolve in mind, I went about my morning duties. I decided to dress up in a super short skirt and crop top.

I wondered what the triplets would think if they saw me ...

Ugh!

Get a grip of yourself, Ember!

A knock sounded on the door at that moment. I bit my lips slightly as I made my way to the door. I threw the door open just to see Zealina beaming at me.

"Zea?" I asked in shock. She grinned even harder. "What are you doing here?"

"I'm here to see you, Ember. Or, to find out juicy details," she said as she pushed her way inside the room.

I sighed as I subconsciously pulled at my top. "Honestly, you just do whatever you like, don't you?"

"That is right," she admitted as she plopped on my bed.

I rolled my eyes at her. "Why didn't you tell me you were coming?"

"I didn't know I needed a special invite these days. Or, are you scared that I would see you riding one of the triplets," she teased.

I groaned. "Clean your thought Zealina," I whined.

She simply winked at me in response. What was I going to do with this girl? She can be so annoying and she didn't even know it. I shook my head as I made my way to the other side of the room, picking up a mirror to look at my expressions.

"Wait a minute, you're wearing a crop top and skirt?" Zea exclaimed in disbelief.

I shrugged as I lowered the glass, turning to look at her. "You were the one who got it for me, remember?"

She bobbed her head. "That is beside the point."

I raised my brow at her as I asked, "What is the point?"

She rose to her feet as she made her way towards me. I noted that the jeans she wore hugged her tight, and she was also wearing the same crop top. Well, it was her signature style anyway. Zea threw her hands on my shoulders the moment she got to me.

"The point is you swore never to wear something like this," she pointed out.

I sighed dramatically at her. "I did?"

"Yes," she said in a rush. "What happened all of a sudden? Are you trying to impress the boys? Oh, moon goddess! Don't tell me that you're trying to seduce them while they trained."

I grained in frustration as I grabbed a hold of Zea's hands, pulling it down. "I swear you have an overactive imagination. Go, bother Ernest," I whined.

She grinned. "But, you have to tell me..."

Not waiting for her to complete her statement, I pushed her lightly. It only made her laugh. I rolled my eyes at her. "I swear one day, I'm going to choke you with something," I grumbled.

She held me from the back as she laughed. "Don't be too mad at me, dear," she said softly. "I was just joking. Since I got here, I have realized you've become too sensitive. Though, I see nothing wrong with dressing up for your mates."

"I have not accepted them yet," I said at once.

Zea released her hold on me as she turned me to face her. "What do you mean?" She asked at once. I shrugged in response. "All these dates meant what exactly? I know that I can't stand those triplets after what they did to you, but if you're going on dates with them, then, you would have to decide what you want."

I felt my shoulders slump in frustration. "Do I have to do that?"

"Yes," she said firmly.

I sighed as I itched my hair. "I don't want to choose. I don't even know what I want at the moment. I have never been so confused in my whole life. I just want to be happy, Zea. Would the Boys be the ones to make me happy?"

"I don't know, Ember. But, you would need to find that out yourself. I need you to tell yourself the truth or it will be too late to mend fences." She sighed as she looked at me. "They are not the best things in the world. I can say that you would find better men that would love you forever, and respect you too. But, if you wish to be a part of their lives, you would have to go all in. There is no half-commitment for werewolves. That is what makes us different from humans."

I nodded, unable to say a word.

She squeezed my cheek a bit as she took several steps away from me. "I have to go now. I only came to practice and thought I should disturb you. However, we ended up arguing over nothing. Take care of yourself, Ember," she said softly.

I smiled. "You, too," I mumbled.

There was nothing inside of me that felt the pleasantries. I just wished to get it done with. I hated myself so much for not being able to know what I wanted. Even Zealina, who couldn't stand the triplets was trying to help me, but I was so...

I placed my head in my hands in frustration, only for me to jump as I heard a loud knock on my door.

Who was that?

I slowly made my way to the door curious to see who was there. The triplet's handsome faces came into sight when I pushed open the door.

"Ember..." Tristen whispered in a husky voice.

I shivered in both excitement and nervousness when I took note of how the triplet's eyes darkened on seeing my outfit. My skirt was really short so they had a pretty good view of my thighs.

"Come" Lucas beckoned as he kept staring at me like a piece of art in the museum.

My feet remained frozen, unable to move like their gaze had hypnotized me.

"Aha!" I squealed in excitement as Caleb swiftly lifted me over his shoulder, my body upside down and with his large hands gripping my thighs dangerously close to my ass.

Fuck... I whispered under my breath, my body getting hot with need as Caleb carried me toward their room with Tristen and Lucas following.

What on earth did they intend to do to me??

Chapter 55 - Bullied Mate Of The Alpha Triplets

Ember's POV

I tried to hold onto Caleb as he threw me right on the bed, but failed. The air got knocked out of my lungs, but still, I couldn't help the laughter that flickered up in the air. This was definitely more than I had expected.

"She is so cute," Lucas said softly.

I tried to stop laughing, but I failed once more. I really shouldn't be laughing this hard, but it was kind of hard to do so when the boys were involved. They were painfully hilarious this evening.

"It's so nice to see you so happy," Tristen said as he squatted in front of me.

I bit my lips, as the fun part dissolved at once. I was painfully aware of their presence with Lucas and Caleb flanking Tristen. Their gazes were so intense as they looked at me. It made my stomach lurch with need.

Licking my lips I said softly, "Do you really mean that?"

They nodded at once and looked at each other. I knew without being told twice that there was a reason they had brought me into this room, and my heart fluttered in my chest at what they had in mind.

Tristen spread my legs apart as he sniffed lightly. "Yes," he muttered as he took a sniff.

My cheeks burned in arousal, and I could feel my nipple harden. There was something about the way Tristen licked his lips that made me want to go crazy. I just didn't understand what was good or bad when they were in the mood, and that was something that I couldn't change.

"What are you up to?" I asked stupidly.

A hand raised my chin up, and it was at that moment that I realized that Caleb was no longer standing behind his brothers, instead he was in front of me. His eyes were thick with arousal as they looked at me, and I just wasn't able to think straight anymore.

He slid his hands from my chin to my lips, roughly. And, I could open my lips as a moan escaped my lips.

"We wish to show our gratitude, baby. You gave us the best weekend, and it can't just stop now, don't you think?" He asked darkly.

I licked my lips slowly, and he groaned in response to that. His eyes were so hooded with needs that it was so difficult for me to breathe. How could a man be so effortlessly handsome like this? It was a fucking crime.

"Fuck!" He cursed. "If you keep doing that, then I will put my load in your open mouth.

I bit my lips. "Would you have the guts?"

What the hell was I saying?

"If Caleb is too weak, then, I would be too strong," Lucas said softly.

I smirked, but that was a wrong move because before long, I felt a lip on mine. My eyes went wild as Caleb kissed the daylight out of me. Then, slowly, I felt a hand on my pleasure spot, and another on my breast. I was not able to control the sensations as I moaned heartily, squeezing my legs against the fingers.

"Let it flow," Tristen said darkly.

He spread my legs further apart, as he slowly made his hand tease that spot in circular patterns. I couldn't think straight, and when Caleb bit my lips in the kiss, I cried out with desire.

I opened my eyes to see Lucas sucking at my breast as he pulled up the crop top a bit. He didn't care about who saw what, but this was more of something he seemed to be craving to do for a long time.

My hands moved to his hair, kneading as I cried out my desire, feeling as though was melting on itself. Caleb pecked me on the lips and let me go. His eyes were hooded in desire as he looked at us acting insanely. I tried to use my other hand to stop Tristen from doing more of it, but he was relentlessly circling my spot, and driving me crazy.

"You look so good as a sexual wolf. I would love to fuck your brains out," Caleb shut out.

I blinked in shock. "No, no," I said at once.

The moment was broken like a pack for cards, and the boys retreated from me, looking at me right in the eyes. I licked my lips, suddenly feeling self-conscious. I had no idea what to do right now as I clamped my legs tight, feeling the last of the spasms rock my body.

"You don't want us?" Lucas asked directly.

He was still so close to me. I turned as I caressed his cheeks lightly. I may be confused about my feelings, but this was clear for me. "I'm not ready yet. I mean, you three make me so happy, but I have not really made up my mind to go all the way."

"Is it something we did?" Tristen asked.

"Don't be silly, man," Caleb said instead. I blinked as I looked at him since he was the one who proposed it. "I know we didn't shit, but it's her personal decision and we have to respect Ember," he said calmly.

I felt tears at the back of my eyes, not really expecting the understanding that they threw my way. "Thank you," I managed.

They came closer to me, hugging me hard. I tried my best to let my hand move to other parts of their body. They were my mates, and maybe, I wasn't ready to acknowledge this, but there was nothing I wanted more than to be by their sides.

"Can we cuddle though?" Lucas queried.

I grinned. "That is the easiest part."

Just like that, they all tumbled into bed with me, and I was sandwiched between Lucas and Caleb. With, Tristen lying in the middle of my legs. This could be a dream, but I would definitely not wake up from it.

"To hell with you!"

I blinked in shock as the triplets slowly disengaged from me. That was the Luna's voice, and she sounded so angry.

The noise had woken us up. What time was it? It was so unlike there to be a drama so early, and I hated it. I wanted nothing more but to be in the boy's arms, who looked so laden with sleep.

"What is going on?" Lucas asked randomly.

I licked my lips. "I think that is the Luna and she is really angry."

"Don't touch me, Dominic! You're nothing but a betrayal. Gosh! I thought you were a good man, but..." There was a pause, and then, "I said, you shouldn't touch me!"

We all scrambled out of bed in shock. This was not the way things normally were in the pack house. Luna Anna was a collected woman who rarely gave in to her anger, so what could the Alpha have done to provoke her?

"I think we have to stop Mom before she creates a shitstorm," Caleb pointed out.

Tristen gave a quick nod. "That may be right, but mother never raises her voice on that. Something is wrong."

"We can't find out what that is by staying in here. Come on," Lucas said quickly.

I had no idea what to say, so I trailed after the boys quickly. My stomach churned as we heard more awful words. There couldn't have been a better way to break a pack than witnessing the Luna and Alpha fight. There was something obviously wrong, and we had to stop them.

It seemed Alpha Dominic was whispering because I could barely hear what he was saying. He could be the one who was guilty if he was trying to stop the mess that was happening,

As we walked through the halls, I couldn't help but note that the triplets had their shoulders hunched in panic. If I was feeling weird about the whole drama, I couldn't imagine how the boys were feeling.

"Don't even try to shut my voice!" Luna Anna cried out.

This was bad.

We finally took several quick steps down the stairs, and at first, we didn't see anyone in the sitting room, but when we turned towards the left, we noted that the Alpha and his Luna were in the kitchen.

"Anna, please listen to me. I know that you're angry right now, but this is not the best way to go..." Alpha Dominic pleaded as he tried to hold onto her hands, but she pulled her hands back in irritation.

"I don't think you get it," she snapped as she hit her hand on the head furiously. Then, she proceeded to speak Spanish.

"You..."

"What's going on here, father?" Lucas interrupted immediately we came into view.

The Alpha could barely look at his sons in the eyes as he said, "Go to your room."

"Why should they?" The Luna asked.

"Anna..."

She raised her hands, stalling the Alpha's words as she shifted her gaze to her sons.

"Your father just informed me about his bastard son."

Chapter 56 - Bullied Mate Of The Alpha Triplets

LUCAS

My mind went blank the moment those words came out of Mother's lips. This should be a prank, right? I shifted my gaze to the luggage at the corner of the kitchen. It was weird to see something like that here, but it was also the reality.

"This got to be a bad joke, right?" Tristen asked in a dangerously low voice mirroring our thoughts.

Our mother sniffed and seemed on the verge of crying. That only served to wedge a hammer deep into my stomach. I just couldn't believe it was happening right now. Everything felt like a bad dream. It had to be...

"Answer me, father!" Tristen snapped.

The old man combed his hands through his hair and looked at each one of us as though he wanted us to forgive him. My hands pulled defensively to my side as I looked on.

He moved back slightly, placing a hand on the counter. "I didn't mean to hurt you..."

"So, mom is right?" Caleb cut him off.

He gave a soft nod.

"I can't believe this," Caleb cried.

I took a step forward, feeling my body spasm in rage as my wolf threatened to come out. He could understand my distress so well, and it was a matter of time before I would snap. But, somehow, I maintained my cool as I looked at Father in the eyes. He gulped in response.

"So, how long have you been keeping your bastard from us?" I asked coldly.

He blinked. "Lucas, you don't need to talk to me this way," he muttered.

I raised my fingers up in rage. "You don't get to tell me what to do anymore. You are so shameless that you don't feel remorse for your actions. You're literally breaking your family apart, and you still crave respect? Look at your mate, did you see how you hurt her, and still you have the guts to be so arrogant!"

Family vacation packages

"What do I think? You literally said that you have an illegitimate child out there, so what exactly should I think on this matter? Jeez!" I said in disgust.

I felt a hand on my shoulder, and I turned to look at Caleb whose eyes were red with pain. I knew out of all of us, he was the softest, and it broke my heart that he would get to witness everything falling apart in front of him. He didn't deserve that at all.

"Why do you have to waste your time with someone as cold as he is? It's just useless..."

"Let me explain myself at least!" Father shouted.

"What is there to explain?" Tristen asked coldly.

Father sighed as he moved away from us. There was something about the way his shoulders were hunched that made me feel as though he was remorseful, but I couldn't be so sure since he had done everything wrong.

"A lot," he muttered.

He walked over to the sitting area and took a seat. I watched as he poured the water from the jug into the glass cup. He took a sip of it, and then slowly looked up to meet our gazes.

"When I first your mom, I was stunned to find out that she was my mate. I just wanted to take her away from her pack and give her the best life possible. But, all that went down the drain." He turned to Mother then. "She was a daughter of the Alpha of my rival pack, and there was no way our people or my people would have agreed to it."

"Is that true Mom?" Tristen asked.

She gave a quick nod but didn't say a word as she held on to the box handle. I felt like I was about to break as I watched the pain she was going through with my very eyes. There was nothing I hated most than my mother being broken without repair.

"She knows the truth," father said. "With the way things were going, I was getting so depressed when I realized that our families were not going to change their minds about our relationship and there was a lot of pressure for us to reject each other."

He rubbed his hands across his face in pain. "How the hell would I be able to do that? I have always wished for my mate for so many years, and now, that she was here, I couldn't even think of rejecting her. I went back home with a broken heart and thought that my life was over, but it was simply just beginning."

I glared at the man. Right...Beginning...So ridiculous...

"On one of those painful nights, I got drunk and slept with a mysterious woman. It was something that I would always regret."

"I don't think so," Tristen snapped.

Father looked at him in pain. "You're a man, and you need to understand how I felt. It's not like you all haven't made your share of mistakes in your relationships."

"Don't compare us," I and my brothers said as one.

Father flinched a bit, and I watched as he rose to his feet. "You're my sons. I know you're angry right now, but you have to understand that whatever I did was not to make things worse for us. It was just a stupid mistake I made so I had to hide it so I could defile all odds and build a relationship between me and your mother. Have you ever thought of the disaster that could happen if your mom and I didn't come together?" He asked.

"Or, if I told the world that another woman was about to have my child? I couldn't risk it, boys. I had to protect the child by sending them to a neighboring pack. I couldn't find it me to let go of my mate so I had to make sure that your mother was still where she should be, in my heart."

"How poetic!" I scoffed.

Father rubbed his hand all over his face again. "I'm not trying to reduce the truth of what happened, but I'm only begging for your understanding. This is something that brings me pain, but I had to hide it."

I stepped forward in disgust as I looked at him. "You keep saying how much you wished to hide the truth, but the fact is that you did all these for yourself. You ruined Mother's life because you were not brave enough to stand for the truth."

"That is not true," he denied vehemently. "I loved your mother so much, and you can't imagine what I went through!"

"Lies," mother said quietly.

We all turned to look at her and she had tears in her eyes. "You deceived me, Dominic. You did this because you wished to have your sin covered. Do you even realize what you have done? I can't imagine how many times you lied to me that you were going for some pack duties, but you went ahead to sleep with that woman."

I watched as father moved quickly to mother, pulling her close to him in force. I had never seen him act this way before, and I had no idea who he was anymore. This man was definitely not the man I grew to love.

"Let go of me, Dominic!"

"No, you have to understand that I have not laid a hand on that woman since we got married. It was only once before we finally got to be together!"

"So, that makes it ok?" I asked in disbelief.

Chapter 57 - Bullied Mate Of The Alpha Triplets

LUCAS

Father turned to me like he was in pain. "I never said it was," he said stiffly.

"Then, what the fuck are you saying? Leave her alone right now!" Tristen snapped as he moved quickly to where father was, pulling him away from mother.

"I don't need this right now," mother mumbled as she made her way out of the room

I wanted to go after her, but I knew she wouldn't let me. She needed some time to herself to let go of the rage in her heart. And, it would be her wolf who would be there to do all those things.

"Did you see that?" Caleb asked in pain.

Father kept his head rooted on the ground. "I'm so sorry for what I had done. But, what do you want me to do? I need to make sure that..."

"Ugh!" Triton said in disgust. "Make him stop talking. He irritates the fuck out of me."

I pushed my hair backward, as I tried my best to remain cool. I was equally losing it, but come to think of it, Father had not said anything all through these years, so why now? There was obviously something wrong...

"Let's all calm down?" I said quietly.

Tristen and Caleb gave me a look. "I don't know how to perform magic in situations like this," they both said in one accord.

I released the breath I didn't know I was holding. "I know you're upset, but we need to clarify so many things. There are a lot of things that we are in the dark about, and fighting repeatedly wouldn't solve it."

"What's more than what just happened?" Caleb asked.

I turned to Father as he fidgeted on his feet. "He would be the one to tell us that."

I walked over to where Father was standing as Tristen took several steps away from us like he didn't wish to breathe in the same air as us. I sighed, equally wishing I could be elsewhere, but as the first of the triplets, it was my duty to ask the hard questions. Everyone was filled with anger and they didn't listen to a word he was saying, but I had to read between the lines.

Licking my lips, I asked slowly. "Why did you bring this talk now?"

Father looked at me stunned. He tried to move, but I held him back. He was no coward, but he had been acting like that since we got out of the room. My eyes were cold as they looked at him, telling him how much I felt.

"You know, you never do anything without a reason for as long as I have known you. And, this talk is surely for something. What do you wish to do?"

"Lucas," he mumbled softly.

I shook my head, as I released my hand from his arm. I took several steps back, standing between my brothers. "Don't just tell me. We would all love to hear it."

He itched his beard lightly. "My son's mother is late, and he can't be alone without a family. It's only proper for me to take care of him. We have to make sure that he feels secure in our love. I think that would make sense considering the circumstances."

I stared in shock at the same time, I could hear Tristen curse as he slammed his fist into the wall.

"Do you even realize what you're saying?" I asked as Tristen walked out.

Father sighed as he placed his hand on my shoulders like that was going to make everything good. "I know it sounds like something difficult to do, but when you see your brother, you will realize that your bond is very tight."

I laughed without humor. "That bastard can never be my brother!"

With that, I jerked his hands off me. I turned to see Caleb wiping off his tears. I couldn't imagine the pain he must be going through because he wasn't me. However, I wanted to break something so bad. I had never felt so hurt in my whole existence, knowing that there was nothing that could be done to handle such a crazy situation!

Out of the corner of my eyes, I saw Ember standing at the side of the staircase. She must have gotten over there at some point to give us space while listening in at the same time. I felt like my heart was going to break, knowing that I couldn't give her an ideal home. My father was such a disgusting man who didn't have any iota of remorse for what he had done to our family.

"I wonder if you can even stop this..."

"Oh, son! Don't start the whining. I was hoping that you would talk to your mother on my behalf. You're men too, and I know I messed up, but I never did things on purpose. Couldn't you understand where I'm coming from for a minute?"

"I wish I could..." I said simply.

I heard him sigh. "You have to. Adjust your temperament tonight at the family dinner. It wouldn't be right to have your brother witness such rage. And, don't call him a bastard son during dinner. It won't be nice."

I turned to look at him and noted that he had his hands in his pockets as he smiled. Did he actually think that everything was ok now?

"And, oh," he muttered. "Don't forget to call the maids to take your mother's luggage in. It is not nice to be so angry sometimes."

With that, he walked out of the sitting area to the outside world. I could only stagger backward in shock. This couldn't be happening. "I can't believe this," I mumbled to myself.

Caleb sank on one of the chairs as he placed his head in his hands. My heart hurt for him, and I wished to take down the bastard who had brought so much pain.

"Why?" Caleb asked suddenly.

I bit my lips as I was unable to answer the question. But, when I looked up, Ember was watching me with tears in her eyes.

Chapter 58 - Bullied Mate Of The Alpha Triplets

LUCAS

I had no idea what I could do to make things better for us all, but somehow, I knew that this bad phrase would definitely pass. As much as things were so uptight, it would become clearer with time.

Caleb was still sniffing, and I pulled my hand to my sides as I made my way to him. Only for Caleb to look up, his eyes shifted to Ember's.

"I need a hug, please," he said in a small voice.

Ember wasted no time running down the stairs as she hugged him hard. I broke my heart to see them like that. I wished I was able to heal all the wounds that they had, but I knew I could only do so much.

But, Ember was here, and she would be able to take care of Caleb. I couldn't take care of her, but she was doing so much for my brothers, and that was something I could never forget, even if I wanted to.

"It's going to be fine," she said as she pecked Caleb on his forehead.

He held her tight, not willing to let her go for a moment, and that broke me lightly. I hated to see my brother who was always full of life like this. Ember kissed him even harder, and then, she turned to meet my eyes.

"It would be fine," she mouthed.

I could only nod. She was braver than most. Unable to take more of the pain that was on display, I made my way out of the house and to the other side of the pack house. There was a huge greenery there which led to the forest.

I sniffed the air in response, wondering if Tristen was out there. I really hoped so. The last thing I needed was for him to get into some sort of trouble. Mother was way out of reach because that was her personality. She loved to handle things on her own, but I would definitely talk to her later at night. But now, I would have to focus on Tristen.

With a sigh, I let my eyes move round the parameters, as I made sure that my senses were heightened more than ever before. The scent of lavender, lilies, and asparagus hit my nostrils. I wrinkled my nose in distaste as I made my way through the leaves. My fingers grazed the tallest flowers, but I didn't stop for a moment to admire them.

As my feet sunk into the dirt, I realized I was fast getting into the wild. Should I shift into my wolf form? No, that would be a thorough mistake and I couldn't fall into that trap now.

After several turns, I finally saw a clearing. A big black wolf with Emerald green eyes looked right at me. Tristen...

He looked haggard as he howled at me. Using our bond, I tried to tell him that it was me, so he could calm down, but he kept howling hard at the moon. I bit my lips as I made my way to him tentatively.

With every step I took, he howled at me threateningly, but I did not step back. Maybe, it was madness, I had no idea, but I moved towards him with delicate care. Just ten steps from where he stood, he jumped right in the air. I should have moved quickly, but I didn't, allowing him to take his rage on me as he knocked me down to the floor.

My hands shot out at once as I caressed his hind legs. "Let it out, big guy," I said stiffly.

He moved left, howling in my face. I rolled my eyes to give him the desired effect. "I know you wish to howl so hard, but you weigh a ton," I said dryly.

He suddenly jumped off my body, and I couldn't help but sigh. "I swear, I feel you've broken a limb," I growled out.

'Go back to the house,' Tristen snapped.

I pulled myself up a bit and tried my best not to trip on my own legs. Jeez! This man had too much strength in his damn body. Well, thankfully I wasn't bruised. I thought as I rubbed my chest a bit.

"You would find it very difficult to get rid of me, brother," I said softly.

He turned his big head to look at me. 'That is what you think. I know fully well that I can't think straight right now. So, there is no use talking to me,' he grumbled.

I grinned as I moved over to him. I loved to make him wrong even when it was not needed. Placing my hands on him, I rubbed his fur lightly. "I know how you feel, big guy," I started as I pecked him behind his ear. "But, we have to be calm. Our family is falling apart by the seams and if we continue to let it happen, then, I'm afraid that our enemies would have an edge over us."

Tristen howled in response, and before long, he shifted back into his human form, pulling his knee up as he rested his head on it. I slowly made my way down to him as my heart broke for the billionth time today.

"I wish it was so simple to think of the family right now, Lucas. I just can't. All I know is that Father has betrayed us so much, and I don't even know what to do to change things at all," he cried.

I placed my hand on his knee, rubbing it lightly. "You don't need to think of the family at all if you don't want to. But, you have to promise me that you will stay sane. There is nothing we can do to drive the bastard child out. But, we can stand together and make sure that Mother is ok mentally. I don't even know where she is now, but if she leaves, then everything will definitely fall apart," I cried out.

He raised his eyes then, looking at me with pain visible in it. "I can't allow that to happen," he cried.

I nodded slowly. "If you don't want it to happen, we have to get back in there and put out a brave front. I have no idea what father plans to do, but I can tell it wouldn't be nice."

Tristen looked at me wide-eyed. "You think he is up to something?"

I sighed as I looked away, only to see a deserted robe on the side. Carefully, I took it up, placing it around Tristen's shoulders. It fit him just right as I thought about what could be cooking.

"You know," I said as I tightened the robe even more. "I have no idea, but there was the casual way father announced his bastard's presence that makes me think that it is a carefully thought out plan. I might be wrong, but to be on the safe side, we have to be alert."

He nodded a bit as his eyes shone a bright green. I knew he got my meaning. "Let's go inside. I won't lose myself in this fight," he said softly.

I smiled at him, as I helped him up. Together we walked back into the house. Inside, I noted that the maids were literally everywhere, carrying decorative items as they made sure that everything was in the right place.

I couldn't help but frown at it all as Tristen growled beside me.

Chapter 59 - Bullied Mate Of The Alpha Triplets

EMBER's POV

The whole house was painfully quiet, and it made me realize how much things were going to get more complicated as time went on. No matter how much I prayed for a change, it wasn't going to happen immediately.

I hated seeing the boys so down, but I had no idea what to do to make things better. They were strangely out of my reach and it broke my heart so much. I just couldn't imagine how they really felt at the moment.

"Oh, Moon Goddess! I called out lightly.

Taking a deep breath, I smoothened my black gown and pulled my hair into a harsh ponytail. The dinner celebration was in less than 30 minutes and I haven't seen the triplets even once. I was not even sure that they would come down for dinner.

I sighed. It wouldn't be right to just stay here and make conclusions about things. I would have to do something-anything to help my mate. With that thought, I slid my legs into a black slipper and made my way out of the room.

A few maids were carrying some of the dishes, and I hated that so much. Do they ever stop trying to impress the Alpha? Ok, maybe I was being ridiculous, but I couldn't help it. That man had hurt my mates, and I just didn't wish to... 'Don't blaspheme, Ember', I cried in my head.

The lights were so beautiful in the sitting area, and I noted that there were a lot of flowers and a picture of a boyband in the middle of the sitting room. What the hell was happening? It seemed like it wasn't an illegitimate son that was coming home, but a crowned Prince.

I rolled my eyes as I moved to the dinner where the Alpha sat with the Luna. "Good evening, Alpha," I said politely.

He grunted in response and Luna Anna did not look up even once. I knew at once that this dinner would be doomed from the start. I bit my lip lightly as I sat down towards the end of the table. It was at that moment that someone whistled as he stepped in.

"Oh, son," Alpha Dominic greeted heartily.

The Luna glared at her plate in disgust. I wished I was anywhere but there. But there was nothing else I could do. I had to give my mates some moral support when they came down the stairs.

Without turning, I was aware that the Alpha's illegitimate son had moved in further. The Alpha beamed like he had just won some sort of award. It was annoying, especially when I remembered his hot and cold apology. It did not make any sense at all. The man was something else, and I doubt this would be the way to get people to forgive him for something.

"I almost thought you wouldn't show up..."

"That would have been the best," Tristen shot out coldly as he stepped in.

I couldn't stop myself from looking up this time, and three pairs of eyes met my gaze. They were so handsome in a laidback black outfit. It was as though they had not even put in any effort, but I knew they did. There was no way that they would show up like thrash in front of the new son.

The Alpha rose to his feet at once. "Now, that is not the way to talk to your brother."

"He is not my brother," Tristen snapped coldly.

Lucas and Caleb brought their hands closer as they touched Tristen's arm softly. I bit my lips as I tried to imagine the pain that they were all in at the moment. It was just too much, and it felt so awful at the same time.

"Please, ignore your brother. He doesn't mean half of what he says," Alpha Tristen said.

The Luna clinked her fork hard on the plate, but still, she did not look up. I sighed in frustration. There should have been a better way to handle this problem, but no one was willing to do any of that.

The Alpha made a sound, steering our attention back to him. "OK, we have to start again, so we can eat like a family. This is Alex, my son. He shouldn't be disrespected in any way because he is here to stay from today. You have to pull him along since he has been enrolled at Lunar Haven

Academy to complete his senior year." The Alpha settled his eyes on me then. "You understand what I mean, Ember?"

I blinked in shock. What did I have to do with anything? But, still, I gave a quick nod, in a bid to divert some of the attention off me. The Alpha seemed pleased with that, and I used the opportunity to look at Alex.

He looked so smug in a white shirt and black pants. His hair was styled back completely, but it was not hard to see it was brown, while his eyes were as blue as the skies. I sighed in disbelief. This man was really his father's son. And, as expected, he seemed older than the triplets. Probably like a year older...

"Now," the Alpha said suddenly, pulling our attention back to him. "These are Luna Anna's sons; Lucas, Tristen, and Caleb. And, do you know the best part? They are triplets..."

"The Luna's sons?" Caleb repeated stiffly.

I turned to see that the boys had their other fists by their side in rage. Tristen looked directly at his father in anger. "You think he would acknowledge you as his son so confidently when his bastard is literally across the room?"

"Enough!" Alpha Dominic barked.

I flinched as I felt my wolf knee in submission. It was not every time that the Alpha raised his voice, and it was so scary. With my head bent, I tried to resist the urge to go on my knees, knowing it would only make things worse.

"You don't get to shout anymore, Alpha," Tristen snapped coldly.

A strange chuckle sounded to my right, and I just couldn't help but look at Alex. "This is so ridiculous. You weren't taught respect or what?"

"Hey! Keep your mouth shut," Caleb snapped.

"If you don't want to eat the damn food, let us know. I mean, you're a spoiled brat anyway, you probably know how to satisfy your stomachs." Alex replied with an eye roll.

I gasped in shock as Tristen pulled his hands from his brothers, and shot forward. Lucas was faster, pulling him back. "It's not worth it, man," he was saying.

"Such big babies," Alex mocked.

I swallowed hard as I watched the scene unfold in front of me. If things were not properly handled, there would be more issues arising and I just couldn't take that from happening. But, it's not like I could do much in this family drama.

"You boys need to stop this," The Alpha grumbled. "We have to make this night good, so you can get along with each other."

Tristen chuckled darkly. "You think we are still having dinner after this? You can enjoy a cold meal with your bastard child!" And, with that, he pulled his hands from Lucas and walked out.

Caleb and Lucas wasted no time in following him after glaring at their father.

Chapter 60 - Bullied Mate Of The Alpha Triplets

EMBER's POV

I wished with all my heart that I could have followed the boys out, but I wasn't able to move. Walking out with them would not do me any favors with Alpha Dominic, and I couldn't afford to get on his bad side.

"This is what you get for bringing him," the Luna said as she rose to her feet.

I turned to see Alpha Dominic rise to his feet. "I would handle it," he said quickly as he made his way out of the dining room.

The room was suddenly thick with tension. I looked between the Luna and Alex, and I could feel the tension. It was so grating and painful to my ears, and I just didn't know if I would be able to breathe anymore.

"What are you staring at?" Alex asked suddenly.

I blinked in shock. No one talked to the Luna like that. It was like an unspoken rule in the pack, so how could he just say things like that without a care in the world? I was just so shocked.

Luna Anna mumbled something under her breath, which made Alex laugh. "Gosh, she is even more evil in person."

"Mind your words," Luna Anna snapped.

The laughter dissolved from Alex's lips and he took a step forward. "Or, what? Are you going to kick me out? You're the one who made it difficult for Father to accept me all these years, and now, I'm back you and your sons want to intimidate me. It's not going to happen, Anna," he spat out.

Luna Anna said nothing as she made her way out of the room. I could tell that she was so angry but she didn't want to throw words at him. I had no idea if that was a good or bad thing.

The Luna was not one to get angry, but when she did, it seemed as though she would bring down a roof. I just wished with all of my heart that the family would calm down and try to settle their differences.

"You shouldn't have said that," I said slowly.

Alex gave me a look as he sat down in his chair once more. "Don't sweat it, doll," he teased softly.

I gritted my teeth. "I don't need pet names."

"Ouch," he said as he placed a hand on his chest. "You know a beauty like you needs someone to make you feel so good."

I sighed as I looked away. "I would be in my room," I mumbled unnecessarily as I tried to make my way out, but a hand stopped me. I turned back to see that it was Alex's.

"What are you doing?" I asked quietly.

He smirked. "Holding your hand," he said softly.

I rolled my eyes at that. "I think you should be serious."

He leaned closer, his breath fanning my hands. "I hate being so serious with pretty girls like you, and I would advise not to be so uptight."

I watched him with a blank expression, while he smirked. "Ok, sit and eat your dinner, darling," he said softly.

I gritted my teeth. "It's Ember to you," I gritted out.

He rolled his eyes at that and I couldn't help but lower myself to my seat. Moreover, if the Alpha succeeds in bringing the triplets over, I don't want them to feel so lonely at the table.

I shrugged my hands from Alex's hold and placed it on my thigh as I counted up to ten in my head. He was not bad to look at, but so annoying at the same time. The triplets were better men than him, even if he wished to act like a good person.

"You can't stand me," he blurted out suddenly.

I blinked in shock. "What?"

He circled his fingers around my face. "It's visible all over your face."

"I don't even know you," I retorted.

He smirked in response. I watched as he grabbed a glass of water from the table, and took a sip of it, his eyes never leaving my face once. "That may be true," he said as he kept the glass down. "But, it doesn't change the fact that you know the triplets and they must have said bad things about me."

I shook my head in response.

"Oh..." He tapped his chin. "Ember, you don't need to be so demure about these things. I understand more than you have said, seriously, and I know that those evil stepbrothers of mine don't want me here. They are spoilt brats who have never worked a day in their lives, and Daddy helps them with everything. You know, it would be really painful if you go with their words and slander me because I'm not the type of person they claim me to be."

"You're mistaken," I mumbled.

He waved me off like I had not said a word. "I'm rarely mistaken about some certain things, darling," he said with a wink.

Once more, I found myself holding my gown tightly. This man was effortlessly annoying and he didn't even need to fake it. Why would someone have such a crazy mindset about his brothers? I mean, no one would like an already-made brother to be strung on them, so why couldn't Alex understand this?

"You see they just want to have everything and for people to bow to them and lick their feet. And that one, was he not called Tristen? He is the worst of them all, and I just hate him so much." He glared at the tablecloth suddenly. "Do you know the worst thing? His so-called cheerleaders wouldn't even think for themselves!"

"Stop it!" I snapped.

He looked at me a bit surprised about my outburst. I felt like my heart was going to explode with the rage that I was feeling. I just couldn't take it anymore take it anymore.

"Doll, it's not good for you to get mad," he cooed.

I glared at him. "Jeez! I'm not a doll. And, I wouldn't appreciate you calling me that." I huffed. Taking a deep breath, I looked at him in the eye. "It's not my place to talk about your family issues, but I would say one thing, the triplets don't fit the description you've tabled them in!"

He shook his head as he took more of his table waster. "You're brainwashed."

"No, " I snapped. "You're the one who needs to come down from your high horse. Lucas, Tristen, and Caleb are the kindest people ever and they don't hurt anyone in the pack. Everyone loves them and at least, tries to know them before slandering them. It doesn't create a good impression either." I replied confidently even though this was partly a lie.

Alex abruptly rose to his feet and I knew by the rage visible in his eyes that I had struck a nerve. But, I didn't care. What gave him the nerve to talk about my mates like that? I have watched them through the months I had been with them, and I knew they were fair. It didn't matter if they were mean to me for some time, but now, they were so kind.

"Ember, darling, I hope one day, you'll see the truth of my words," and with that, he stormed out, leaving me staring at his lean back.