

## The Challenge Two Alphas, One Girl Chapter 60

Friday's POV

As always, at a few minutes to midnight, Thaddeus and Maze parted ways from me, leaving me alone in a cold empty bed. The day's events made the bed colder and emptier somehow. I felt so alone. It was not as though my father had ever given me the slightest inclination that he loved me. He had never paid attention to me, complimented me, comforted me or shown that he was proud of me. Not a single memory of him was pleasant. I remembered his smile though directed at someone else and his laughter though I had not been privy to the joke. I had loved him from a distance as I still did now. I sighed. Sleep would not come easily tonight.

I looked at the clock. It was five minutes past midnight. Officially Day 19 of the Challenge. 11 more days. Did I still have to pick? I didn't, did I? Even though I had never dared to dream much I had in fact always assumed my father would walk me down the aisle. If anyone had decided they wanted me that was. Dad was always quick to remind me no one would want a wolf-less she wolf in their bloodline so I shouldn't expect many offers. He had also said being wolf-less might mean I didn't have a mate or wouldn't recognise the mate bond at first even if I had one. He'd been partially right about that. I certainly had mates but both Maze and Thaddeus had had to tell me they were my mates at first. I smiled. I wished they could sneak back into bed with me.

I crept downstairs to the Beta floor. I was sure Fang was sleeping soundly. He had enough on his plate without me disrupting his sleep. I went all the way down to the common area of the ground floor. There were several male voices. They were talking about mates. Timothy, Titus, Fallon and Fargo were among them. I could not tell Timothy from Titus and vice versa.

"I hope I meet my mate soon," said either Timothy or Titus.

"Yeah me too," said Fallon.

"Me three, actually," said Fargo.

"Not me. I'm not ready to be tied down yet," said either Titus or Timothy, whoever hadn't spoken first.

"Your sister is hot though," said Timothy/Titus.

"Bro!! Seriously!!! Could you not?!" Exclaimed Fallon while Fargo made retching sounds.

I descended the stone steps to the dungeons. I wondered if I had an aversion to silver now. I didn't have an issue with it before I discovered my wolf. I eyed the sterling silver

bars as they glowed in the moonlight that filtered through the small windows in the ceiling.

Touch them. You can. You're special. You're not like the others.

I touched the silver bars. They still did not burn even though I had a wolf now. They felt cold and smooth. I ran my fingers along them as I walked towards the last cell. I saw a tall man, face down on the floor, thinner than I remembered. A mass of dark tangled hair obscured his face. He lay motionless on the floor. The cot behind him was empty. Had he fallen out of it?

"Dad?" I whispered.

He slowly raised his head. He stared at me. I had my hands on two bars peering in. He gingerly placed a finger to a bar and I heard the hiss as the silver burnt his fingertip. He groaned snatching his finger away.

"You witch! Don't you wonder how are you able to touch the silver?" He breathed.

I shrugged. My cheeks were tear-streaked.

"Did you mean to kill Malachi?" I asked.

He sighed. "Of course I did, at the time," he said.

"And Elizabeth?" I whispered.

He chuckled sadly.

"She'd seen me. If I'd shot her, and had the balls to finish Malachi off, I wouldn't be in this mess," muttered my father.

My cheeks were pressed against two bars. My nose and mouth were in the space between them, my hands gripping the bars as I kneeled on the floor like a child peering through the bars of her playpen.

"But Mom would be devastated. Malachi is her..."

The words died in my throat as my father's hand shot out and grasped me by the throat. I heard hissing as he slid his arm against the silver in the process. I gripped his hand with both of mine and forced his fingers open. He was forced to relinquish me. I scrambled backwards, my neck searing with pain.

"A w\*\*\*e's concerns! You're a w\*\*\*e just like your mother!" Yelled my father, his eyes bloodshot.

I pressed myself against the far wall, spluttering and gasping for air. I coughed and massaged my throat. I panted until breathing became easier. I didn't even have time to process what had just happened. My father had just tried to strangle me. My eyes welled up with tears.

"I should have sold you like I did with the other one," he muttered, his eyes faraway.

Truth be told, I had come to try to release him if I worked up the nerve to do so. The punishment for something like that was also death but I would rather put my own life in Maze's and Malachi's hands than my father's. I knew Maze could never sentence me to death.

He'd die first, said my she-wolf without a second thought.

Malachi wouldn't hurt us either. He wished he had fathered us.

"What?!" I said. "Sold me? What other one?"

He was muttering things to himself.

"What other one?!" I screeched, more tears streaming down my cheeks.

He cackled softly.

"Your mother wanted a girl. We had three boys already. I didn't want any girls. I knew they'd be wh0res like their mother. She was so happy when she found out it was a girl. She wanted to name her Flora or Florence. She kept asking me to pick between the two. We were penny pinching. Another mouth to feed would have ruined us," he snarled.

"Bullsh!t!" I growled, my eyes black. He actually flinched.

"You had enough! You just wanted to spend it all on getting wasted!" I whispered fiercely.

"I knew your mother had a mate. I'm not stupid. I didn't know who he was! Just that he existed. How could I be sure it was mine? I remember when it was born," my father said, as if narrating a twisted fairytale.

"She!" I screamed. "She was born!"

"IT!" He bellowed and I was surprised no one had come down to the dungeons yet with all our yelling.

"Your mother was totally out of it. I was drunk admittedly. I considered k!lling it. But I was merciful. What if it was mine? I sold it," he said. "Made a fortune! Drank most of it

away but still. Told your stupid w\*\*\*e of a mother it was born dead. She believed the stillborn story. She mourned for weeks, maybe months. She only let up moping when we conceived you.”

I was silent.

“Who did you sell her to?” I whispered through tears, too stunned to scream and rage anymore.

Farris laughed. I would not be calling him father anymore. Biologically we were related but that no longer meant anything to me.

“Who?” I breathed.

“To the highest bidder!” Farris said, laughing.

“Tell me, father,” I spat the last word. “You’re on your death bed. Time to confess everything!”

He seemed amused at my venomous words. He continued with his tale.

“There’s a convent up on a hill just outside of Berryndale in vampire territory. The nuns there were trained in combat as vampire and werewolf slayers. The convent was attacked by vampires who overpowered and bit the nuns. Some nuns killed themselves rather than become what they were trained to hate and kill. But others welcomed the change and became formidable vampire warriors. Ezekiel Victor Van Der Windt, the Vampire King, had led the attack on the convent. He was obsessed with making super vampires and super werewolves. He’d been exposing vampire children to increasing intensities of light. He even experimented on his own children. Ezra, the Vampire Prince, can easily walk in the daylight. Most born vampires are strong enough to do this for a few minutes but not comfortably and for hours like Ezra. Victor wanted to do the same type of experiments with werewolf children but they much harder for a vampire like him to get his claws on,” said Farris.

“And you sold her to him. Raelynn. You sold her to Victor,” I breathed. It was not a question.

“Oh I don’t know what she’s called now. But yes, I sold her. Volunteered her for the experiment. I sold you too, you know,” said Farris.

“What?” I spluttered.

“He needed two children, one to inject with wolfsbane and the other with silver,” said Farris softly.

I gasped, recoiling further from the bars that didn't burn me. I shut my eyes tightly so I couldn't see him.

"I injected you periodically with the silver myself when you were little. I thought I'd made you wolf-less. That the experiment was a failure. I'd been told the girl being injected with wolfsbane was also wolf-less, another failure. I thought they'd kill her. But the Vamp Prince took a liking to her it seems. You and your sister have always been so lucky that you're pretty little wh0res like your mother. It makes up for you being useless!" Sneered Farris.

My eyes turned black. My wolf took over, speaking with my voice and hers, two voices melting together, "We came here to free you but now we'd rather watch you die!"

My wolf relinquished her hold on me.

"Suit yourself," said Farris, grinning spitefully.

I scrambled to my feet and scurried out of the dungeons, hastily ascending the stone steps back to the ground floor. My heart was racing. My breathing came in shallow gasps.

I tried to steady myself. Raelynn was my sister. My father had sold her to be used in an experiment by vampires. Had injecting her with wolfsbane made her wolf-less or just temporarily suppressed her powers and gave her immunity like me? Our father had used us like guinea pigs, all because he wasn't sure if we'd been his or not. I shuddered at the realisation of how callous my father really was.

Sure, Malachi was a snob but he did not enjoy cruelty and he truly loved Maze. He had respect for Elizabeth and love and respect for my Mom. I felt nauseated as I dragged myself up the stairs. I crawled back into bed. I wasn't sure when sleep arrived to carry me away but I was ever so grateful for it.

## **The Challenge Two Alphas, One Girl Chapter 61 - Tips**

0 11 minutes read

Maze's POV

Today was my day with my darling Friday. The Berryndale pack house was all a buzz preparing for tomorrow's arrival of my paternal grandparents, former Alpha Maximo Mason and former Luna Maxine Madeline Mason. My grandmother's first name had been Madeline but Grandfather had insisted she change it to Maxine to be even more similar to his name. My grandparents were suffocatingly traditional and they were from a time when Alphas could rename their Lunas. Usually the Alpha chose a feminine version of his own name or a more eccentric Alpha would choose whichever female name he particularly liked. I was explaining this to Thaddeus who was horrified. This specific custom was frowned upon by the more modern werewolves in Berryndale.

"They did that back in the day!" Said True.

"You're lucky your name already began with T. Otherwise I would have renamed you!" Joked Timbre.

"I'd like to see you try!" She challenged him, pinching his cheek.

The Alpha Dining Room shook with his hearty laughter.

"What would you have called Mom?" Asked Timothy, fanning the fire.

Titus looked up from his breakfast eagerly.

"Timberlina!" Said Timber.

Thaddeus' and Timber's booming laughter was deafening. The twins grinned. True made a face as though disgusted and then joined the laughter.

I could not help but smile.

"What should we name Friday?" I asked Thaddeus realising too late I probably should not have said "we". To my relief, no one reacted strangely and Thaddeus boomed with laughter.

"Boss lady! She'll rename us!" Said Thaddeus. "You'll go from Maze to Monday and I'll go from Thaddeus to Tuesday or Thursday depending on her mood!"

His family erupted with laughter.

Friday sauntered in just then and I saw Thaddeus' face fall instead of lighting up like it usually did whenever he saw Friday. My eyes went to her immediately. She looked crestfallen and exhausted. Her eyes were puffy as though she'd been crying. I grasped her hand and pulled her from the room. I took her to my room. Thaddeus followed. I cupped her face in my hands.

"Baby, look at me," I said softly.

She complied.

"I won't harm your Dad, ok. I can't free him but I won't kill him not if this is what it's doing to you," I murmured kissing her cheeks then the tip of her nose and lastly her eyelids. I cradled her head to my chest running my fingers through her dark tousled waves.

Thaddeus was massaging her shoulders and back. She cried quietly into my shirt. She seemed confused and conflicted like she wanted to say something but was hesitant.

## Friday's POV

Just like that, Maze was offering me my father's life. He would pardon his life but imprison him indefinitely. How could I reveal my father's treachery when it would mean a death sentence? I would be the one sentencing him to die! Maze and Thaddeus and even Malachi had no idea of what my father was capable of, of what he had done. I didn't know how long I'd be able to keep such a secret from my Alphas. I just cried into Maze's shirt. I could feel both Maze's and Thaddeus' hands on me, caressing me and soothing me. I focused on taking a few steady breaths.

"Maze..." I began.

Tell him! Tell him what our father has done to us!

That would sentence him to death!

He sentenced you to death! And our sister! What if the wolfsbane and silver had killed us instead of making us stronger. He was willing to sacrifice us. He conspired with vampires.

Instantly, I knew what I had to do. I had to talk to Raelynn. What if she wanted a relationship with our father? I couldn't rob her of that. She'd been robbed of so much already. She deserved to know before I made any definite decisions.

"I couldn't sleep because I had so much on my mind. My father said something strange. He mentioned someone else other than my mom and me who looked like us," I said, being as vague as possible.

"Hey!" Exclaimed Thaddeus. "He said something similar to me when I found him. He was being a drunk asshole as usual, no offence, and he insulted your mom. He mentioned you, Friday, and he mentioned 'the other one,'" Thaddeus made little air quotations around the phrase "the other one."

"Right!" I said eagerly. "So remember the vampire's, uh, predestined?" I said.

"Raelynn!" Maze said, immediately intrigued. "You think she's your father's..."

"I don't know what I think...I just know I need to talk to Raelynn! Today! It's urgent!" I said, looking back and forth between my two alphas, my eye wide. I pouted a little for good measure. I knew Thaddeus knew Ezra somehow and today was Maze's day. I needed them to both agree.

Thaddeus nodded. "That can be arranged," said Thaddeus.

"Today?" I asked anxiously.

"If it's ok with Maze if it's today..." Thaddeus began.

"Maze!!!" I squealed, launching myself at him. Maze caught me and his face broke into a grin.

"Anything that makes my little Friday happy is ok with me," he said softly and slowly while nuzzling me.

I literally jumped for joy. My alphas smiled. "Let's go now!" I said.

"Breakfast!" Said Maze sternly.

"I'll call Ezra while we eat," said Thaddeus, placating me.

I scarfed down bits and pieces of what Maze put on my plate. Thaddeus made my coffee. It was sweet and milky but I could tell he was decreasing the sugar. I was exhausted! I wanted to curl up in bed between my Alphas but I had to talk to Raelynn.

"Ezra and Raelynn will meet us at the restaurant Maze booked today!" Boomed Thaddeus.

I jumped up and down again.

He and Maze high-fived. I giggled.

I had never gotten ready so quickly in my life! I wore a black satin dress with heels. It was a sombre occasion. Maze, Thaddeus, Ezra and even Raelynn didn't know it but I knew it. I was in mourning. My father was already dead to me. I did my makeup. I asked Astrid to help me. She constantly referred to the guys now as "Daddy Fang", "Uncle Thaddeus" and "Uncle Maze" no matter what the context. I met Maze and Thaddeus downstairs. Both of their faces lit up when they saw me. I blushed.

The restaurant Maze had wanted to go to was called The Alpha Aquarium. A lot of werewolf places just threw the word "Alpha" in their name because people seemed to like it. The restaurant did amaze me though. I gasped when I walked in. The ceilings were incredibly high. We were surrounded by a huge aquarium. All four main walls of the restaurant made up the aquarium. Schools of fish swam by. Crabs and lobsters scuttled across the sandy bottom of the aquarium. Small squids and octopuses swirled about. There was a giant squid gliding around. He was a vibrant purple. I was obsessed with him. His name was "Alpha" of course. Thankfully, this was not a seafood restaurant and none of the beautiful creatures were on the menu or available for order. I was relieved. I hated to see little critters fished out of a tank and served at restaurants. These fishes could relax. I was happy for them. The restaurant was vegan. Thaddeus was not thrilled.



“Maze, did you know this restaurant was vegan when you booked it?” Asked Thaddeus, leaning back against the booth. We were in a large private booth near the giant squid. I put my hand on the glass where his huge tentacle was. I tried to get his attention but he glided further upwards. I frowned, kind of sad that he didn’t notice me. Maze pinched my cheek.

“Yeah, I knew,” said Maze, grinning.

Thaddeus grumbled wordlessly. I was sitting between them, leaning over Maze to get to the glass and Alpha the squid. Thaddeus grasped my waist and pulled me to him.

“Why are you so adorable?” He growled in my ear. I giggled as he nibbled on my ear and tickled my sides.

“They’re here!” Exclaimed Maze.

I looked up. Raelynn looked stunning in a tight-fitting low-cut black dress. Ezra had his hand on her waist, gently guiding her towards our booth. We stood to greet them.

“Lord Ezra!” Rumbled Thaddeus, shaking his hand. “Hey, Gorgeous!” He said to Raelynn and kissed her cheek. I was less jealous this time.

Ezra kissed both of my cheeks while Maze hugged Raelynn gently. The vampire was cold but not in an unsettling way. He smelled good but not as much as my mates. Maze and Ezra shook hands. Ezra and Raelynn sat opposite us.

“I’m so happy you wanted to see me again, Friday,” said Raelynn.

I felt nervous and a little self-conscious around her. She seemed a lot more confident than me.

“Likewise. I mean, thank you for agreeing to...meet me...again,” I said, fumbling over my words a little.

Thaddeus rubbed my back soothingly. Maze ran his fingers absentmindedly through my hair.

Raelynne smiled. Ezra kissed the top of her head and then glanced distastefully at the menu. We ordered a huge variety of things. The food was actually surprisingly delicious. Even the vegan desserts were so yummy. I kept replaying how the conversation between Raelynn and I would go in my mind during our meal. I also practiced mentally how I would ask for some private time to talk to Raelynn but it turned out I didn’t have to ask.

“Let’s allow the lovely ladies some girl time,” said Maze smoothly, kissing me on my forehead.

The guys went to stand on the balcony near the bar. I waited till they disappeared from view. Raelynn looked at me expectantly.

“Raelynn,” I said.

“Yes,” she said softly.

I took a deep breath. “Who do you think your parents are?” I asked. A weird but necessary question.

She smiled knowingly. “I was told by Victor that I was an orphan,” she said serenely. “He plucked me from the orphanage ran by vampire nuns on some hill or something,” she said, narrating it as though she knew it was bullshit or at least partially nonsense.

“Are you a vampire?” I asked.

“You already know that I am not,” she said. “Friday, I’m a big girl. Talk to me plainly.”

She winked. I bit my lip.

“Our father...” I blurted out, realising I had not explained that he was our father yet. “My father told me something awful,” I said, tears glistening in my eyes.

She leant forwards a little because I was whispering.

“I went to see you. He’s in the dungeons for attempting to kill the former alpha Malachi,” I said.

“Maze’s father,” she said. “Ezra told me,” she added, her eyes downcast.

“Malachi and...my mother are mates. My father found out about their affair and shot Malachi but he lived, thank goodness! I went to ask my father some questions, seeing how I could plead his case if he was remorseful. He was not remorseful,” I said sadly.

Raelynn was silent, just peering at me, unblinkingly.

“I put my hands on the silver bars of the his cell. They didn’t burn. He told me it’s because he injected me with silver when I was growing up as an experiment,” I muttered.

Raelynn’s eyes widened. They looked darker than her usual warm honey brown all of a sudden, almost black.

“That’s awful,” she said.

"Yeah," I said sadly, shrugging. "He told me about another daughter he had, before me but after the twins," I said, starting to sniffle.

Raelynn was very still. Her eyes were glassy. This is what she had come here for. The wondering. The unspoken question between us.

"He was angry because he thought Mom was cheating and he wasn't sure if this daughter was his. She was born and he told Mom she was stillborn," I said, starting to cry.

Raelynn handed me a handkerchief. I took it. It was monogrammed with the initials EV. Ezra Van Der Windt.

"He took the baby girl and gave her to Victor Van Der Windt. There was a convent with nuns who Victor and his vampires had transformed. The nuns used to be vampire and werewolf slayers so when they were bitten they were great warriors. The ones that could accept being vampires I mean. Victor was using it as a part of his plan to raise super vampires and super werewolves. He injected the baby girl with wolfsbane and it suppressed her wolf but didn't kill her just like the silver suppressed my wolf until my wolf and I grew strong enough. Victor even experimented on his son," I said.

There was a flash of anger and surprise in her eyes.

"He exposed his son to increasingly intense amount of sunlight until he was able to withstand it easily," I said.

"They call Ezra the Daywalker," said Raelynn, sniffing but smiling.

"Ezra fell in love with the wolfsbane girl," I said, smiling a little. "She still did not have a wolf."

Raelynn fidgeted uncomfortably. "From the moment I saw you, I figured I had found my family," Raelynn said. "I knew I would be from a...dysfunctional family because well I was abandoned." She shrugged.

"I didn't know our father was literally the devil," she chuckled sadly. "And I didn't know he had hurt you too." She began to cry. "I didn't even know Victor had experimented on Ezra. I remembered him injecting me with the wolfsbane. The last time was when I was maybe nine. His son came back from boarding school and was incredibly fond of me. Ezra is a little older. We were inseparable. When I turned eighteen, Ezra told me I was his predestined. That's just the vampire word for mate. I felt it too, faintly though. I heard a little whisper now and then. I knew I wasn't a vampire but the voice said I was fated to Ezra and the voice led me to you at the festival. I told Ezra it was this weird vampire chick Prophetess who told me you'd be there but that was a lie.

She laughed. I liked her laugh.

"I wish I could have been there for you growing up," she said softly.

I burst into tears. She opened her arms and I rushed over to her side of the booth and flung myself into them. She cradled my head in her bosom.

"It's ok," she said gently. "Thank you for telling me everything. I thought I'd be the one to tell you. I was waiting to get some sort of...evidence or something. I didn't want to approach you with my and Ezra's hunches."

She sighed into my hair. She tried to untangle it.

"I hate brushing it," I told her.

She laughed. Her laugh was like the tinkling of bells or maybe wind chimes. It was soothing.

"I will brush it for you," she promised.

"I'll..." I said wanting to offer something sisterly but not having many skills. "I can show you how to make fires from dry twigs and stuff," I said.

"What?!" She said incredulously and burst into laughter.

"I have to ask you something," I said quickly, fearing that the guys would come back soon before we could finish our talk.

"Mhmm," she said.

"What do you think Maze should do with our father?" I asked. "Punishment-wise."

She sighed. "I know he's probably sitting on several death sentences for his crimes," she said.

"I haven't told Maze or Thaddeus the awful stuff he did to us yet," I said.

She raised her eyebrows.

"I wanted to tell you first," I explained.

"Maze and Thaddeus only know about him shooting Maze's Dad," I said.

She nodded.

"Maze was gonna pardon him well, spare his life and just let him serve life in prison," I said. "For me. Maze was thinking I'd want him alive."

“You don’t want to be the one that reveals him and sends him to his death,” she said.

I winced a little. “Well, yeah,” I said.

She smirked and c\*\*\*\*d her head to the side. She had mannerisms like a high-born vampire, probably from being raised by them and being in an intimate relationship with one. She was fated to the Vampire Prince yet she was a she-wolf. Did that make her a Vampire Princess or a Werewolf Princess? I pushed those silly thoughts away.

“Just tell me what to do,” I said.

She laughed.

“You’re the elder sister,” I said. “I wanted your opinion.”

“Let me discuss it with Ezra,” she said. “If you don’t mind?”

I shook my head. “No, whatever you want.”

“But first,” she drawled. “Take me to our darling Daddy.”

## **The Challenge Two Alphas, One Girl Chapter 62 - Tips**

0 8 minutes read

Theo’s POV

Thaddeus, Friday and Maze were inseparable. I felt like my childhood best friend and alpha was keeping a secret from me. What was going on with those three? Were they getting along for Friday’s sake or did they actually enjoy each other’s company. Their sudden liking for each other seemed surprisingly genuine. I bounced baby Titus on my knee and sighed.

“Why so glum?” Asked my Ida.

“I feel like there’s something Thaddeus is keeping from me?” I said honestly.

“Like what?” She asked, c\*g her head to one side.

“Like the full truth about what is going on with him and Friday and ...Maze,” I said, grumbling the last word.

“But isn’t obvious?” Asked Ida.

“What?!” I exclaimed.

“Seems like they’re, you know, sharing her willingly,” mused Ida.

I burst into laughter. "Oh, please, they'd rather eat glass than do that!"

Ida shrugged.

"Confront him, then," she said.

"What?! I asked.

"You heard me! Just confront him! Ask him what's going on! Thaddeus is usually pretty open and honest. He's a straightforward alpha," said Ida.

I sighed. She was right. We'd been friends since we were pups. Later today, I was gonna ask Thaddeus what was up with him, Friday and Maze.

Raelynn's POV

Friday and I essentially told my Ezra and her wolf-boys that we were besties now and we wanted to have a sleepover. They did not buy that one bit. We were permitted one more hour of girl time before Ezra had "pressing business to attend to requiring his predestined's presence" and Maze had "urgent pack matters necessitating an early departure." Thaddeus had thought a girly sleepover for me and Friday would have been "chill and cool" with him but it was not his day so "whatever Maze said." Ugh. We should have scheduled this thing on Thaddeus' day.

I was so nervous pulling up to the pack house. Ezra had been there twice before to discuss peace and good tidings between vampire and werewolf kind with Thaddeus. They were both big egalitarians. Ezra wasn't scared of an ambush or anything but I believed he was wary of running into Fang. I'd seen Fang once in the Van Der Windt Manor. Ezra had forbidden me from talking to him calling him a "fiend" but not saying why. I couldn't believe it. I'd been so close to my brother. In the next room! And I didn't even know. The resemblance between Fang and me was not as striking.

I spotted Fang on the porch of the Berryndale Pack House. He'd never seen me before but I had caught a glimpse of him that day at the Manor before Ezra sent me back to my room. Ezra was bossy and extremely overprotective but he was my everything. I knew it was weird to have a vampire mate. I was not sure if I was the first. I had only been certain I was a she-wolf for about an hour now but I had always had a hunch and a voice in my head said Ezra was the one. She also said our "pup" would be special. I had asked Ezra to take me to a psychiatrist and he had obliged. The psychiatrist actually had not found anything wrong with me. Friday had explained to me in the restaurant that the voice was my wolf. Fang had told her our wolves can talk like separate entities if powerful enough whereas some are just an instinct, an inner knowing.

I stared at Fang and he stared at me. I smiled. He frowned. I frowned. He scowled at me and I gave him the middle finger.

“Raelynn!” Chastised Friday.

“What? He’s being all rude,” I said.

Thaddeus and Maze were roaring with laughter. Ezra smirked. They boys didn’t know that was my brother officially yet but it was clear they had guessed what was going on. They were waiting patiently for Friday and me to explicitly tell them and I appreciated that. Fang stormed over.

“What is this?” Demanded Fang. He was trembling. He looked scared and was avoiding looking at Ezra. He was staring at me.

“I’m Raelynn,” I said.

“What is this vampire doing here?” Asked Fang.

“Raelynn?” Asked Thaddeus.

“No!” Fang said anxiously.

Thaddeus chuckled. “Why are you so uptight, Bro? This is Lord Ezra, my future Aly if our fathers ever agree to it.”

Ezra smiled at Fang. Fang recoiled. He went inside.

“Wait! I’m sorry! I was just kidding!” I called after my big brother, feeling annoyed but a little sad. He was so sensitive!

“Don’t worry about it, he takes time to warm up!” Friday reassured me.

“Like maybe a few weeks,” I said, nodding.

“Like twenty years,” Friday answered.

Maze and Thaddeus chuckled. She was totally serious.

“Maze, Thaddeus, we’re going to visit Farr, uh, my father,” Friday said.

Maze looked guilty and Thaddeus nodded sadly. Ezra was impassive. Ezra kissed my forehead.

“Forty-five minutes,” he breathed against me.

“You said an hour?” I pouted.

"Thirty minutes," he said.

"Ezra!" I whimpered.

He laughed and kissed me. Then, he went somewhere with Thaddeus and Maze.

I went down to the dungeons with Friday. It was cold with walls and floors made of stone and silver bars to keep werewolf prisoners in. I walked to the last cell. A man with olive skin and dark eyes and dark wavy matted hair was there, sleeping. He opened one eye suddenly. I jumped. He looked at me like he had seen a ghost. He recoiled even further against the stone wall. His cot was empty, untouched. It seemed he preferred the cold stone. Maybe it was a werewolf thing.

"Farris, this is Raelynn," said Friday softly.

Farris cackled. "My, my, how you've grown!" Said my father, Farris.

"Just like your mother," he said, gazing at me.

I smiled slightly.

"A w\*\*\*e," he said.

The smile slipped off my face. I knew he would be a nasty piece of work from what Friday had said.

"What is worse living behind bars forever or dying young?" I asked him.

"Having two wh0res for daughters and a third one for a wife," he spat.

I chuckled.

"Have you no remorse at all? Are you not the Beta here?" I asked.

"The former Beta," he said.

"And you betrayed your kind for some rum money," I said.

"You're the one sleeping with a vampire," he said.

"The son of the vampire you sold me too!" I snapped.

"I didn't even know if you were mine," said Farris dismissively.

"You could've asked for a paternity test and a divorce not sold your daughters as test subjects to rival vampires," I said plainly.



I sighed. He was not worth arguing with. There was no fatherly love in him and I wasn't sure why but it wasn't my job to make someone love me. Love can only be given freely. There is no other kind. Love under duress is not even love. Love is sacred in that way.

"Take some of his hair and take some of Malachi's and bring the samples to me. I will ask the technicians in the lab at the Manor," I said softly to Friday.

She seemed startled at how soon I wanted this arranged.

"Ok, I'll organise that. How will I get it to you?" She asked.

"Thaddeus can get it to Ezra," I said.

"We'll have to tell them," Friday said.

"We have to, anyway," I replied.

Friday sighed. We walked up the stairs.

"Hey!" I said. She jumped.

"No moping around!" I scolded her. She grinned and so did I.

We found the guys on the porch with two pairs of twins. I looked at the golden skinned, dark haired ones. These must be my other brothers. Fallon and Fargo. The paler, blonde ones were eyeing me. One of them winked. And these must be Thaddeus' brothers, Timothy and Titus.

"This is Raelynn," said Friday, introducing me to the twins, both pairs of them.

Fallon and Fargo stared at me, mouths agape, looking confused.

"I didn't know you had a sister, Friday," said who I heard her say was Timothy.

There was an awkward silence.

"We're best friends," I said. "For now." The DNA results were pending. Well, they were not even in the lab yet.

"She's hot," said Titus brazenly.

Ezra growled.

"I'm right here," I said, blushing a little. The blonde twins were so bold.

"You're hot," said Titus frankly. "Easy, Ezra! She's all yours. I'm just an admirer of hotness."

"Ok, bye guys," said Friday to all four twins, leading me away from them.

When will we tell the guys like explicitly tell them?

Friday's voice was in my head! I stared at her. She smiled encouragingly. I thought very hard.

Let's tell them separately. All three of them together will lead to more questioning and we're not ready to tell them about Farris' treachery yet, I said. I couldn't believe I was doing this. I was mind-linking! Also, Ezra doesn't know Victor experimented on him and me yet! I need to break that to him gently. The sister thing he already suspected.

Friday nodded. We hugged goodbye really tightly, not wanting to let go. The guys smiled knowingly at us. I pulled away and wiped a stray tear from my cheek. I would be back! And soon!

Thaddeus' POV

My delectable little Friday was being cagey. I knew she had reason to believe that she was related to Raelynn. Sisters perhaps. However, my little Friday didn't seem to want to discuss it. Maze and I kept trying to broach the topic the minute Ezra and Raelynn left. We also wanted to talk about Friday's father's punishment and about officially sharing Friday. Friday kept trying to avoid meaningful conversation. She seemed scatter-brained and frazzled and sleep-deprived. She was very very good at distracting me and Maze though. Soon enough, we ended up in my bathtub together. Friday was sitting on Maze's lap facing me. She was blowing on the mound of bubbles she had cupped in her palms. She had another mound on top of her head. I kept wiping her forehead to make sure soapy bubbles didn't slip into her eyes. She giggled. There was a knock at the door.

"Thaddeus!" Theo! sh!t!

"Uh, coming in a few minutes, Bro! I'll come to your room just now," I called.

"That's ok, Bro, I'll wait," said Theo. st! st!

"Honestly, Bro, I wanted to talk to you. About this whole Friday thing with Maze," said Theo.

Friday's doe eyes widened. Maze stiffened.

“You guys, you and Maze seem so cool with each other all of a sudden. Like what’s that about? If I didn’t know any better, I’d say you were sharing Friday or some crazy sh!t like that. I know, I know! Don’t get upset!” Theo said.

The atmosphere in the bubble bath was tense. That was a sentence I never expected to say in my life.

Theo sighed. “Thaddeus, Bro, I’m just kidding. Don’t be like that,” said Theo, interpreting my silence as my being pissed.

“Bro, I’m cool, you’re my best bro!” I called. He was my best bro, but I didn’t know how or what to tell him. The situation was something that still surprised even me.

Friday crawled into my lap. I k!ssed her forehead. Maze leant against his side of the tub. He seemed a little tense but a lot less worried than me.

“Oh and uh, Maze’s grandparents arrived early! Your Mom said to tell you to tell Maze!” Theo added.

Maze looked mortified.

## **The Challenge Two Alphas, One Girl Chapter 63 - Tips**

07 minutes read

Maze’s POV

I got dressed quickly. Thankfully, Thaddeus had gone outside to meet Theo. I told Friday to take her time but she dressed in a hurry too. She wanted to meet my paternal grandparents. I held her hand, our fingers interlaced, and we went to the Alpha Dining Room where my grandparents supposedly were.

As soon as we walked in, my father and Felicity looked relieved as though they were happy they wouldn’t have to fend my grandparents off alone anymore. My grandfather, former Alpha Maximo Mason, stood up when he saw me. He was tall and olive skinned like my father and me with the same grey eyes and dark wavy hair. His hair was streaked with white though but it suited him. He shook my hand and he took Friday’s hand and k!ssed it. Friday blushed.

My grandmother, former Luna Maxine Madeline Mason curtsied for Friday and hugged me gently. She was petite with a waif-like figure, delicate and fragile-looking even more so in her old age. She too was olive-skinned with dark eyes and dark hair flecked with white. Her hair was in an elaborate bun. She returned gracefully to her seat escorted by my father. Both of my grandparents were formally dressed in evening wear. I forgot that they usually dressed for dinner. I was in a black shirt with no tie and black trousers and Friday was in a simple black knee-length dress. I held her close to my side.

“Can you believe after all this time, Maxine, Malachi and Felicity are to marry?” Drawled my grandfather.

My father instinctively drew Felicity closer to him.

“You’re divorcing Elizabeth, Kai,” whispered Grandmother, putting her hand to her mouth and using my father’s childhood nickname.

“Mom, you know about this a few days now at least,” said Malachi, his tone slightly annoyed.

“Also, Mom, Elizabeth has some interest in a gentleman, an old friend of hers, Cody,” I added.

Mom was with Cody now and Dad was with Felicity and all four were much happier. What was the issue now? Did their happiness count for naught? My grandmother ignored this statement. Grandfather was staring at Friday, scrutinising her carefully as if appraising a complex work of art at a museum. All he need was a glass of wine in one hand and a monocle held to the eye and pinched between the thumb and index finger of his other hand to complete the picture. My grandmother seemed to have not noticed Friday truly yet even though she had curtsied for her earlier.

“Cody,” mused my grandfather. “Cody, Cody, Cody. The name rings a bell.”

“The faintest of bells, I’m sure,” mumbled my father.

“What was that, Malachi, my son?” Said Grandfather.

“You can’t seriously expect me to believe that you are here pretending you don’t remember Cody?” Said Dad, looking truly openly annoyed now and stepping in front of Felicity protectively.

“I vaguely remember Cody, yes, and dear Felicity,” said Grandfather gesturing towards Felicity. Felicity was hiding, shrinking behind my father. In all fairness, my grandparents, specifically my grandfather, had essentially changed the course of her life, separating her from her mate for twenty-five years though they often met in secret.

“Well, then, you will remember that Felicity is my fated mate and true Luna and Elizabeth who has blessed me with Maze is actually the mate of Cody. I wish them all the best and I hope one day Elizabeth might wish the same for Felicity and myself though the transitions was by no means a smooth one,” said Dad, sighing. Felicity put her hands on his shoulders and squeezed softly. He looked back at her and smiled.

“Lovely,” said Grandfather as though it were anything but.

"Let's dine, shall we," Grandmother suggested. "If it pleases my Maximo."

"Yes, let's get this show on the road," said Grandfather with a smile.

We all took our seats. Friday was between me and her mother and on the other side of Felicity was my father. My grandparents faced us with Grandfather directly opposite Felicity, something she seemed upset about and Grandmother was across from Friday.

"The resemblance between mother and daughter certainly is striking, isn't it, Maximo?" Grandmother said as she placed her napkin on her lap.

"It's like looking into the past," said Grandfather. "A young Malachi and Felicity all over again."

My grandmother nodded emphatically. Grandfather glanced at the empty chairs near place settings.

"Are more joining us?" He said.

"Yes," said Friday eagerly, speaking for the first time. "Thaddeus and his parents are coming. So are my three brothers including Fang who is Maze's Beta. Theo will come too. He is Thaddeus' Beta."

"I'm familiar with who is the Beta of whom Friday. I am not that out of the loop and I daresay I knew them all before any of us knew you existed," said Grandfather with a fake smile plastered on his face.

Friday's bright smile slid off of her face. I was irked.

"She's just making conversation, Grandfather," I said, with a huff. "And I doubt you knew Fang before Friday knew him!"

"Yes I did," insisted my grandfather childishly. Grandmother nodded encouragingly.

"Yes, yes," said Grandmother. "We met him as a newborn."

"We were introduced to him in the womb. Felicity came to the pack house a few times while pregnant for her husband, Farris, my son's former Beta," explained Grandfather unnecessary though he had just chastised Friday for unnecessary explanations. My Dad flinched and my heart went out to him. I couldn't imagine what that must have felt like to see his mate pregnant for another. I wondered what it would be like to see Friday pregnant for Thaddeus. In that case, as long as I too, was still her mate, I didn't feel offended. I would just hope the next child would be mine. I surprised even myself with that epiphany. I truly wouldn't mind Friday bearing an heir for each of us. It just felt right somehow as if it were meant to be.

“So are both comfortable with this situation, Kai and Mazey?” Said Grandmother.  
“Felicity is Friday’s mother. So essentially if Kai and Felicity marry first, Maze will marry his little stepsister.”

“Mom,” said my Dad, taking a deep slow breath, “Not marrying my mate led to me resenting my Beta for years because he married her. He became an alcoholic. Felicity and I couldn’t stay away from each other because both of our marriages were terrible so we had an ongoing affair. Eventually, my Beta found out and shot me with a silver bullet laced with wolfsbane!” Snarled my father, raising his voice. “Then, Elizabeth attacked Felicity in the resuscitation room where I was being treated for my gun shot wound. I had to use my Alpha voice on Elizabeth to part the fight thus revealing to a room full of people that she was not the true Luna as she was not my fated mate. Elizabeth began drinking and sank into depression. She was found at a random motel drunk and confused. Fang brought her back to Maze so he could care for her. She tagged along to Berryndale luckily and Cody is what pulled her out of it after True re-acquainted them.” Dad took a big breath and continued. “My poor example led to Maze initially rejecting Friday and they would have repeated history. Maze,” said my father, pausing. I looked at him. He had tears in eyes and was clutching Felicity very close to his side.

“I am so sorry for everything but I will never be sorry that I had you. You’ve made the long journey to my mate all worth it for me and now I have Felicity again and you have Friday and it is complicated but there is nothing more complicated than denying yourself what you want most in life for the sake of pleasing others, even if it’s your grandparents, even if it’s me. I hope you know that and I hope you can forgive me,” said my Dad.

I didn’t respond right away because I was so emotional. Friday was probably the only person other than my mother who had seen me cry. I took a deep breath and went over to Dad and hugged him. He embraced me with a huge bear hug. His Felicity, my Friday and even Grandmother were tearing up. Grandfather remained stone-faced. Dad and I broke apart and I returned to my seat.

“If you’re expecting some dramatic speech from me in which I beg for your forgiveness then I’m sorry to disappoint you. There won’t be any such thing,” said Grandfather sternly.

“I’m not expecting anything like that from you,” said Dad pointedly.

Grandfather scowled. I smiled, extremely proud of my father and feeling really close to him for the first time in a long time.

Thaddeus’ POV

I was late to dinner with my little Friday, my bro Maze and his snotty a.ss family. I felt guilty because I knew Maze was probably going through it without me or my parents there to deflect the tension. However, I had to have this chat with Theo. I owed it to him. He was my best bro, my childhood best friend. We were in my room. We had spent so

much time at the pack house together over the years and now I had a big secret from him. It was new territory for me. Was I allowed to tell him? I was an Alpha. I usually did whatever I wanted but what if little Friday or Maze was upset. What if I ruined the new camaraderie we had formed. It felt solid to be honest. I sighed.

“Theo,” I said hesitantly.

“Yeah, Bro?” he replied.

“Friday is so special to me and to Maze. I don’t think either one of us could live without her and if she’d be ok with having both of us, I’d be ok with that too,” I said plainly and there was no turning back.

## **The Challenge Two Alphas, One Girl Chapter 64 - Tips**

0 15 minutes read

Friday’s POV

I was so proud of Malachi for finally standing up to his own father, Maximo, on my mother’s and Maze’s behalf, after all these years. Maximo did not seem moved by his son’s impassioned speech at all. Maxine, on the other hand, had gotten emotional. She dabbed her eyes with a monogrammed handkerchief. The initials stltched onto the handkerchief were MM so I supposed all three generations had monogrammed clothing and handkerchiefs. I was not sure what Maximo’s issue with my mother was other than her being a rogue in the past. His issue with me could have been my wolf-less-ness. However, that had been called into question. I did have a wolf but I hadn’t shifted yet so perhaps Maximo did not seriously recognise me as having a wolf. I sighed inwardly, wishing Thaddeus was here along with his parents. I even wished my brothers would show up. Anything to ease the tension.

My wish was granted just then as Fang walked in flanked by Fallon and Fargo with Astrid behind them. They respectfully approached the former alpha, Maximo, and former luna, Maxine. Astrid was as smug as ever but she had grown on me a lot over the Challenge. Everyone took their seats.

“Maze,” drawled Maximo. “What do you plan to do if Friday chooses Thaddeus?” He said dryly, his eyes scrutinising my face. Maze stiffened. The silence was deafening.

“We’ll cross that bridge if we get to it,” said Maze softly.

To my relief, we were joined by Timbre, True, Timothy and Titus. They came in roaring with laughter over some prior event already. They all insisted on hugging Maze’s stiff grandparents before they too their seats. Thaddeus was still with Theo?

Excuse yourself and go check on Thaddeus, said my Wolf.

My wolf was so adamant about this that I got up in the middle of the first course. I had barely touched my food and I was genuinely hungry.

“Excuse me, one moment, please,” I said, smiling as convincingly as I could so no one would follow me.

Maze followed me.

“Where are we going?” He asked, smiling conspiratorially as we exited the Alpha Dining Room.

“My wolf spoke to me,” I said honestly. “And she asked that I check on Thaddeus.”

Maze nodded. He looked like he was contemplating whether or not to ask me something. I gazed at him expectantly.

“Does your wolf ever ask you to check on me?” He said it as though he meant it to be nonchalant but his eyes were hopeful and a little worried.

“All the time. You and Thaddeus are her favourite topics,” I said, grinning.

Maze broke into a huge smile that warmed his grey eyes.

“That and trying to get me pregnant with your and Thaddeus’ pups,” I muttered. “Oh and being marked and mated officially by both of...”

I stopped talking. What had gotten into me? Had I just said all of that out loud? I was mortified. Maze was beside himself with glee. He pressed his lips to mine, cupping my face in his strong warm hands. There was something so comforting about his kisses and his touch in that moment that I just leant into him, eyes closed, savouring it. We broke apart and he nuzzled me and then kissed the tip of my nose.

We peaked into Thaddeus’ room. He was there with Theo and didn’t seem to notice us. They were sitting across from one another at the table. Theo was facing away from us so I couldn’t see his expressions. Theo was also blocking Thaddeus’ handsome face from view. I grumbled inwardly.

“You’re...you’re being serious...you and Maze are willing to both have Friday as your Luna simultaneously?” Asked Theo.

Maze stiffened beside me.

“Yeah, I want her to be happy and I thought Maze was this undeserving prick but now I realise he is...great. Differently great. He just took longer to show it,” mused Thaddeus.



Maze actually convulsed a little at the phrase “undeserving prick” prompting me to stiffen and glance at him to make sure he was ok. The strange movement had been from him stifling a laugh. I gave a silent sigh of relief, relaxing my shoulders.

“But what about, you know, her being marked and mated?” Asked Theo hesitantly.

I felt the heat creep up to my cheeks. Maze sensed my arousal and put his palm against my most sensitive area, right between my thighs. I stifled a gasp of surprise.

“What do you mean?” Thaddeus asked.

“Maze could trick you! If he marks and mates her first, he might keep her for himself and I doubt he’d let you go first. He said she was from his pack, remember? He met her first and found her first,” Theo said.

I could tell Maze was annoyed but his focus was more on what was happening between my legs than what was being said between Thaddeus and Theo.

“There won’t be a first and second from what I can tell so far,” Thaddeus said, shrugging.

“I don’t get it,” Theo said.

“It’ll be simultaneous based on what...has happened...so far,” rumbled Thaddeus, leaning back in his chair so I could actually see his face. He was carefully appraising Theo’s reactions.

Maze suddenly slipped his hand into my underwear, finding my clit and rubbing it gently. I shivered.

“Simultaneous like bite her at exactly the same time?” Theo asked incredulously.

Maze pinched my clit and I had to cover my mouth with my hands to stop from squealing. I was scared Thaddeus and Theo would sense us nearby, peaking, or someone would come into the long hallway and see us.

Thaddeus nodded. “Is it that crazy?”

Silence.

I was trembling, still covering my mouth firmly with my shaking hands, as Maze inserted a finger into me carefully while his teeth grazed my ear.

“It’s...out there,” said Theo.

Maze was sucking on my earlobe as he very carefully explored my folds.

"Twins and triplets once they are identical always have just one mate because of the whole one fertilised egg splitting into parts thing," Thaddeus said.

Maze was making me so wet. I wondered how Thaddeus could not smell it.

"True," said Theo. "...I guess now the Challenge would seem pointless...but, you know, it has to be finished. You should both uphold pack laws."

"Yeah," mumbled Thaddeus, sighing.

I was trying my hardest not to squeal or shriek.

"I have a million questions," said Theo, shaking his head in disbelief.

Thaddeus boomed with laughter.

"I'll answer them but I have to show my face at Maze's grandparents' welcome dinner and so do you," said Thaddeus with a distasteful look on his face.

Theo groaned while I silenced my moans as Maze teased my clit with his fingers, moving in a circular motion.

"Go ahead of me, please, Theo," grumbled Thaddeus in his deep voice.

"You owe me so many rounds at the bar and so many explanations about...your situation," Theo chastised Thaddeus.

Maze nipped my ear and I almost squeaked.

Thaddeus grinned. "You're too young. I won't explain those things to you."

"I'm older than you!" Exclaimed Theo.

"By a few months," Thaddeus said dismissively with a wave of his hand.

Theo chuckled and got up opening his arms.

Thaddeus bear hugged him.

"This has been the most awkward conversation of our friendship," murmured Theo.

"Happy to be of service," said Thaddeus and they both laughed.

My thighs were quivering so much I tried to lean against the door, forgetting it was ajar which resulted in me falling into the room. Thankfully Maze caught me before I hit the floor and he adjusted my dress at lightning speed.

Theo looked at us, dumbfounded.

Thaddeus grinned knowingly. I smoothed my dress, thinking I knew he had to have smelled me.

“Hi, Theo, just seeing if you guys were coming to dinner,” I mumbled with my cheeks burning with shame. Thaddeus was smirking at me and stroking his chin.

Theo couldn't stop hitting us quizzical backwards glances as he exited the room.

Thaddeus came over and drew me into his arms. His embrace felt so good. I nestled my head into his chest.

“So we're telling people all of our...personal stuff now?” Mused Maze.

“Yeah, everything, my pin number, your pin number, all of our facebook passwords,” rumbled Thaddeus, his chest already heaving with surprised laughter.

Maze scowled. “Thaddeus,” he grumbled. “You know what I mean! Who else did you tell?”

“Just your Mom,” said Thaddeus.

Maze's jaw literally dropped. His mouth was agape, his eyes wide with shock.

Thaddeus burst into laughter.

“Ugh!” Maze snarled playfully chasing Thaddeus out of the room. I was grateful Thaddeus was joking. Elizabeth already thought I was a floozy. I doubted she would have a good reaction to any of this. A sickening feeling slid through me. I would be the most criticised in all of

“You ok?” Maze said, stopping the chase to check on me.

I nodded but I did not feel ok.

Thaddeus' POV

I knew my little Luna Friday was having misgivings. As always, she was a bit concerned about how she would be received by others, especially the family members of her mates. She had spent years being shunned so that was a natural fear for her to have. In time, I knew my little Luna would grow more powerful physically and mentally and less susceptible to criticism. In the meanwhile, I just wanted to cheer her up.

Last night, when we had returned to the dinner with Maximo and Maxine, those snobs had spent the vast majority of the time making snide remarks about Felicity and Friday. I had watched Maze and Malachi become increasingly agitated while I had been fuming myself. The dinner had culminated in Malachi storming out and Maxine running after her son. Maxine had seemed to be slightly more attuned to the idea of Felicity and Friday joining the family.

Every time I had made a retort to Maximo, my father and mother had shot me warning glances. Maximo, during his reign, had been the type to constantly threaten war and many still feared him beyond reason. He had been a corrupt and underhanded sort of Alpha, bribing people and accepting bribes, skewing facts and manipulating circumstances to distance some and ensnare others. He had always wanted a "suitable girl" for Malachi and he had set his sights on Elizabeth and her huge family fortune. However, the Masons already had their own vast fortune and a plethora properties and other assets. In short, Maximo was a prick who almost destroyed his son's life to stop him marrying someone not blue blood enough.

I was really looking forward to a stress-free day. The cheer-up plan for Friday was simple. It was my day, Day twenty of the thirty day challenge, and I was taking her along with Maze to a mermaid lagoon. Friday had a keen interest in other creatures. She had specified wanting to see vampires (check), humans (check) and wizards and witches (check). Mermaids had never come up but everyone loves mermaids. So mermaids it was.

I refused to tell my Friday where we were going. It was a surprise. I wouldn't tell Maze either in case he stiffly refused. I drove them both to the lagoon. It was called the Bevy and it drew many different creatures to its waters. It was nestled in a small valley between the "One Eyed Twins" which were similarly sized hills with a watchtower atop only one of them. The vegetation was lush and green. The trees were thriving and dew-covered year round. Every form of life seemed to flourish here. Some said it was the magical aura of the mermaids and merman who could often be seen sitting on the rocks. The lagoon itself was colossal. It was shallow and separated from the nearby sea by a vibrantly coloured coral reef that housed many tiny fish and crabs.

Friday and even Maze were instantly enchanted by the location. They approached the lagoon. Friday was eyeing the nearby mermaid with great interest. The mermaid sat on a rock with a comb, detangling long hair that was black and glossy but somehow had a dark blue sheen to it. Her tanned skin was also slightly blue-tinged. The scales of her tale were a vibrant blue. She turned her large dark blue eyes upon Friday. Another Mermaid sprang out of the water. This one was a silvery blond who had just come up out of curiosity.

"Alpha?" Said the first mermaid in her sing-song voice.

"Lady Meridian," I greeted her, taking her outstretched hand. Normally, I would have kissed her hand but now that I had found my mate, Friday, I merely squeezed it. She

seemed disappointed. Lady Meridian, a noble high-born mermaid had often asked that she come up on land to spend time with me. Mermaids could transform their tails to legs to walk among us during the night of the new moon.

“This is my mate and Luna, Friday,” I said to her gently.

She frowned. Friday smiled, looking at the mermaid in disbelief. Lady Meridian said, “It’s nice to meet you, Friday.”

“Likewise,” said my Friday.

“And this is Alpha Maze of Marigold, also a mate of Friday,” I continued, not seeing the point in hiding it. Friday blushed deeply. Maze seemed to be amazed with the lagoon. He had not been paying attention to the conversation. Meridian looked furious, glaring at my beautiful innocent Friday. Instinctively, I pulled Friday slightly behind me in more of a protective stance if anything. Maze stood slightly in front of her too, so she was peaking out from behind n

“So, Thaddeus, you’ve finally found the mate you’ve been pining for all these years?”  
Asked Meridian.

“Yes, Mer, I have,” I said, hoping she would be happy for me. None of my trysts before Friday were serious and I had made that clear to all of them. Now that I had my mate, she required my undivided attention. A few other mermaids surfaced, their scales all differently coloured, some pink, others green, purple, yellow, black, red, white, silver and gold. Mer was the only blue one, a colour of scales many high-borns tended to have. The mermaids giggled over Maze and me sitting near them at the water’s edge. Mermaids were notorious for their flirtatious nature. Mer dove back into the water after only a few more minutes in conversation.

I decided to take a dip with Friday. Her legs and arms were wrapped around me as I entered the lagoon in my swim trunks. Friday was wearing one of the bathing suits I had gotten her. She had chosen the sparkly one this time. Maze came up behind her and tickled her sides. She squealed and I roared with laughter. Friday pressed an urgent kiss to my lips, nipping on my lower lip. We broke apart and she turned around with her limbs still wrapped around me to kiss Maze who groaned into her mouth. I started thrusting against her. She moaned. I knew she could feel how hard and engorged I was because of her. Maze seemed to be doing the same behind her. She was trembling, one hand bracing herself against my shoulder and the other hand stretching backward to brace herself against Maze’s shoulder.

“Luna, you are just so sweet,” I murmured against the skin of her neck, the nip of my nose pressing against the base of my throat.

Friday’s eyes grew dark.

## Friday's POV

I could feel my inner wolf coming forwards as both of my alphas kissed and caressed in the middle of the mermaid lagoon. It was such a surreal and beautiful place. I saw a few mermaids and mermen peek out of the water to glance at that but they didn't disturb us. Maze nipped my ear making me squeal. He had his arms snaked around me from behind and I could feel him thumbing my nipples through the thin fabric of my bathing suit.

"Baby, God, you are so pretty," moaned Maze, in my ear, his tone lustful. I could feel his huge erection pressed against my behind.

I blushed and buried my face in Thaddeus' neck. My wolf was screaming inside at this. She was so close to his neck and she was begging me to mark him. I shivered thinking about sinking my bared fangs into Thaddeus and hearing him groan. I couldn't do that though so I just sighed against his sweet-tasting skin. Both Maze and Thaddeus started planting kisses all over me wherever they could reach. I felt flushed and so heated like I was on fire.

"Do you like being ours, Baby," said Maze, his voice raspy in my ear.

I nodded weakly and turned slightly to nuzzle him.

"Say it!" Insisted Maze, growling slightly, his stormy grey eyes darkening with lust.

"I...I love being yours," I said softly as the alphas continued to rub against me. My juices were dripping down my inner thighs.

"I can't wait to actually bury myself deep inside of you my little Luna," groaned Thaddeus. His voice was almost a growl and his eyes were black, his wolf coming forwards.

"Mmmm I can't wait to mark this pretty little neck of yours. I wanna sink my teeth in you," snarled Maze, his eyes also turning black as he let out his inner animal.

I had almost forgotten we were out in the open air. This felt so intimate. The pressure in my tummy was so intense, all I could do was whimper. They built me up further until I was soaring. I came apart in their arms still sandwiched between them. I was a moaning mess as they ran their hands more gently all over me to soothe me. I was still in my bathing suit. I had soiled it with my cum but they had done the same with their swimming trunks. I was so sleepy all of a sudden.

Thaddeus carried me to the shore, holding me bridal style. Maze wrapped me in a huge fluffy towel. I was not sure when I had drifted off to sleep but I woke up hours later by myself in my bed. It was a little after midnight. The alphas had tired me out. I looked at the nearby table and what I saw warmed my heart. There was a huge

bouquet of flowers: three dozen long-stem pink roses. I hopped out of bed too quickly and realised how sore I was from earlier. I read the card.

Dear Friday

I would like to invite you to have a little private chat with me. Can this be arranged soon?

Best regards

Maximo

I frowned. The flowers were not from my alphas. The roses were in the midst of a lot of delicious looking treats to eat. My mouth watered and my stomach grumbled. I realised how little I had eaten today. I spotted another note in a handwriting I recognised.

Hi Little Luna Friday

You barely ate anything all day but we couldn't bear to wake you. You were sleeping so peacefully. You slept through most of the day so we had to tuck you in and leave you at midnight. Sorry, Baby. Please eat. No excuses. We sent a bribe also.

Love always,

Your Alphas,

Thaddeus and Maze

My smile was back. I grabbed a croissant and took a bite. It was delicious. The filling was a spicy crab salad. A bribe? I spotted two pink velvet boxes with tags that said Friday and Saturday respectively. I opened the one for Saturday first and it was a collar with a rose gold circular pendant with the words Alpha Saturday engraved on it. I snorted with laughter. I did not know if Saturday would actually wear this but it was certainly lightweight enough to be comfortable. The one for me was a rose gold pink diamond tennis bracelet. I gasped. I loved it instantly. It was so pretty. I put it on.

"Saturday," I called.

My grumpy little black cat caught one sight of the fancy collar and stalked off defiantly without a second thought. Saturday really was an Alpha.

Fang's POV

I looked at the clock. It was after midnight. The wee hours day twenty-one of the thirty day challenge. Astrid was sleeping peacefully and I was very careful not to wake her. I

crawled into the cupboard under the sink in the master bathroom, shutting the door on myself, to make a private phone-call. Katrina picked up on the first ring.

“What was your brother doing here?” I hissed.

“What? Where, Fang?” Asked Katrina, her tone fearful.

“Ezra came to the Berryndale pack house with Raelynn to hang out with with Friday, Maze and Thaddeus! What was he doing here? Was he trying to get me on death row like my father? And who is Raelynn?” I hissed, thinking of the girl that resembled my mother and baby sister, Friday. I was panting. I was seething.

“Fang,” Katrina said softly. “I can answer all of those questions so please relax! But first things first, the kidnapping plan for Friday is still on. My father refuses to call it off with or without your help.”

My heart plummeted down to my stomach. I leant all the way back hitting my head against the wood but I didn't feel it. No. They couldn't take her. I was speechless.

“Fang are you there? Fang?” Called Katrina. “My father's keeping it a secret from Ezra and Raelynn. You know Ezra was always against this plan and well, Raelynn, is from an orphanage. She thinks she might be...related to Friday. She never shares from with me but I can tell by the way she acts, even the way she acted when she tried to sneak around to peak at you during your first meeting with us,” explained Katrina.

The Friday-lookalike who wasn't quite a vampire but wasn't human either who had flipped me off. She did look like the women in my family. My breath hitched in my throat. Had Victor successfully kidnapped my sister before? A sister I didn't even know I had? And Friday would actually be his second conquest. What did he want with them? I had thought Friday's life would be in danger but he had kept Raelynn alive and well all these years. Was that because his son, Ezra, was enthralled with her or was there something more?

“...Ezra and Thaddeus have had this dream of peace between vampires and werewolves since they were teenagers. They're extreme optimists. So I understand why my father kept it from Ezra but he even kept it from me! I only found out when I was spying on him and Prophetess. She's pure evil by the way! Fang? Fang?”

“I'm here,” I mumbled.

“Ok, well I think we need to...”

There was a soft thud like her cell phone had fallen from her hand.

“Katrina?” I asked, worried.



There were sounds of a scuffle and muffled cries.

“Katrina!” I said sharply.

I heard a loud blood-curdling scream that was definitely Katrina’s voice. NO!

“KATRINA!!!” I bellowed.

## **The Challenge Two Alphas, One Girl Chapter 65 - Tips**

0 11 minutes read

Thaddeus’ POV

There was a sharp knock on my door sometime after midnight on the twenty-first day of the challenge. I sat up groggily worried it was Friday because she was not allowed to sleep here with me but I knew I’d struggle to refuse her. Part of me hoped it was Friday because well, you know, she’s my Friday! The knocking turned to frantic banging on the door and I practically flew across the room opening the door to reveal a terror-stricken Fang.

“Fang! What’s wrong? Is it Friday?” I inquired, immediately crossing the hall and opening her bedroom door with my master key.

She was up and eating the food Maze and I had left her and wearing the diamond bracelet. I grinned at her.

“Friday’s fine!” Exclaimed Fang. “It’s Katrina!”

“Katrina?” I asked.

“Are you guys ok?” Asked my Friday sweetly, putting down her croissant.

“Eat, Luna!” I instructed sternly. She took another bite.

“Katrina is Ezra’s sister! I thought you knew Ezra! He was here with the girl who kinda looks like Friday but flipped me off!” Said Fang loudly, practically yelling and waving his hands animatedly in the air.

“Oh! Yes! Ezra has a younger stepsister!” I said “What’s wrong with her? How do you even know her?”

Fang looked a bit apprehensive. “We met in a bar!” He said dismissively. “The point is we were talking on the phone. We’re newly acquainted and I heard some weird sounds and she screamed like she was being attacked. The call cut and I need you to contact Katrina’s brother or something to go check on her!” Fang said breathlessly. He took a deep breath.

“Calm down, Bro!” I said softly putting a hand on his shoulder. “Did you try calling her back?”

“Yes!” Insisted Fang. “Three times!”

Fang’s POV

I had to get to her! Or, at the very least, I needed to send help somehow! Poor Katrina! What had befallen her? I wouldn’t be able to go check on her myself at the Vampire Manor after my reluctance to move forwards with the Friday kidnapping plot.

“The scream really sounded like she was being attacked!” I reiterated, beseeching Thaddeus.

Thaddeus nodded.

“Call Ezra, please, now, it’s an emergency. She doesn’t have much time!” I said, my voice strained.

Friday looked worried. Thaddeus seemed uneasy also. I hoped Ezra would answer at this hour. Thaddeus dialled the number while I waited anxiously with bated breath. When Ezra didn’t answer on the first ring, I began to panic. Thankfully, Ezra picked up after the second ring.

“Thaddeus?” Ezra’s toned was confused and concerned on the other end.

“Ezra! Sorry to call you so late but my...brother-in-law is concerned that your stepsister might be in danger,” Thaddeus said handing me the cellphone.

I launched into an explanation before Ezra could utter another word, “Hey Ezra, I’m Fang, Friday’s brother. I know your sister. We met at a bar about a week ago. I was on the phone with her a few minutes ago and suddenly she stopped answering, there were sounds of a scuffle and then a horrible scream before the call cut. I know it was her voice. The scream. Can you please confirm her whereabouts?” I had to talk as if I were properly introducing myself to Ezra for the first time so as not to reveal my past dealings with the vampires.

“I’m going to look for now!” Was all Ezra said, his tone serious. He hung up before I could ask that he let me know when or if he found her.

Thaddeus seemed appeased and so did Friday.

“So he’ll call back when he finds her?” I asked.

“If I don’t hear from him in an hour maximum, I’ll call back,” Thaddeus said.

“What if you don’t get onto him?” I said, my dread mounting. What if some mutiny was brewing at the Van Der Windt Man

“I have other vampires I correspond with that I can call,” said Thaddeus. “Worst-case scenario, I can send a squad of warriors to scope out the premises.”

“That’s so dangerous!” Piped up Friday, coming over and standing close to Thaddeus, looking up at him.

He patted her head and then ran his fingers through her tousled waves, untangling them. “Little Luna, I have sent squads to the Vampire Manor before. They are expertly trained. They know when to fight, stand their ground, retreat or call for back up,” explained Thaddeus patiently.

Friday nodded. My head was pounding. There would be no sleeping tonight. I sighed and went to the Alpha Dining Room. I sank into the nearest chair, putting my head in my hands. I had to just wait and hope. Katrina reminded me a lot of Friday. She was naive but brave and that was a dangerous combination. She trusted others too much including her stepfather. She seemed shocked that he would lie to her or exclude her from his plans. That wasn’t surprising to me. Ezekiel Victor Van Der Windt seemed like he’d sell his own son out if necessary. His biological one. And Katrina was a stepchild though she seemed to love her stepfather. It reminded me of how eager Friday always was for our Dad’s approval. I could’ve told her he wasn’t worth it but I hadn’t been a decent big brother then to advise her. So many feelings swirled inside of me. There was outrage, anxiety, hope, fear, regret, shame and guilt. Lots and lots of guilt.

I looked up to find Friday in a nearby chair, waiting patiently with me for an update, eating her croissant. I held her small hand in mine. She swung our interlocked hands like we were preschoolers and smiled. She had a diamond bracelet on her wrist. She hadn’t really owned any jewellery before the challenge. The pink diamonds with the rose gold suited her.

Thaddeus came in and sat on the other side of Friday. I was wracked with guilt. If I told them about the vampires, perhaps, they could just handle them. Thaddeus and Maze and their warriors. The way Thaddeus and Maze had beheaded the two vampires that tried to attack them during the camping trip. The drawback was how they would handle me. Would I end up in the cell adjacent to my father’s? Would I be on death row?

I shivered. I couldn’t risk it. Before perhaps but not now. I was going to be a father. I couldn’t leave Astrid pregnant and alone. I didn’t want my child to know the disappointment and hopelessness I felt when I thought about my own father’s treason. Like father, like son. The parallels between the past and the present were uncanny, the rejection then acceptance of Malachi and my mom versus Maze and Friday, the treachery my father and me. The present had certainly improved upon the past but I

doubted being less severely treasonous than my father and changing my mind halfway would score me many brownie points with Maze and Thaddeus. They would both still be furious. I wondered between the two alphas who was less likely to kill me. I looked at Thaddeus and then an idea occurred to me. Friday. Perhaps, I should go directly to her. Her forgiveness already seemed boundless.

"Friday," I said. She looked up at me. I couldn't do it yet. I wanted to see my son or daughter if I could make it that far into the future. "No matter what happens, Friday. No matter what anyone says, including me, always know that I love you. You're my baby sister and I love you and I want you to be a part of my son or daughter's life. They're lucky to be related to someone as forgiving and special as you. And you're unlucky actually to be related to someone like me."

She seemed shocked. She cupped my face in her little cool hands. She kissed my cheek.

"You're not that bad!" She said, giggling. She seemed moved by my words. She crawled into my lap and I hugged her tightly.

Maze entered the Alpha Dining Room.

"Maze!" Squealed Friday, jumping up to hug him like she hadn't seen him in years.

He caught her but he frowned.

"What are you doing up?" He asked as if she were his six year old daughter or something. I rolled my eyes. Maze was always so bossy.

"And what are you doing up, Fang?" Maze asked, his eyes narrowed suspiciously.

I went the bed, Dad. I resisted another eye roll.

"There's an emergency concerning the vampire Ezra's relative," I said vaguely.

"Ezra's relative? You don't mean his predestined Raelynn, do you?" Asked Maze, instantly worried, clutching Friday to him.

Of course he was worried about the Friday lookalike. Maze was so Friday-struck after rejecting her in the first place just like Malachi's twenty-five year obsession with my Mom.

"Um, no, his stepsister, Katrina," I replied.

"Oh, I don't know her," said Maze, immediately relaxing, releasing Friday and going over to an empty chair near Thaddeus.

He was still a prick kind of but I didn't have much room to talk. I had done some nasty things.

Theo entered the room. Thaddeus had probably mind-linked him. This ensemble reminded me of when we all first realised Maze and Thaddeus were both fated to Friday. It had been the five of us then in a room too. Two Alphas. One seemingly wolf-less girl. Two Betas.

Ezra's POV

My blood ran cold. Fang's words chilled me to the bone. Katrina. I woke Raelynn who had been asleep next to me.

"I want you to stay close to me, ok," I told her.

She nodded sleepily. She didn't ask any questions. We went to Katrina's room and my heart plummeted as soon as I saw the door unlocked and ajar. The room was in disarray, a complete departure from my little stepsister's usually meticulously organised surroundings. Katrina was gone. Her book shelves were overturned. Papers and pens from her desk had been scattered all over the floor. Ink splattered them. Her bed remained neatly made and there were no blood stains anywhere. That provided me with a minuscule amount of comfort. Raelynn looked at me, her eyes sympathetic.

Raelynn and I went straight to my father. He was awake and staring at the raindrops streaming down the glass of his floor length bedroom windows. This was not unusual for him. He had not truly been normal since my mother's death. She had been his predestined.

"Father, Katrina is missing! Her room has been ransacked!" I said, my voice strained.

My father turned to me. His lips curved upwards into a strange smile. "I know," he said simply.

Friday's POV

I didn't want to wait any longer. Raelynn had not gotten back to as quickly as I had been expecting. My mother needed to know that her other daughter was alive. My mother deserved to know, even before my brothers. I hoped Raelynn wouldn't be upset. Perhaps, she would want to tell my mother herself, but it was too much for me. I couldn't keep it from my mother any longer. When I said I needed to see my mother, Maze and Thaddeus actually insisted that two warriors walk me down the hallway to the room my mother and Malachi were staying in.

Malachi opened the door. He too was wide awake. I supposed this was a sleepless night for everyone. His long hair was slightly damp. My mother was sitting on the bed holding

a towel. She had probably been drying and combing his hair for him. Malachi smiled and ruffled my hair.

“What are you doing up?” He asked. The same thing his son had asked.

“Ezra, the vampire,” I began, looking at him to see if he knew who that was.

“Victor’s son, wretched family, yes,” said Malachi distastefully.

I nodded, remembering my father’s involvement with Victor’s sick experiments. I still hadn’t revealed that to anyone other than my sister, Raelynn. That reminded me. I needed DNA. Raelynn had said the test could be done in Victor’s lab. I stared at the towel in my mother’s hand.

“Ezra’s little stepsister Katrina might be in trouble,” I announced walking across the room without being invited in. No one seemed to mind. “Fang said he heard her scream on the other end of the phone. They are friends or acquaintances I think.”

I took the towel, my expression thoughtful. My Mom looked at me strangely but relinquished the towel. There were a few long dark hairs in it, no more than four.

“I dry Maze’s hair for him too,” I said smiling, distracting them.

They gazed lovingly at each other while I carefully took the four hairs in my hand. I looked at my Mom. I couldn’t tell her. Not yet. I wanted to know who Raelynn’s father was first. Then we could tell everyone the whole detailed truth.

“I, uh, was already up and thinking a lot. I just wanted to say I’m so happy you will both finally get your happily ever after,” I said smiling. In my defence, it wasn’t a lie.

“And I will be your daughter after all, your stepdaughter,” I said to Malachi whose face lit up. I want’t his biologically. I was certain of that. Siblings could not be fated half or otherwise. My being fated to Maze pretty much clarified who my father was. I was still going to send my hair too. A small part of me hoped my mother had a third lover because I didn’t want to be Farris’ daughter. I definitely was not Malachi’s as Maze and I couldn’t be related. Raelynn could belong to either Malachi or Farris. Malachi could be getting a daughter with my Mom after all. If Raelynn was Malachi’s daughter and Malachi found out that Farris had sold her to vampires and lied about her being stillborn because he had suspected my mother’s infidelity, Malachi would k!!! Farris himself. I knew this with certainty. Maze would k!!! Farris for injecting me with silver also. Maze would k!!! Farris for selling his half-sister to vampires if Raelynn really was a Mason. There were very few futures in which my father lived. Even in Raelynn and I were full sisters, both the daughters of Farris, Maze would still want the death penalty. I sighed. Why did I want to save my wretched father even after everything?

Because you’re soft, said my wolf.

Gee, thanks.

I left my Mom and Malachi after hugging them both. I swiped three small envelopes from Maze's room. He had a penchant for stationery. I walked down to the dungeons quickly. I ordered the two warriors were assigned to follow me to wait outside. I had labelled the envelopes Malachi, Friday and Farris. The Malachi envelope was filled with the four hairs and sealed. I plucked a few wavy hairs from my head for the Friday envelope. My father was lying, face-down on the floor. He did not stir.

"Farris!" I hissed in a stage whisper.

He slowly looked up.

"I have something to show you," I said,

He scowled. I just stared at him. He edged closer. He was curious. When he was close enough, I reached out quickly and snatched a few hairs from his matted mane. He was so unkempt a small chunk of falling brittle hair came off easily. Farris growled and stretched through the silver bars in one swift motion, his palm connecting with extreme force with my left shoulder. I was knocked backwards into the stone wall. I hit the wall and fell on the floor, facedown, bracing myself on my palms and knees and panting. My shoulder hurt but I could already feeling healing. At least I had the hair. My father was ranting and raving. I filled the last envelope. I could give this to Thaddeus to give to Ezra. Thaddeus was already expecting a call-back because of the Karina situation. I rubbed my shoulder as I trudged up the stairs, three envelopes in my other hand. I almost felt as though I deserved the shove just now for swiping his DNA without his permission. I always felt sorry for people who had no sympathy for me whatsoever. My inner wolf spoke again.

Wolves are not barbaric or even vengeful, they just have a strong sense of self-preservation.

I was listening to her carefully now. I reunited with the two pack warriors assigned to guard me.

You need to let me out! Then, you will be strong enough to uphold pack laws like the true Luna you were fated to me.

Let you out?

You need to shift.