

Chapter 61 - Bullied Mate Of The Alpha Triplets

LUCAS'S POV

I slammed my hand on my cabinet in rage. "I can't believe we have to deal with this shit," I grumbled.

"Weren't you the one who suggested to go to that foolish dinner?" Tristen snapped coldly.

I groaned as I turned to face Tristen. He was scrawling as he sat back on my makeshift bike, with Caleb right beside him with hands crossed around his middle. My anger dissolved like a pack of cards, giving room to self-pity.

"What could I have done?" I asked. My brothers huffed in response. "The whole situation is messed up, and I just thought to play along so this family can be whole again. But, when I saw the boys, I just couldn't beat the rage that I felt."

"You shouldn't beat it."

I turned to the open doorway to see my father leaning on it with a sigh. I was suddenly filled with pure anger once more. This was just too much, and I just couldn't understand if I should leave him right here or not. I hated the man.

"I think we should leave," Caleb beat us to it.

Father stepped into the room. "You don't need to go anywhere. Please, I just want to talk to you three."

I scoffed. "Now, you wish to talk about things. I thought you were proud of your actions," I snapped coldly.

"You misunderstand me, Luca. I'm not proud of how I treated your mother. I love her more than you can ever imagine and I would always regret my moment of weakness, but I have no idea what to do to change things up. I would have to live with it, and that is the worst thing to ever happen to me, and I say this as the truth," he said softly.

I didn't know what to believe, so I walked to the widows and peered out, seeing nothing. My heart hurt more than I could ever say, and I wished Father had not broken our hearts the way he did because it hurt so much more than could be put into words.

"Please..." Father trailed off.

"You should just go because your presence hurts the kids," Mother's voice rang out.

I blinked as I moved over to her quickly, hugging her hard. "I'm sorry," I mumbled.

She rubbed my back softly. "Don't talk nonsense, Lucas. You have done nothing wrong. The only one who should be apologising is your father," she said as she pulled back a bit, rubbing my cheeks lightly. "I'm so sorry that you have to go through all this, son. You and your brothers don't deserve that."

"Forget about us, mom. Are you ok?" Caleb asked at once.

Mom squeezed my hand softly, and then, she let me get moving around to talk to my brothers. "I would be fine now that you are here with me. Don't let all these things stop you from living your life. You're still young, and you shouldn't care about what other people do in this family."

"You should..." Father injected.

I turned to him at once, I wished with all my heart that I could push him out of here. He stood like a statue as he watched us. He was talking a lot of nonsense earlier, so how come he was acting as though he cared this time? I didn't wish to listen to the fake lies he spat from his mouth anymore.

Mother moved back to face him directly. "You would not stress the kids with things like this. You have done what you could to break this family, and you've succeeded. Your illegitimate son is as rude as ever and made me know he thinks that I was the one who made him not get his rights. I don't want to have anything to do with him or you. This marriage has long been over."

Father held Mother by the hand and leaned to her height. "Don't say that, Anna. It tortures my soul," he said.

She gave a sad smile. "When you were sleeping around, your soul was still intact. You weren't tortured, right?" She taunted.

He threw his head back and then looked at her. "You can't imagine what I have gone through since that night. I have always imagined that it would be just you to have all of my children, but none of that happened as planned. I'm just a werewolf, maybe I have Alpha blood running in me, but I do have weaknesses. Why can't you see that you're the only woman I have ever loved? I ruined the life of Alex's mother, but I can't do the same to you."

"But, you have..." Mother trailed off.

She pulled away from him, and I felt hot tears at the back of my eyes. Was there a way to heal all the hurt that she was going through? It didn't sound fair that this would be happening at a time when she was supposed to be one of the greatest Luna in the world.

I watched as Father sniffed. He was not one to cry, and this time, he was showing vulnerability. It was crazily shocking. He moved over to Mother, steering her around to face him.

"I know that I have broken your heart, but I want to fix it. I love you, Anna, and you will forever be my wife. It's not because the moon goddess chose us, but because I can't see a life without

you in it. You may not forgive me right now, but please give me a chance to rectify my mistake. Please..." he trailed off as he brushed his lips over her cheeks in a kiss. A tear slid from Mother's eyes. "I want us to have our family back, and also be accommodative to Alex. He doesn't have any family around him, and we could be his only family."

Mother sighed as she looked up at him. And, even from where I stood, I could feel the love that came from both of them. I had always wished for love like that, and even though I had been broken without thoughts, but I wanted things to be better for us all.

Looking toward my brothers, I noted they were looking at me too. I could see the pain in their eyes, and we knew one thing, we might never be able to forgive Dad, but we would definitely make some adjustments.

"I would try my best to forgive to make us work Dominic. But, it would be hard, and I don't need any form of pressure from you when I heal. And, if you do something wrong again, I wouldn't hesitate to leave this house, and relinquish my title."

Father pulled her into a tight hug. "I would never do that," he vowed.

Tristen mumbled something under his breath. I guess we were all thinking the same thing. That would be a difficult promise to keep.

They released each other, and Mother turned to face him. "I don't like that rude boy either, but for the sake of cohabiting peacefully, we would have to just keep up with him."

I sighed as I looked at my brothers. They gave a soft nod, and I turned to look at Mother.

"We will try our best, at least till we graduate," I grumbled.

Chapter 62 - Bullied Mate Of The Alpha Triplets

EMBER's POV

The broth was steamy as I looked into its contents. I was not a fan of this soup. Can't someone give me spaghetti or something? I mean, I wasn't even in my wolf form to eat grass.

I rolled my eyes, as I took up the spoon. With a sigh, I dug it into my plate, playing around with the food.

"Why don't you all ask Alex about his life out of the pack?" Alpha Dominic asked suddenly, making my stomach drop painfully.

Ok, who gave him the idea to make such weird conversations? A quick look at the rest of the members on the dining table showed they were also uncomfortable with the words that were spewing from the Alpha.

The triplets looked visibly annoyed. I sighed in frustration as I looked at them. I hoped that they would look at me just once, so I could tell them not to do anything rash.

"Do we look like we are interested in such?" Caleb asked coldly.

"Don't say things like that. You're all brothers, and it's time for us to be one big family. You promised me last night that you would at least try to be close to Alex."

Tristen growled in response. "Can we at least eat our food in peace without the drama?"

The whole breakfast went quiet again, and we all picked up our soup. I had not wished to eat earlier but now, my appetite was gone. There was nothing so frustrating than having such a perplexing breakfast. And, I ought to hurry up because I was running late as it was.

"I'm done," Caleb said as he pulled his chair back, rising to his feet.

"Not so fast," Alpha Dominic said in response. I turned over to him, and he had a smile on his face. "I'm glad you're done with your food, so you can show Alex around the academy. It's the first time being in our pack, and there are a lot of things that he has to learn, and I think it would be good for you both."

Caleb growled lowly as he combed his hand through his hair in anger. I could tell that he was so annoyed with the suggestion. Maybe, I should do something?

"You don't need to worry, Alpha," Alex said easily. "I believe that I can handle myself around the academy areas. I'm not a kid that needs guidance. It's cool."

"No," Alpha Dominic snapped, and then, he sighed. "I know what I'm doing, so you don't need to argue with me, son. Everyone has to find out that you're a part of my family now that you're here, and give you some respect."

Alex sighed, but then, he gave a quick nod. "You're probably right. But, it's evident that your son doesn't wish to do any of that. We can't force him if it's not from his mind."

The Alpha frowned as he turned to Caleb. "I'm sure you don't have any objections to it."

Caleb said nothing.

I turned to look at the Luna, who was gloomy as always. There had to be something that I could do to save the day.

"I..."

"I would show Alex around," I said quickly, cutting the Alpha off.

He smiled at that as he proceeded to take some soup. "That's good news," he said happily.

I nodded once, avoiding eye contact with Alex.

"You don't need to do that," Lucas said at once.

I turned to look at him, and I could see the visible displeasure on his face. "I don't mind, really," I said quickly.

He was about to say more, but I shook my head quickly, stopping him from saying another word. It would be useless arguing about things, and if they had promised their father to be more receptive to Alex, the least they could do was try, and not bully him even more than was needed.

I didn't want that.

"Ok, I'm afraid we have to leave now, babe," Alex said easily.

"Of course," I said quickly to avoid the boys getting into another war of words with him.

I had not even taken a sip of the broth, and I was grateful for that. Though I knew I was going to repent later during lunch, it was better than fighting right in the dining room.

I quickly shot to my feet, as I grabbed my backpack, and then, signaled for Alex to come along. I could tell that the triplets were looking at me, but I didn't turn even once. I just focused on where I was going.

Outside, Alex led me to one of the beat-out trucks in the parking lot. It was so unlike the bike, and I was glad that he didn't use them. I didn't wish to have such closeness with him, even if I kind of felt sorry for him.

I moved over to the passenger seat, and settled in, only for me to glimpse three pairs of eyes looking at me through the windows. My stomach clenched tightly, but I didn't have a choice. I had to do this for them or they would be forced to do it. The last thing I wanted was for them to look like a liar in front of their father.

Alex drove off almost at once, and I was glad for the very same. The ride to the academy was so quiet. I wished with all of my heart that I had gone with the boys. The last thing I wanted was for them to become unnecessarily jealous.

They meant the world to me.

Alex finally pulled up at the academy, and I took a deep breath, hoping that the student's attention on us would be minimal. I still did not like how the students of the academy treated people, and the last thing I wished for was for some unfounded gossip to spread.

"Ok, doll," he said sweetly. "Let's head in."

I shook my head. "I believe that I have told you that my name is Ember, and you really should stop calling me doll. I'm not your mate or bestie," I snapped.

He rolled his eyes at me. "We live in the same house, duh," he said with a wink.

I was about to say more, but he stepped out of the car in response. I sighed lightly. The man was quite frustrating but that was alright. Stepping out of the car, I noted that we had caught the attention of a few students.

I tried my best to ignore all that as I walked alongside Alex. He seemed to be sapping all of the attention, but I wanted to ignore it all. I pushed my hair behind me as I tried to get him to talk about the schedule.

He simply grinned at me which was annoying. I found myself telling him about the classes to control myself, but then, he placed his hands on my shoulders, pulling me closer to him.

"What are you doing?" I asked in shock.

He smirked. "Keep talking," he said simply.

I was about to say something when someone shoved his hands off me, and I lifted my gaze to see Lucas. He was visibly seething.

Chapter 63 - Bullied Mate Of The Alpha Triplets

Alex dusted the invisible dust on his arm as he smirked. "Or, what?" He taunted.

I watched as Lucas moved forward, his eyes as black as night. I could tell that his wolf was also as annoyed as he was. This was going to be so disastrous for us all, and I wasn't even looking forward to it at all.

"Lucas..." I tried to call, but he dragged Alex by his collar.

"Or, I would break your fucking face, asshole!" He snapped.

Alex sneered at him. "Take that back, or you will be the one who will be writhing like a baby soon."

I looked around and noted that the students who had been lunging around had not gone in for once, and they were all looking at us like we were in a Netflix show. It was so fucking annoying.

None of them ever helped when there was a crisis, and simply stood like zombies, so they could gossip later on. This is so much for being a pack!

My attention diverted back to Lucas, who growled. "We would have to see who writhes when I'm done with you!" He screamed as he threw a punch right at Alex's jaw.

"Lucas!" I cried in shock.

It was all in vain, as Alex slammed into him. I couldn't even understand what was happening anymore, as they threw blows at each other, diverting and hitting. Alex was much stronger than I had given him credit for.

I moved quickly in between them, stopping Alex from throwing another punch. "Please, just stop it," I cried.

Lucas pushed me away from there, and I tried hard not to fall on the floor. My leg bent in an unnatural angle and I bit back a cry. Oh, Moon Goddess!

Straightening my legs, I turned to face the boys, and they were in a full brawl, with Lucas punching the life out of Alex. He growled with each punch he threw, and I gulped in response.

Alex didn't even know how to fight, or was he simply trying to make himself the victim in all of these? Well, there was no time to speculate. Moving quickly, I touched Lucas's arms, but he was simply oblivious of my touch.

"Lucas, listen to me," I cried.

He didn't, and before long, I was pushed back again. I felt hands around me, stopping me from crashing to the ground.

"Are you ok?" Tristen asked softly.

I shifted my gaze back as I looked at his plump lips. They were so kissable, and if I wasn't in such a bad situation, I would have tried to do so. I shook my head out of the wild thoughts and gave a slow nod.

"Stand back," he said politely as he let me go.

I nodded quickly, stepping back for him to take full charge. Tristen walked over to them and forcefully pulled Lucas away from Alex. Alex was about to swing another blow, but Caleb came around easily, placing a hand on Alex's clenched fist.

The two men looked at each other with so much anger, but finally, Alex pulled away, not without saying something under his breath.

"Put yourself under control, man!" Tristen snapped at Lucas.

He grunted. "How could I when this bastard is trying to get our woman?" He snapped back.

"What?" Tristen asked in rage.

Caleb snapped his fingers at his brother. "Don't start right now. We have created enough scene as it is." He turned over to the students around. "You all can go back to your classes!" He snapped.

They turned to leave, only to stop at the cold laughter coming from Alex. I turned to him, and he spat on the floor in rage. Thick blood was visible on his teeth, and I cringed hard.

He pointed at the brothers, finding it difficult to stand on his own feet. "You think you're the best thing to happen in this damn pack, right? But, you're not! I would show you who is boss by the time I break you limb by painful limb. It's my right to be the future Alpha of this pack..."

"Says who?" Caleb snapped coldly.

"Oh, boy! Don't you have any brains? I'm older than the three of you, and the heir to the dynasty. There would be no fresh blood other than me!" Alex screamed as he pointed to himself. "And, you definitely cannot beg me to change my mind, not after your idiotic brother did this to my face!"

With that, he turned around and walked away. I gulped lightly as I turned to Lucas who was still being held by Tristen. His eyes were completely black, and he was in the process of seriously shifting into his wolf form. I groaned in horror as I watched him.

"Did you hear what the new boy said?" Someone mumbled.

Just like that, the gossip seemed to escalate. Caleb growled as he snapped at them to mind their fucking business and get lost. No one ever dared to challenge the boys, so they left quickly without saying a word.

In about 5 minutes, the parking lot was deserted, leaving only the boys and me together. Lucas shrugged Tristen's hands off him and moved over to where I stood, holding my hands in his.

He looked like he walked through the runway and not a nasty fight. What the hell? I didn't even know how to feel any form of pity for him when he was like this. I just stared at his beautiful face instead.

"I'm so sorry," he said softly.

I shook my head. "You don't need to apologize. You were just jealous," I said softly.

He smirked. "So, you like me jealous?"

I was unable to fight the blush that crept up my cheeks. "It's not something to joke about. What could have happened if he had done something to you? I don't even..."

He rolled his eyes at me. "Did you see him? I'm a strong male that has been trained by my father for so many years. Handling Alex is a piece of cake, and you don't need to worry about it."

I bit my lips as I hugged him hard.

"We can't just let him have all the smoke. We need to deal with that idiot and show him his place. It's getting too much now," Tristen said angrily.

Lucas released his hold on me, but still placed his hand on my back. "What do you suggest we do since you all don't like my style?"

Caleb exchanged looks with Tristen and I waited impatiently for what they had to say. I hoped in my heart that things would not get worse.

Lucas pecked me on the cheeks and turned back to his brothers again. I held him back, hoping to make him more calmer. It was needed.

"I think we should confront him," Caleb said at once.

I frowned. "But, Lucas just had a nasty fight with Alex, and I don't think it's a good idea to go back in his face."

"Relax, I wouldn't lose my shit," Lucas said softly.

"But..."

Tristen shook his head at me. "We can't afford to be weak, that bastard had the nerve to think he was going to be the next Alpha. We need to show that idiot his place. Let's go," he said at once.

Against my better judgment, I followed after the boys, sticking close to Lucas to be on the safe side. May the moon goddess take control?

Chapter 64 - Bullied Mate Of The Alpha Triplets

EMBER's POV

Lucas held me even closer than ever, and it was hard to think straight against the thoughts that were threatening to get the better of me. I looked up to see that Lucas's jaw was locked tight. I squeezed his hand softly in a bid to make him feel better, and he turned over to me to show acknowledgment.

The words it's going to be fine stuck to my tongue, immediately after we stepped into the academy. The students were doing their best not to stare at us, but I knew they were curious as hell. I would be too if I were them, but unfortunately, all I felt was anger at the whole thing.

When I thought about it more, Alex had no respect for me when I informed him I didn't like being called a doll, or darling. He was annoying despite being older than all of us, and he should never be made the Alpha of the pack.

Tristen finally led us to a small room which led to the locker room. I could see Alex with his back turned against us, as he had a towel against his lips. Without looking at us, there was a type of malicious energy that was coming off him in waves. He kept unclenching and clenching his fists like it would calm him down a bit.

Caleb was the first of the brothers to stand right in front of Alex's face. I knew this was how a confrontation was done, but it was not like I liked it pretty much. It was slightly annoying, to say the least.

"Get off my face," Alex snapped as he raised his face to meet Caleb.

I could barely see Caleb's face, but I could tell that he was beginning to be angry with the way his shoulders were tensed with rage.

"You don't get to make the rules, boy," Caleb said smugly as he turned to face his brothers. "The idiot comes from nowhere and he wishes to lord over us, I had no idea that strayed pups also think they have a place at the head of the table."

The boys laughed. "Come on, man! That is a bit too harsh. How are we going to get him crumbs to eat if you make fun of him like this?" Tristen whined.

Lucas said nothing as he stood beside me, and it was not hard to get the reason. If he opened his mouth to say a word to Alex, it would be a disaster. He was already having some pent-up anger inside of him. And, it would be worse if he didn't control it, even if it were a bit. So, I focused more on trying to be his calming partner.

"You know," Caleb was saying as he smirked. "People who have so much pride in them believe that they could always get what they want to end up with bruises under their eyes just like the one on Alex's face."

"Hey!" Alex snapped in anger.

My heart almost cut in fear. I looked at the boys, and all traces of amusement were gone from their faces. Instead, it was pure rage that shone in their eyes.

Caleb stepped forward as he leaned down to look Alex in the eyes. "Don't shout, Alex. Or, you might regret it," he threatened.

Alex tossed the towel into the locker door and closed it tightly. "You three rate yourself too much. You have no respect for me as your brother. And, now, you make stupid sarcastic remarks? I don't need to beg for peanuts at the table, because I'm the table. Just like you, I have had everything that I could dream of, but I'm not an entitled idiot like you, who doesn't know when to back off."

"Entitled?" Tristen asked as he stepped forward.

Alex grunted in response.

Tristen shoved him backward a bit. Alex in turn looked at him as though he wished to rip him into shreds.

"I'm to let that go, but don't even try to touch me like that again," Alex growled.

Tristen placed his hands on Alex's face. "I don't think you should even try to threaten me if my brother could do that to your face."

They all laughed and I tried my best to stick to Lucas before he did something that made things even worse. I turned to the side and noted that a crowd had gathered. I guess it was so hard to maintain a state of calm when things like this happened.

"Just shut up!" Alex snapped.

Tristen slowly stopped laughing as he glared at Alex. "You, behave!" He snapped back. He pushed at his hair angrily. "What do you think? That you can say whatever you want and things would happen as you wish? This is never going to happen! You're never going to be the next Alpha of this pack!"

"And for the record," Caleb added coldly. "If you ask all the whole pack members what we are being called, they would say, 'Alpha', Alex. We have won hearts, and that is not a small thing that can be done anyhow. It's a fucking serious thing!"

Alex glared at them, as he moved back a bit. "I don't want to spend my mornings dragging words with you. All I would say is this; your time is over now, and now, it's my turn to take what is rightfully mine. If I were you, I wouldn't complain too much, and simply go with the flow. I'm going to be the next Alpha, and I definitely wouldn't stop for people like you!"

With that, he walked out of the locker room. Caleb slammed his fist on the nearest locker in response and then turned around. He had a look of pure murder, and that made me so anxious.

"Do you not understand once? Get lost!" He snapped at the nearest students.

I sighed as I held onto Lucas's hands, scared he might head in the direction of Alex to avenge. He was supposed to be the calmest brother, but he was not doing that right now, and all I saw was a barely suppressed anger that was waiting for a means to explode.

"I can't believe this," Tristen said in anger.

I was aware that the students had given us some privacy and I was grateful. "You all need to relax."

"How is that possible? Didn't you see the crap that went on right there?" Tristen asked.

I nodded. "I saw it."

Caleb growled as he hit the counter again. I felt complexly bad for him, but I didn't move an inch from where I stood. He would have to control that temper with me standing at a distance. It is the only thing that I could do.

"If you saw it," Tristen said angrily, then why would you say we should relax?"

I sighed. "I'm not saying you should do nothing, but getting angry, and hitting the counters and stuff is not going to help you."

"Then, what would?" Caleb asked beside me.

I sighed as I turned to face him again. "You need to meet your father. He was the one who brought Alex into your lives, and he has to be the one to fix it," I reasoned.

"Maybe, you're right," they said simultaneously as they looked at me.

Chapter 65 - Bullied Mate Of The Alpha Triplets

CALEB'POV

I was seeing red.

I was angry.

But, I had a purpose. My hands clenched against the steering wheel as I pulled into the pack house. Lucas was still being soothed by Ember. I felt for him because, despite the fact he had not gotten crazy injuries, he was the one hurting the most inside. Lucas had fought all his life for this and it couldn't be taken away from him at the last minute.

"We are here," Tristen grunted beside me.

I gave a stiff nod as I killed the engine and stepped out of the car. My brothers followed fast after me, but when I turned back, I noted that Ember was also out of the car.

"Stay here," I said softly.

She nodded, without arguing. I sighed as I walked into the house with my brothers. Lucas was quiet, but Tristen kept slamming his palm on his unclenched fist like he wished to vent his anger on anything at all.

Inside, the maids were moving coyly towards the other side of the room where Father's office was, and I decided to head in that direction. He was probably in there now.

I pushed open the door, as I walked into the office. Father rose to his feet as he glared at me. "What is the meaning of this?" He snapped.

I looked at him evenly. "You don't get to throw faux anger around though, not after what your precious bastard did."

"Caleb!" Father snapped in anger.

It was at that same moment that the elders rose to their feet. I watched as Elder Blake mumbled something along the lines of the meeting was adjourned to a later date. I mentally rolled my eyes as I looked at my brothers who were glaring at the men all.

"You don't need to leave," Tristen said at once.

The elder looked at us. "I don't wish to address something that is not my business. I believe that you all can sort out your issues on your own without any interference from the elders."

As soon as he said that, he moved away from the table. The rest of the elders followed after him, but Lucas suddenly moved forward, his countenance as mean as ever. The elders blinked in shock at his attitude.

"Lucas, kindly excuse us," Elder Blake said softly.

He shook his head lightly. "I'm afraid that you would all have to stay here. Did you see my face?" He asked. The men nodded in response. "This is the result of the bastard child that was brought by the father. This matter concerns us all, and we can't ignore it, no matter what."

A cold silence eschewed, and I was aware that the elders were talking through the mind-link. Without saying another word, they made their way to their seats, settling on it calmly.

"It better be good," the elders said as one.

Lucas turned to me, and I nodded as I stepped forward. I didn't look at Father once because I knew he didn't want me here, but now, it was not a matter of choice, but need. Alex wouldn't be allowed to make a mess out of everything that I had done so far.

I turned over to Elder Antony, and he was as calm as ever with his hands sliding through the rims of his glass cup. He was the one who always explained things deeply, no matter how complicated it may seem.

"I would like to ask you a few questions on behalf of my brother," I said calmly.

He nodded as he sat upright. "Ask me what you wish to know."

"Are you aware that my father brought a godforsaken boy into the pack as his son?" I asked at once.

Elder Antony looked at Father, who was visibly seething.

"We have talked about this before. What is the need to repeat things? Are you just trying to make things more difficult for me?" Father asked coldly.

I ignored him as I faced the Elder. "Would you please answer my questions?"

Elder Antony gulped as he turned to face me. I looked at him evenly, and I knew he was in a tight spot, with the way he shifted uncomfortably on his seat. But, I didn't care in the least.

"Well," he started. I raised my brow at him. "It has been common knowledge for a few days."

"I can't believe this," Tristen muttered in shock.

Father had hidden this from all of us but quickly went to the elders for fake sympathy. How could someone be as evil as this and not even know it? He was just a crazy man and I wish I had nothing to do with him. But, we can't choose our fathers.

I pulled myself together as I looked at the elders evenly. "Is it proper for the said bastard to look for a place in the pack? I mean, Alex wants to be the Alpha of this pack. Surely, it's against the law and he should be thrown out immediately."

"It doesn't work like that."

I glared at the man in a rage. "What the fuck do you mean?"

Elder Antony sighed as he took a sip of his drink. It was so annoying when they did things like that. I wanted the truth without them talking to Father first like his thoughts actually mattered.

None of them even cared about my feelings and how things happened to make the most of the situation. They all wanted the smoke, but they would never be able to have it as long as I lived. These bastards wouldn't take my birthright from me and my brothers.

"You see despite Alex being a son born in secret, we can't ignore the fact that he is still the first child of your father" Elder Antony said as he coughed lightly. "To get the next Alpha in this situation, you guys would have to go on a trial. It shows how strong you are, and..."

A trial?

"What do you mean I have to go on trial with a bastard child? He isn't supposed to have anything to his name " Lucas screamed in rage.

Father groaned. "That is what you get when you don't know when to stop. So, deal with it now!" He cried.

Tristen slammed the chair down as he walked out. I looked at them all feeling nothing but disappointment with the way it all went. They didn't deserve us, and they were the most selfish scumbags ever.

The act of choosing a stranger over the child of the soil was something I would never forgive. Taking one last look at them, I turned my back, pushing myself out. It was useless to say a word more...

Chapter 66 - Bullied Mate Of The Alpha Triplets

EMBER's POV

I just couldn't sit still in the car like Lucas had requested. I was just dying of anxiety and nothing more, and it was driving me insane. I walked quickly into the house and noted that a maid was carrying an overgrown lettuce as she scolded a boy of about 8 not to shift inside the pack house or they would punish him severely.

"Hey," I called out at once as I made my way toward her.

She turned to me as her eyes went wild. The little boy in question moved to the back of his mother so quickly, holding onto her leg. I sighed as I looked at his mother who was sweating profusely by then.

"Miss Ember, is there anything you want me to do for you?" She asked at once.

I shook my head. "There is nothing like that, but it would be nice if you told me where Lucas and his brothers are," I mumbled.

"Oh! The last time that I saw them, they were heading into their father's office. I'm sure they are still there," she divulged.

"Thanks," I said quickly as I made my way out of there towards the Alpha's office. I was so nervous with each step I took. I really hoped that nothing bad had not occurred.

The triplets had been too angry for their own good, and if not handled carefully, the goddess knew what could happen.

Finally, I was able to get to the wing that housed the office, but I had no courage to go in. The words coming from there were muffled, but I could hear the anger behind each word and it turned my stomach inside out.

I folded my hands together as I said, "Moon goddess, settle the confusion that has settled around the pack. Please, don't let anything be ruined because I wouldn't be able to bear it," I cried.

Just like that, the door opened, and I watched as the boys stepped out of the office with their faces masked

Up in rage. They were not saying a word to each other's face, but I noted that their eyes were as dark as night.

Pinching my hands together, I moved quickly towards them. They shifted their gazes to me in surprise.

"What are you doing here?" Caleb asked in shock.

I bit my lips in response to that. "I'm sorry. I know you said I should stay back in the room, but I was anxious. I needed to be here in case something..." I trailed off.

Lucas stepped forward, placing both hands on my chest. The darkness in his gaze had come down a little, but I could see the strain in between his brows. He was trying so hard to act aloof.

"Babe," he said softly. "You don't need to be so worried. Everything is fine."

I squinted my eyes in disbelief. I don't think you're completely telling the truth."

"Why would I lie?" He teased with a smirk.

I turned to look at the other, and they also had the same lackadaisical expression on their faces, which proved that they were indeed lying. None of them wished to burden me with their problems, and I was not sure I would be able to take any of that.

"I don't know," I said at last.

He suddenly swept me off my feet, as he held me bridal style. I gasped in shock at this, while placing my hand on his chest softly. Every part of me became instantly awake, as my gaze centered on his plump lips.

"You see," he said softly. "You're wrong. The thing is when you're close to me, every part of me becomes calm. You're my antidepressant pills, and I don't wish to have it another way," I said softly.

I blushed as Caleb and Tristen agreed with him heartily.

How could they be so romantic all of a sudden? I felt the presence of each of the boys as Lucas led me up to his room. It was the most amazing moment for me because it was not every time that insane connection. I wished it would never have to stop, no matter what it took.

Lucas's eyes were so calm as they settled over my face. "If you feel better because of me, then I would never leave your side," I said softly. I blushed as I thought about what I had said. "I mean, I would be close to you right now. You need me, and I know that whatever happened in there was not right, so I would definitely not shy away from you, no matter what it takes."

He lowered his lips lightly on my forehead, as he took another step up the stairs. "I know, and you don't really need to promise me anything, you know?" he said softly.

I chuckled at that, and slowly wrapped my hand around his neck. "Maybe, but I'm trying to be romantic, you know," I teased.

A hand slapped my ass softly and I turned to see that it was Caleb. He winked at me. "Oh, tapping ass is more romantic than the promises," he teased.

"Did you spell giving a hickey wrong?" I teased.

The boys groaned in response and I blushed as I tried to give a flirty smirk. I hope to the moon goddess that didn't come out silly because I wouldn't be able to leave it down.

"You would love that, won't you?" Caleb teased.

I placed my head on the crook of Lucas's neck as I enjoyed how manly he was as he held me in his hands. "No more questions," I cried.

The boys laughed in response, and it made me go redder. "Don't laugh anymore!" I cried. They increased the tempo and nuzzled on Lucas's neck as I groaned.

"Too cute," Lucas said softly.

Just like that, they all seemed to stop and the air suddenly became charged. The door finally opened and Lucas took me in, placing me on the bed gently. I slid my hair behind my hair in response.

He didn't move away from where he knelt on the floor and to make matters worse I could feel the gaze of the other two. I looked at them one after the other, shocked at the way they all looked at me.

I felt as though they wished to devour me at that moment and it made my pulse rise as my nipples went painfully hard against my bra.

Fuck! I wanted them just as much as they did...

Chapter 67 - Bullied Mate Of The Alpha Triplets

EMBER

"Why are you looking at me like that?" I asked nervously.

Lucas's gaze was as intense as ever as he looked at me, and I couldn't even find the courage to look away. His movements were so sleek as he parted my legs apart slowly. I bit my lip in

response to his moves, and he growled harshly against my panties, soaking me wet in the process.

Licking his lips slowly, he said, "I crave to be a part of you."

"You don't mean that right?" I asked as my heart skipped a beat.

He smirked lightly as his fingers drummed on my knees. "I have never said what I don't feel."

I could feel my wolf howl with pleasure, as every part of my body became attuned to what he was offering. Yet, a small part of me was resisting it all. As my heart warred with that part of me, Lucas trailed his fingers down the underlining of my panties till I let out a slight moan.

"I..."

My words could barely take form as I felt soft warm lips against my lips. It was as exhilarating as ever, and I just wasn't able to think. My eyes flicked over to Caleb's. His eyes were soft, but his hands were firm against my head, and I couldn't even afford to think at all. I just wanted him more than I have ever needed anything in my whole life.

"We want you right now," Caleb said softly.

It was at that same moment I felt a finger brush my woman center through my panties, and my eyes widened. My wolf was painfully branding me to mark the boys, but I pushed it back. That was a commitment that I didn't want to have yet if there was no proof that the boys would take me seriously.

"Stop thinking," Caleb whispered against my lips.

I brushed my lips against him and a moan escaped my lips. "I just..." I trailed off as he licked my lower lips with his tongue. "What I mean is, I don't wish for me to have sex right now."

Lucas curled his fingers around my clit and I threw my head against Caleb's hand in pure shock.

"I think you can always change your mind, baby," he said softly.

I blushed scarlet as I let the sensations get the best of me. This was just too much pleasure, and I wanted to go wild like the last time, but at what cost? I was scared I wouldn't be able to stop myself from doing something that I didn't wish for.

"Say the word, and I will take you to the zenith without much work," he teased.

Caleb chuckled softly and I couldn't help but look at him with lust in my eyes. "Does it make you laugh when your brother breaks my defenses by saying such hot things?" I asked softly.

He released his hold on my head as he placed a finger in his mouth, only for him to use that same hand to caress my lips slowly. I was not able to think right any more thanks to it.

"Say yes," he cooed.

I turned over to Tristen who stood at the other side of the room, watching us. At least, that was what I thought until my eyes slowly went downwards and I picked the way that his hands slid down his pants, cupping his dick which I could barely see as he did some soft strokes.

No!

They were seriously going to end me! My wolf was cooing in its style, completely turned on by everything that was going on, and I just couldn't think straight.

My body lurched forward as I grabbed a hold of Lucas's hair, and pulled him back up, kissing him wantonly. He held me back as he kissed me as hard as I did him, and soon, it was a battle of tongues.

With a groan, I pulled him backward in a bid to take a good look at him. "I want you, Caleb, and Tristen, but..." I moaned as I pecked him on the lips once more. "I'm not ready to go all in with you guys yet. I want you to respect that at least."

Lucas smirked as he looked at me in the eyes. "Your wish is my command, darling and I'm ready to make you wet like never before."

"Just you?"

I gulped at the words that simply came out of my lips. Lucas smirked as he looked at Caleb, and then, turned his back on Tristen who had his lips curled upwards.

"Well," Lucas said as he turned back at me. "I believe that I would be able to get the job done since a certain number of persons just want to watch only."

I smirked as he slowly made his way down the length of me. Oh, Moon Goddess! What was he going to do to me? Blinking lightly, I noted how he slowly slid my panties down as he sniffed softly.

Fuck!

If I wasn't so uptight, I would fucking lose my virginity to them right now. But, I just couldn't. My thoughts stilled as I felt a hot tongue against my clit, causing my eyes to go wild with desire. My fingers moved to Lucas's hair, as I tweaked it painfully against my hands.

The next thing I knew, Caleb pulled my top down, exposing my breast as he sucked at it without pause. I moaned, not knowing what to do with my fingers as the sensation threatened to get the best of me.

"Scream my name," Lucas screamed between sucks,

I bit my lips as I screamed, "Lucas!"

Just like that, every part of me came back to life, and I just couldn't stop breathing in the beauty of it all. It was just too much and I was going crazy with needs. This amount of pleasure should be illegal.

Lucas held me by the waist as he continued sucking, and despite how much I wanted to be in control, I found myself slumping back onto the bed, with Caleb moving right there with me.

"Caleb, I can't continue with the sensations," I moaned.

He bit my nipple in response. "I know you mean, I should suck both nipples," he teased painfully.

Just like that, he went at it with full force. There was nothing else that could have been done to salvage my needs, and I just couldn't recognize myself as I kept screaming like a banshee.

Tristen suddenly appeared in my peripheral vision, and I thought that he looked as beautiful as ever. His expression was so serious, and even when I was going half-mad with Caleb and Lucas, I just couldn't help but think about how insane he was looking right now.

He bit his lips as his eyes trailed from my face to my busy woman center. He groaned hard as he stroked faster through his brief, half-closing his eyes in bliss. I couldn't help the moan that escaped me as my body thrummed with need. I was aware that my body was cursing me for not being able to let go of my reservations.

It was in between these thoughts that Lucas used his fingers and teeth to drive me to a heartfelt organism that bounced me off the bed, if not for his other hand pinching me in place.

"Oh, Moon Goddess!" I cried as I flopped back to the bed completely spent.

Chapter 68 - Bullied Mate Of The Alpha Triplets

EMBER's POV

My fingers caught the surface of a warm body, causing my eyes to slide open in shock. What the... Caleb's face shone in front of me, and when I turned towards the left, I noted that Tristen and Lucas were holding each other, while Lucas had his hand on my stomach. They were all half-naked, with just me spooned in between them.

"I can't believe this," I mumbled to myself, as I took their hands off my body slowly.

It would be so difficult making it out of here without alerting the boys of the very same, but I had to do it, or I might not be able to live out the embarrassment. With careful maneuvering, I finally found myself on the floor, and picking up the clothes as quickly as possible.

Taking a quick look back, I noted that they were still fast asleep, oblivious to my absence. I wore the clothes as fast as I could, and then ran out of Lucas's room, sliding the door closed as quietly as I could.

The hall was painfully silent and I was glad of the very same. I didn't need a scandal attached to my name at this point. After several turns, I found myself in my room, kicking the door shut.

"This is not me," I whispered as I made my way to my bed, hitting it with a thud.

The memories of the previous night came back in full force, causing me to groan. How the hell did I react that way? "I swear I can't recognize myself again when I'm with the triplets. How the fuck did I get so sex-crazed?"

The answer was not forthcoming, and I just didn't want to waste time thinking about it. Using my hands, I slowly moved backward. The pillow felt like a welcoming place, but I also knew that if I placed my head on it, I would not be able to think straight. The best thing to do right now was to listen to music and shut out all the noise that threatened to get the best of me.

I pulled the head side on my Mickey Mouse comforter and placed it over my head. It was 5 in the morning according to the alarm, so I had ample time to detox. Plus, I hoped with all I had that I wouldn't wake up so early tomorrow. Tomorrow, I would avoid the triplets as much as I could. It would be hard to face them after what we did last night.

It wasn't our first time, but that was insane, and I knew that without being told twice. With a quiet sigh, I leaned back on the bed and allowed the blissful hands of sleep to take control of my mind.

Something loud was blaring in my ears...

Ping!

I groaned as pulled the headphones out of my ears in disgust. Who the hell wasn't allowing me to sleep now? The whole room was a bit dark which was also weird. It should be morning by now, right?

Ok, don't think too much Ember!

I sighed as I switched on the lamp beside me, which helped me to make out what was in my room. The bedside alarm showed that it was 2 pm. I blinked in shock. So I slept for so long?

Next, I grabbed my phone and noted that I had tons of missed calls from the triplets and then, there was another one from Ernest and Zealina. Did something happen? Maybe, they thought that it was weird that I would be asleep by now, and they were just showing concern.

"I'm right on track," I mumbled as I sprang out of my bed.

I would call them later. With that, I made my way to my bathroom and slowly washed off my face. Just as I was about to wash the soap off my face, I heard the buzz of my phone once more.

"Ugh!"

I rinsed my face quickly, grabbing a hand towel to clean off the water as I walked out of the bathroom. I was too late to pick up the call again. The missed call showed that it was Zealina.

Dialing her number, I tried to clean the soap in my left ear using the towel. It was itchy as hell, and I just couldn't stand it.

"Hello..."

"You finally call back!" Came the harsh remark.

I rolled my eyes. "You need to relax, Zea. What is so serious that you wouldn't let me be? I have a serious headache right now, and I don't want more."

"Oh, Moon Goddess!" Zea cried. "Are you seriously asking me that? Where have you been living? Under the rock?"

Ok, now, she was starting to get on my nerves.

"If you don't have anything to say, just keep quiet. I'm disconnecting the call right now!" I snapped,

She scoffed. "I don't understand you, Ember! Everyone is gathered to watch the triplets fight with Alex, and you're busy getting angry at me. Where the hell are you anyway? Why don't you just get your ass down here, or you don't care about any of these?"

"What, what?"

There was a slight pause and I could hear screams at the other end of the phone. My hands shook in shock at all this. Maybe, I heard wrong or something...

"I don't have time for this. It's fucking bloody over here, so get your ass here right now, and things would be easier,"

"What do you mean there is a trial Zea? Maybe, you heard wrong or something. I mean, that can't be happening. I don't think that things would escalate so badly. It's been just a couple of

days since Alex came here and surely Alpha Dominic wouldn't play such games with his children."

Zea sighed in response. "We were all shocked too, girlie, but it's happening. Get your ass down here as soon as possible," she cried, and the line went dead.

I stared at the phone for a few seconds, completely stunned. It was happening. My mates were fighting for their lives to retain their titles and I was busy sleeping like a log of wood. This was just awful!

Tossing my phone to the side, I made a run to the bathroom. I had a quick shower with no soap and wore a jumpsuit that covered every inch of my skin. Without bothering to comb my hair or put on makeup, I ran out of the house.

I knew exactly where the event was held, and I hoped with all I had that it wouldn't be too late. I was the worst mate ever, not being able to care for my mates. I asked for so much from them, but I have not given them anything at all.

Worse, they couldn't even tell me about this fucking trial, because they must have assumed I was too weak.

'No, they called you!' My subconscious screamed at me.

I clenched my fist tightly as I summoned my wolf to help my legs as sharp as ever. I was going to run to the venue, and hope with everything I had that I could be able to stop my mates from going through this madness.

I couldn't lose them now.

Chapter 69 - Bullied Mate Of The Alpha Triplets

LUCAS's POV

I could feel Ember's hand as she left mine. I wanted to pull her back to the bed, but I didn't dare to do that either. She had given us the best time, and the last thing I want is for her to regret her actions.

'She is leaving man, shouldn't we stop her?' Caleb asked through the mind link.

'No, no,' I said at once. I shifted my hand slightly, not liking the unnatural angle it was. 'She doesn't need to know we have an idea that she is leaving. It would ruin the purpose of everything, and that is not a good thing.'

Caleb agreed with me, and we both stayed still as Ember fled from the room. She was so adorable, but with time, she would never have to think that she had to do things like that. I wanted her to enjoy being in the same space with me, and that would definitely happen for sure.

The door clicked the lock and I slowly opened my eyes. My brothers were already up and were looking at the door longingly, and I felt like their needs mirrored exactly how I was feeling at the moment.

"I wish you hadn't stopped us," Tristen whined.

I rolled my eyes at this. "I never knew you were eavesdropping on my conversation, Tee."

"You were pretty loud in my ears, Luc," he said once more.

I chuckled, and he hit me on the arm softly. "I can't help it when it comes to Ember, Tee."

"Exactly the reason I feel like we shouldn't have let her go just like that. She is like our addiction and we can't live without her, you know," he pointed out.

I shook my head with a sigh. "If we had done that, then it might be difficult for us to have her in the same room with us. You know that she is shy and still indecisive about what she wants, so let's not put too much pressure on her."

Caleb groaned as he dropped on the bed. I smirked as I watched him. He grabbed his dick through his pants, and Tristen hit him on the arm, stopping him from being silly. Caleb was definitely a case and I liked to see it.

"Let me wank because thinking about her makes me so fucking hard," he whined.

I exchanged amused looks with Tristen as I said calmly. "You should eat the groundnuts. It would help deflate the nuts down there."

My words led to more laughter. There was suddenly a knock on the door, and we had no choice, but to reduce the fun.

"Who could that be?" Tristen queried.

"It's probably Ember, wishing to snuggle close to us once more," Caleb whined.

I smirked. "Don't get ahead of yourself man. That knock is sounding as impatient as ever. I think we just have to see who it is first before anything else. I would go, get the door."

Caleb placed his warm hands over mine. "No, I would deal with all that. You two relax, ok?"

With that, he jumped out of the bed, pulling his boxers up his ass as he moved. I cringed hard at this. I guess this would have to be something that I would get used to at this point. I didn't like it, but we were now sharing one woman, so I had no choice, but to get used to it at this point. There would be similar moments such as this, and putting the ego aside was for the best.

Ok, it's not as easy as I think...

"So, you came back for us?" Caleb asked as he pulled the door open.

I blinked as I stared from where I stood. It was definitely not Ember, but a maid. What was she doing here? Caleb turned back to look at us, and I gave a signal that he should ask what the case was.

He shifted a bit, so we could take a good look at the maid. "What do you need?"

"Alpha Dominic requests your presence at once," she said at once.

"All of us?" Tristen asked.

"Yes, young Alpha," she said softly.

"You may go," Caleb said softly and snapped the door shut.

I rolled out of bed, as I tried to put my temper in check. Though I could feel the intense rage coming off them in spades, I tried not to let it sink into me. Someone had to be sane for what was about to play out now.

"Are you going to agree to this summon?" Tristen asked in anger.

I turned to him as I found my slippers by the side. "Yes," I agreed. Taking one of my towels, I wrapped it around my shoulders. "Look, I know we are all angry with Father, but things are changing too fast these days, and if we give into our anger, it would only make things worse. We can always handle the rage later, but it would definitely be a disaster if we don't obey the Alpha's summons."

"He is always the voice of reason," Caleb said dryly.

I rolled my eyes as I made my way to the bathroom. Their teasing wouldn't change a thing right now because I definitely did not need all of that.

"He would be the first to get mad about what the old man says," Tristen pointed out.

I really had the worst siblings.

We made it to Father's office about 45 minutes later. And, we were confronted by the faces of the elders and Alex with our Father.

I exchanged looks with my brothers, feeling anger rise in me once more. It was hard to keep my wolf in check when it came to such gatherings because the betrayal had been too much to handle, but this time, I decided that I would do all I could not to go crazy.

"Why are we here?" Caleb cut to the chase.

Father sighed as he leaned into the leather chair. His gaze was as pensive as ever and I had a feeling that something was brewing which would be bad for us all.

He finally straightened up as he looked at each of us. "Concerning your anger about Alex getting his birthright, the elders have decided that it would be nice if you all fight for the leadership. There would be only one of you, and the one who wins would become the Alpha. There is a clause. The fight is to the death, and there would be no changes to the rules."

I gasped in shock as I looked at the man I had called my father all through my years. It was so easy for him to make such comments about us when we were actually his children.

"Do you accept this?" He asked calmly.

Caleb stepped forward and I noted the rage in his eyes. "Do you have any idea what you're saying? Or, you've completely lost it?"

"Rules are rules, son. I was not the one who couldn't understand that he has a new sibling and he has to adjust, so you have to take whatever happens in due faith." He snapped.

A soft laughter was heard, and I looked up to see that Alex was smirking at us. "Oh, Goddess!" He cried. And, then swatted his hands in a bid that showed that he was trying to calm down. "They can't face me, so they have to do all this drama. Come on, concede defeat, so we can all give it a rest."

I took a step forward, glaring at him. "You're too small for me to be frightened about, and we would definitely see who dies or lives today, bastard. Can you stand against me?"

The laughter died on Alex's lips as he said, "Bring it on!"

Chapter 70 - Bullied Mate Of The Alpha Triplets

I smirked as I looked at him. "Ok, then, let's go!" I said simply.

Alex's eyes went wild in shock. "What are you saying? I agreed to fight with you, but that doesn't mean that we would fight today. I need time to prepare, and you know how these things work. There is no need to be so hyper."

I smirked. "So, I'm the hyper one now, Alex?" He tried to speak, but I faced Father instead. "If your son is too scared to handle these issues, then I would have no choice, but to cancel all these, and claim the winner of the game."

"No!" Alex screamed.

We all turned to look at him, and I noted that he was as red as a tomato. It was completely hilarious how much he couldn't take defeat. I trusted in my abilities to see that I would easily win him in this game when it all came down to it. There was nothing that I could not do.

"We don't have all day, boys. Are you going to fight today or not?" Father snapped.

I gritted my teeth in rage. He didn't even care about the fact that any of us could be in this game, but all that mattered to him was his winnings. I just hated him so much, that I was not sure I would be able to breathe. This man was the most horrible soul ever and that was saying something.

"Ask your bastard what he thinks," I snapped coldly.

Just like that, Alex moved close to me, shoving me. I barely stepped back as I glared right at him. "Mind your words. I'm called Alex, and I don't care much about you, but I would kick your fucking ass, and give it to you on a platter."

"Then, that is settled," Father said behind us.

I shoved Alex back. "We will see about that when we battle. This is not your playground, idiot."

Turning around, I could tell that Caleb and Tristen were trying hard not to go gaga on the men, and I was slightly grateful for that. The last thing that I needed right now was for a body match to eschew between them.

I slowly walked over to them, and we held each other in a circle.

"We have to win this," Tristen said.

I growled in response. "We will."

"I can't lose you, man," Caleb added.

I smirked. "You won't," I assured him. I pecked my brothers on the forehead as I said, "It's going to get nasty down there, but you have to get your faith up. I'm not going to go down without a healthy fight, and I want to wipe out Alex from the face of the earth."

We growled as one, and then, did a head bump.

Moving away from each other, we were aware that the elders were looking at us in shock. I couldn't care less. I have been groomed since I was little to be the Alpha of this pack and that was not going to change now. It was time to show them that whatever I desired, I went for it with full force.

"Ok," Father said calmly. "Elder Jake would tell you all that you need to know about your fight."

We all turned to the bald man in a crumpled black suit. "I don't need to say anything right now, other than for you both to dress in gym clothes. You would be sparing with your hands, but you're allowed to take weapons, either small or large. Meet me up in front. This fight is not going to be taking place in secret but in front of the rest of the pack members. So, be ready!"

Tristen slapped a hand on my shoulders and smiled softly. 'We've got this bro,' he said through our mind-link.

I could only nod in response.

"You have 10 minutes," Elder Jake snapped.

I wasted no time, dashing out of my father's office. His smug smile was still in my mind's eye and I knew that he didn't care if I lived or died. All that mattered to him was getting the rightful heir. I didn't care about that though because I would be the one who would get that title.

In minutes, I was in my room. I charged to the wardrobe, as I tore off my clothes. I had no idea what to use as a weapon, and I decided against it at the last minute. Alex would have a lot of those, and I needed to focus on looking out for those things. I can't afford to make mistakes.

I grabbed my black shorts and a black T-shirt. Then, a clean black towel as an afterthought. I would need it after the match if I was still standing on my feet anyway.

With that thought in mind, I ran out of the room to the porch. The elders were gathered there with Elder Jake at the front looking quite stern. Minutes later, Alex came forward in a pure white getup. He glared at me, but I maintained my cool.

"You both step in line, Elder Jake snapped.

Father decided to show up that moment, and he was literally eating a pair of gizzards like all that was happening was a form of entertainment. I had never hated someone more than I did at that moment.

The screech of the pack bell was blown, and I could hear the announcement about every one of the pack members coming to the pack center in the next 20 minutes.

I had no sense of time at that moment as I followed the elders to the sacred center. It was a long walk down there, and there was a lot of drama through each move. Before long, we were able to get to the top of the hill where the fight would take place.

There were bamboo trees around the whole place, giving the place an eerie vibe. As I drew close, I noticed the circle in the middle of the place, and then, there was a ditch right by the side that had pins all over it.

No amount of weapon would be more dangerous than that and I was looking forward to using them on Alex. I turned left as I noted that he was looking at the pins too. I had to be smart when dealing with him. It was one of the reasons I had volunteered.

This time, I would let go of all my rage and channel my smartness. I knew he was cunning, but it couldn't be more than me.

Elder Jake stepped into the circle as he smirked. "Now, Lucas and Alex should step into the ring. No one would assist you, including the triplets. You must handle it all or your title will automatically be given to Alex."

I turned to Caleb and Tristen and noted that they were glaring at Alex. But, somehow, they turned to look right at me. It was at that moment that they gave me a thumbs up. It meant a lot of things to me, and I was not going to fail them, even if it cost my death.

With that, I crossed the threshold of the circle.

Elder Jake carefully filed away as he blew the whistle. I knew then that I had to give it my all as I zeroed in on Alex.