# Desert Storm Chapter 71 - Tips

{Dorian's P.O.V.}

"What?" I looked at Aries and Lacie in shock at what they just told me.

"We agreed on doing the surrogate and we want Allie to do it," Aries repeated. I furrowed my brows at them not knowing what to say. I was honored that they wanted to have Allie hold their pup temporarily, but because of Allie's recently discovered fertility issues, she may not be the best candidate; however, this also wasn't my place to tell them about it either. I let out a big sigh,

"Dorian, is there something wrong?" Lacie asked.

"Have the two of you asked Allie first?"

"Not yet, we wanted to let you know first since you're the Alpha and her husband. After all, we're essentially going to be putting my offspring in your wife," Aries replied. I just stared at them blankly.

"Dorian?" Lacie waved her hand in my face.

"I need to get Allie in here," I said. I paused a moment and sent her a mind link.

Baby?

Yes?

Where are you?

In the nursery with the twins, why?

Will you come to my office, please?

Sure. Let me get the nannies and I will be right there.

Lacie and Aries sat down in the guest chairs across from me at my desk. We waited several minutes when Allie finally came into the office. She scanned the room and had a dazed and confused look on her face,

"Um, what's going on?" she asked.

"Come here, baby," I said and held out my hand. She came over and calmly sat on my lap. I rested my forehead against the back of her shoulder and took another deep breath.

"What's wrong, babe?" she asked me.

"Lacie and Aries have something they want to ask you," I mumble into her shoulder.

"Okay," she said. "What's up?"

"Allie, Aries, and I talked about the surrogacy plan, and I've agreed to go through with it," Lacie said. I still haven't lifted my head.

"Uh-huh..."

"Well, we both agreed that we think it would be best if you carried our pup," Aries interjected.

"Oh," Allie said very monotone. "sh!t,"

"Uh, that's not the reaction we were hoping for," Lacie stated very confused. Allie immediately let out a deep and heavy sigh.

"Baby, we're going to have to tell them," I tell her softly still pressing my forehead into her shoulder. We had agreed to keep this to ourselves, but now that Lacie wanted Allie to carry her pup, we had to tell them.

"Lacie, I don't think I can," Allie stated.

"What do you mean? Are you pregnant yourself?"

"No, it's not that, it's..." Allie paused and sighed again. "Lacie, remember when we discovered my heat was off balance?"

"Yeah,"

"Well, Dr. Quinn ran some tests, and she assured me that my heat was irregular from stress, but she ran a couple of other tests just to be sure," Allie paused again. I could feel her trying to hold back her tears. "Lacie, my tests came back abnormal, so Dr. Quinn did a more thorough exam on me and found that there is scar tissue built up in my uterus," Allie's voice started to break.

"I don't understand, what does that mean?" Lacie asked.

"It means, that there's a possibility I can never conceive again, and if the off chance I ever did, I may not be able to carry a pup to term," Allie started to sniffle.

"Oh my god, Allie," Lacie's tone was laced with regret and guilt.

"What caused the scar tissue?" Aries asked with concern.

"The poisoning," I answered. Allie started to sob and turned her body to rest her face in my neck. Lacie and Aries looked at one another and scoffed at the realization that Heather and Maya were the ones that ultimately caused Allie's fertility issues.

"I want to help you guys, but I can't," Allie said through her tears. "I'm sorry,"

"No, Allie, don't be sorry. We should be apologizing, our rash decision to have you do it just brought out a terrible revelation," Lacie said with tears in her own eyes.

"You guys didn't know and believe me when I tell you that Allie and I are both honored you trust us enough to carry your pup, but as Allie stated, medically, she's can't," I tell them.

"We understand, we will ask of one of the others to help us," Aries replied. I nodded.

After our sit down with Aries and Lacie, I took Allie back to our room so she could calm down. Once we were there, however, she did the exact opposite. Allie completely broke down and started to bawl. The way I knew she wanted to on the plane when she first told me. Seeing Allie like this was k!lling me inside.

I don't know how they did it, but as if Leah and Sin could feel Allie in complete distress, they barged into the room, which I could have sworn I had locked,

"WHAT'S WRONG!?" they both shouted.

"Seriously? Did I not lock that?" I said out loud.

"No," they answered. I grunted to myself.

"Why is Allie crying hysterically!?" Sin asked. Coming over to the bed and rubbing Allie's back,

"Dorian, did you hurt her!?" Leah growled.

"What? Why the hell do you assume I hurt Allie?"

"Well, she's not crying like a little baby for no fvcking\*g reason!" Sin exclaimed.

"Allie, tell us what's wrong?" Leah said and stood in front of her. Allie feeling completed defeated somehow found the strength and oxygen to tell them everything, by the time she was done, both of their eyes were glowing in anger.

"THOSE BITCHES!!!" Sin screamed.

"Oh my god, I pray to the goddess, and every high power there is Maya is fvcking\*g found! I'M GOING TO RIP HER fvcking\*g HEAD OFF!" Leah screamed.

"Sweetcheeks!?" Brandon shouted coming into the room feeling her rage. "What's happened?!"

"GET OUT BRANDON!" Sin and Leah growled.

"fvck, okay," Brandon closed the door and left. I shook my head. Poor guy just felt the wrath from two out of our three tiny blessed wolves.

"Dorian, can you make the bounty open?" Sin asked.

"I would, but that's not what Lacie wants, and Maya is Lacie's personal enemy," I tell them. They both grunt and growl in frustration.

"That b\*\*\*h Heather better fvcking\*g stay in hiding because if I get my hands on her I'm going to rip her limb from limb!" Sin growled clenching her fists. I knew better than to try and calm them down, so I let them say any and every threat they wanted to against Heather and Maya until Allie felt better.

Once all the girls had calmed down, Allie went to wash her face with cold water, and then we all went down for dinner. Lacie, Aries, Leah, and Sin were prohibited from sharing this information with anyone. Sin especially since she could never seem to keep secrets. After dinner, we all went into the

conference room to finalize the plan. It was decided that Sam would be the surrogate for Lacie's pup since she was both healthy and about the same size as Lacie. The overall details of the plan were kept between Aries, Mikey, and me. The fewer people that knew our plan, the better.

{Lacie's P.O.V.}

After breakfast the next day, Maxine and Stuart showed up with the potion in hand. They gave it to Aries for safekeeping until the 'death' part of the plan was put into play. Once Maxine and I were formally introduced, she, Sam, Allie, and I went to my room to perform the spell. Because I was still so early on, it was best that Allie be around to use her abilities to sense the transfer of my pup to Sam.

"Okay, Lacie and Sam, I need you both to lie down on your backs and hold each other's hands," Maxine instructed us. We both laid down on my bed and did what she said. "Okay, both of you take a deep breath, close your eyes, and relax. Neither one of you should feel this," Sam and I look at each other and nod.

"Max, you're 100% sure about this," Allie asked.

"Yes, now hush," After a minute of calm breathing between everyone in the room, Maxine recited the spell, "Pa.ss the infant soul through the air,

Let him or her pass with no despair,

Protect its life as they make their way,

Into a new body where he or she will temporarily stay," after a minute or two of pure silence, Allie finally said something,

"Whoa,"

"Okay, Lacie and Sam, you two can get up now," Maxine said. We both look at each and then back at Maxine, and I lifted a brow,

"Did it work?" Sam asked.

"One way to find out," Allie said stepping towards us, "Lacie, look at me," I looked her in the eyes, and she studied me very carefully. She lifted her brow, but it was more empty than normal. "Sam," she turned to her next. Allie looked at her with precision and then did her brow lift, but this time, she smiled.

"Well?" we both asked.

"Sam, I believe you're pregnant," she says and then turns to me, "And Lacie, you're not,"

"I guess my work here is done," Maxine said dusting off her hands and smiling.

"Max, how long before it's too late to transfer the pup back?" Allied asked.

"Within the first month is ideal, but in all honesty, I can reverse it any time, even during labor,"

"Yeah, I'm not letting Sam keep my baby that long, I want to feel the good and the bad of being pregnant," I tell her.

"Just give me a call after you die, sweetie, I'll have Stuart bring me back,"

"Thanks, babe, that was pretty fvcking\*g cool," Allie said and h.ugged her.

"You're welcome my lovelies, see you again soon," she waved and left my room. After she closed the door, Allie turned around gave us a look of pure amazement.

"What?" I asked.

"Y'all, that was the craziest sh!t I had ever fvcking\*g seen! And that girl concealed my pregnancy for four months from over 400 people,"

"What exactly did you see?" Sam asked.

"I saw your baby's soul, literally leave your body," she said pointing to me, "And then go into Sam's body,"

"What did my pup look like?"

"It was like a speck of white light, it was small too, probably because you're baby is still technically an embryo," Sam and I just looked at each other and

shrugged our shoulders. As long as it worked, and my pup is safe inside of Sam, for the time being, I'm okay.

"Knock, knock," Aries said opening the door.

"Hi, babe," I say happily.

"I saw Max leaving, so I'm assuming everything went smoothly?" we all nodded. "Cool, Sam, please take care of my pup,"

"Don't worry about a thing you two, I will take of this pup like it is my own," she smiled and gave me a h.ug. She gave a small tap to Aries' shoulder and left.

"Alright, I guess my work is done too," Allie said and looked at the clock, "Hm, two hours before lunch, just enough to time to fvck Dorian's brains out, sayonara!" she said and ran out the door. I just scoffed and laughed at her. Allie seriously had no shame in telling people she and Dorian were going to have se.x, whether it was by hinting or just straight up saying it.

"Are you feeling up for a date, precious?"

"Yes, I would love that, babe," I gave him a quick k!ss and changed my clothes into something a little nicer and comfier. After I was changed, Aries and I left our room hand-in-hand, when suddenly we could hear Allie giggling,

"Dorian!! You promised!!"

"Hush!" \*SMACK\*

"Ah!" Allie yelped.

"You know what happens when you project your l.ust, baby. Now I'm going to fvck that sweet honey milk p.ussy of yours until you blackout," Dorian said and then we heard their door slam.

"I'm pretty sure that loud slap we just heard was Dorian spanking Allie," Aries said.

"Yeah, and I'm fairly certain Allie was over his shoulder too," we both just laughed again and made our way out. We passed by the others coming up the stairs and told them we were going out for lunch and we would be back before dinner.

We went down to the garage and got into Aries' car and took off. We drove into the city and got some Grimaldi's pizza because it was one of my favorite pizza places. I got my all-time go-to, Hawaiian pizza, and Aries got a large pepperoni. The server looked at us like we were both crazy because it was just the two of us ordering two large pizzas. If only he knew how much a werewolf could actually eat.

After lunch, Aries took me to Target so I could buy some new maternity clothes. Even though Sam was carrying my pup, sooner or later, the pup would be in my womb again, and I wanted to be prepared. I remembered a lot of the things Allie said while we were shopping for Evelyn, and it really did come in handy. I made sure not to get too much, but just enough that would last me. I also made sure to get a variety of different sizes.

We decided that while we were there, we would make a baby registry and only things that were neutral for now. We mostly added stroller, carrier, diapers, wipes, bottles, and some stuffed animals. I always loved giraffes, and Aries loved elephants, so we put one of each onto the registry. After about two hours of just looking around and adding things to the registry, we finally checked out and headed back to the car.

"Is there anywhere else you want to go, Precious?"

"Umm...I want ice cream,"

"Anywhere in particular?"

"There's a rolled ice cream shop in the plaza over there," I said and pointed behind him.

"Okay," we got in the car and drove through the parking lot to the other plaza and got out. We went into the ice cream parlor, and I got simple cookies n' crème, and Aries got coffee-flavored ice cream with Nutella. We sat at the table outside and enjoyed our sweet treat. I started to feel uneasy. My wolf senses were on overdrive and I felt like someone was watching me. Then out of nowhere, Mikey sat down next to us, but he didn't look friendly, at all.

"Aries, you're a hard man to find," Mikey said with venom in his voice.

"Razor, what are you doing here?" Aries snarled. I had no idea what was going on. I didn't even know Mikey was following us.

"You know why I am here, Aries," Mikey said and gently brushed my cheek. It immediately sent shivers down my spine. This wasn't Mikey at all, this was actually creeping me out. His touch was cold and almost, evil.

"Take.your.hands.off.of.her," Aries growled and his eyes turning black. Oh god, we were in public in front of humans, and Cypher was starting to surface. Was this part of the plan?

"Now, now, Aries, let's be civil about this. You know as well as I do, I don't like to harm women, but the price for this precious little thing is quite worth the bad reputation,"

"Who hired you?" I asked as my voice trembled. Ethan was right, Mikey had fully channeled his bounty hunter persona and it was not pleasant. The tremble in my voice was real, and they both knew it.

"It's a secret, but I can tell you that the price is just right, so, I'm going to say this once and only once," Mikey and took my ice cream. Asshole. "Hand over your mate, and live, or I take her by force, and you die,"

"Retirement has made you stupid, Razor, what makes you think I wouldn't fight to keep my mate safe,"

"Well, it appears to me she is more than just your mate," Mikey said while lifting my left hand to show my engagement ring. "I see that finding a mate has made you soft," he smirked.

"I won't tell you again, Razor, do not touch her,"

"Or what?" they both stood to their feet ready to b.rawl.

"Please, don't,"

"Lacie,"

"No! I don't want to see you get hurt, babe," I tell Aries, and then turn to Mikey, "I will go with you, just please don't hurt him," I said with tears falling from my eyes.

"Well, I guess one of you does have a brain after all," Mikey said and pulled my arm. Aries grabbed my other arm and secretly slipped me the potion. I

knew that this was part of their plan, but this was honestly really terrifying, especially with how evil Mikey seemed to be.

"Babe, stop, please," I begged him. "You said it yourself that this guy was the best, don't be stupid," I could see Aries having an internal battle with himself. Even though this mostly acting, a lot of it wasn't and I think that's why I wasn't included in the details. It would make my reaction more real. I pried Aries' hand off my arm.

"Come now, Lacie, don't make me k!ll you too soon," Mikey said with the evilest tone I had ever heard. I gripped the potion in my hand, making sure not to break it. Mikey put me into the backseat of his car, a car I had ever seen before, and drove away. After driving for almost two hours, Mikey stopped in the middle of the desert and pulled off onto scenic overlooks where no one was in sight. After taking a minute to compose himself, Mikey turned around,

"Lace, are you okay?"

"I'm fine, although, I can't deny you freaked me out a quite a bit back there,"

"I know, and I'm sorry half-pint," hearing him say the nickname that I hated so much let me know that he was Mikey again, and not Razor.

"So, what now?"

"I'm going to tie you up and put duct tape over your mouth. You need to lie down in the most un-natural way you can in the trunk of the car,"

"Okay," we got out, and the sun was getting ready to set. Mikey tied up my hands and put the duct tape over my mouth. He helped me get into the trunk, and I decided to just slump over as best I could as if I was thrown in.

"Nice, stay like that," Mikey a took small syringe of his bag and extracted some of my bl00d from my arm. He then squ!rted it along my hairline and put some dirt and gravel around it to make it look like I hit my head on the ground. "Now, the best acting you can do, scream in terror and start to cry," I nodded my head. That would be easy, all I had to do was think about what my sister did to me, to Allie, to all the guys, threatening Deacon and Evelyn. The thought of Maya hiring someone to k!II me made my bl00d boil and in no time at all. I started to scream and cry. My make up started to run, and I knew I was going to look like a raccoon when I was done. "Good, don't stop until I tell

you to," Mikey took out his phone and snapped a few photos, and then I heard him dial a number, and held up the phone. He was video calling someone, "Hello." "It's Razor," "Well?" "I finally got the b\*\*\*h," "Send proof," "As you wish," Mikey turned the phone to face me, and I started to scream and cry again. "What happened to her head?" the strange man asked. "When I opened the trunk, she tried to run but tripped and slammed her head into gravel. Not only is she stupid, but clumsy too," "MMMM!!!!" I screamed in annoyance that he just called me stupid and clumsy. "You won't receive the payment until you bring her dead body to us," "MMM!! MMM!!" I cried out again when he said dead body. "Okay, then where shall I meet you?" "We are in Reno, but we can meet you halfway," "Do you know where Round Mountain is?" "We do." "Tell your benefactor to meet there at five tomorrow morning on the dot, and he needs to come alone," "MMMM!! MMM!!" I cried out again and started to struggle in the trunk.

"SHUT UP OR I WILL KILL YOU NOW!" Mikey roared. I took that as his

instruction to stop screaming. So, I just laid there and cried silently.

"Why do need him to go alone?"

"Because that's how I operate! He will bring ten million in CASH! And if he can't handle a simple task such as being on time and paying in U.S. currency, I will release her, and will come after you instead,"

"Fine, he will be there at five in the morning sharp,"

"Tell him to meet me at the high school. Since it's summer vacation, no one will be there, let alone at that hour,"

"Very well," Mikey hung up the phone and then looked back at me. He winked and I smiled through the duct tape. He gently peeled it off and untied me.

"Damn, that was some nice acting, half-pint,"

"I could say the same about you," I say and rub my wrists.

"Alright, we have about another five-hour drive, before we get to Round Mountain. We will stop at a gas station to refuel, and grab some hot food and snacks for the drive,"

"Sounds good,"

"Alright Lace, let's go fake your death,"

## Desert Storm Chapter 72 - Tips

### {Mikey's P.O.V.}

After driving for a few hours and eating most of the way, Lacie passed out in the backseat. We still had about another hour left before getting to Round Mountain, and we would get there around midnight. That gave us time to perfectly execute Maxine's potion. I let Lacie sleep but told her she needed to put a block from everyone, including Aries.

When we arrived in Round Mountain, I pulled off to an abandoned crossroad by the hills. I looked at the clock and it was a quarter past midnight. Cool, this meant we could sleep for about three and a half hours before I had to k!ll Lacie. I hated saying it like that, but essentially that's what I would be doing. This potion would k!ll Lacie for five minutes. My biggest fear and concern was that the benefactor would be late, even by just a minute, it could ruin this

entire plan. Now that I knew what the errand boy looked like; I would know if I was being played come five this morning.

"Lacie, wake up,"

"Mmmm..."

"Come on, half-pint, wake up,"

"What time is it?"

"Quarter after four,"

"Ugh, just k!ll me now so I can sleep," she mumbled.

"Lace, you've been asleep since for almost ten hours, don't even complain," Lacie finally opened her eyes and sat up in the backseat.

"Where are we? It's creepy,"

"That's the whole point. Anonymity in a town that has a population of less than 2,000,"

"I can't believe this is actually happening," she said and stretched. "The fact that I'm out here in the middle of nowhere about to fake my death. How did my life turn into such a drama-filled mess?"

"You became a member of our pack," she scowled at me and I had to laugh. It was true though, somehow new members always found themselves engulfed in drama. "Alright, I'm going to have you drink the potion at 4:35, no sooner and no later.

"But you told him to be here at five on the dot,"

"I did, but it will take a minute or two of pleasantries before I open the trunk to show him your body," she nodded. One it was 4:30, Lacie and I got out of the car, she took the potion out of her pocket, and I tied her wrists again and had her sit in the trunk, I made sure to do her head wound but patted it off a bit to make it more dried. I looked at my watch, and as soon it hit 4:35, I popped the c0rk off the potion and down the hatch it went. Lacie made sure to take every drop as instructed by Maxine.

"Okay, now what?"

"Now, you lay down and let it work," Lacie nodded and laid down in the trunk. She closed her eyes and relaxed. Now it was all a matter of waiting. One she slumped over like she had been thrown into the trunk, I closed it and waited for 5:00 A.M.

The next 25 minutes went by fairly quickly because I saw a car pulling up into the back of the school parking lot. I put on my game face. The car came to a halt, and I couldn't see inside because of the headlights and the fact that their windows were tinted. But I could tell was that this was the car was semi-fancy. When the door opened, the scent hit me almost instantly, this guy was a werewolf and a young one. He closed the door, went to the trunk, and pulled out a duffle bag.

He walked over to me and I took a quick look at my watch,

"Well, I guess you're not as stupid as you seem," I tell him.

"Show me the girl,"

"First things first, show me the money," he dropped the bag in front of me, I opened it up and checked a few of the stacks to make sure the money was real.

"This way," I took him to the back of the car and popped the trunk. What appeared before my eyes almost made me want to gag. Whatever the potion did, didn't just stop her heart, it actually made her look like a decaying body. The man picked her up by her hair and looked at her closely. I watched him and then a smile formed across his face.

"Well, I guess your reputation precedes itself," he says and drops Lacie's head into the trunk. I took a quick look at my watch and had about a minute before the potion wore off. I slammed the trunk closed. "What are you doing?"

"What do you mean? You saw the body,"

"I want the body,"

"What?" sh!t, this was not good. "Why?"

"I want to make sure that it's disposed of,"

"That's not your call to make. Our deal was for me to k!ll her, bring you the confirmation, I get paid, and then we never see each other again," I reach behind my pants, "And if you have a problem with that," I pulled out a gun and clocked it back pointing it between his eyes. "Then I have no problem getting rid of you," the fear in his eyes that showed right then and there allowed me to see that this kid was way in over his head.

"Fine, you deal with the mess then," he turned his heel and walked off. "Oh, and just so we're clear, if you ever threaten me again, I'll put a bounty on you," he snarled and got back in his car and peel away. Once I was sure he was out of view, I put the duffle bag in the back seat and drove away myself. I didn't want to risk being followed. I drove about ten minutes and stopped off the main road in the middle nowhere where were no cars or streetlights.

I got out of the car and quickly popped the trunk. I was relieved to see that Lacie's face no longer pale or deathly looking, and she looked like a living person again. But she wasn't awake yet. I check her pulse and sighed another sigh of relief to feel it regulating. I waited a few minutes by the trunk with it completely open so Lacie would have fresh air to breathe when she finally came to. It another ten minutes or so, but Lacie finally started to make some noise,

"Lace?" I shook her slightly.

"Mm..."

"Hey, half-pint, open your eyes for me," she moved her head to the side a few times and finally opened her eyes. "Lace, you good?" she blinked a few times and then nodded her head.

"What the fvck?" she muttered.

"Whew, thank the goddess,"

"Mikey, what happened?"

"Lace, that potion did more than just stop your heart, you actually looked like a corpse in the trunk,"

"Wait, we're done already?" I c\*\*\*\*d my head and furrowed my brows.

"Lace, it's been over half an hour since the meeting took place," she just lifted a brow at me. "Come on, let's get you home," she nodded, and I helped her sit up. I took off the restraints and helped her out of the trunk. "Wait here," I went into the backseat to pull out the duffle when something caught my eye. In a quick second, I saw a lens. I looked a little closer and realized that it was a b.utton camera on the buckle of the duffle by the strap. That little fvcker put a hidden camera on the bag.

I left in the bag in the car and went back out to Lacie. She was about to say something, and I put my finger to my mouth to shush her. I grabbed her arm and led her away from the car about fifty feet.

"Mikey, what's wrong?"

"We're in trouble,"

"What?"

"Lace, there's a camera on the duffle bag," her mouth dropped wide open. "I don't know if it picks up sound or not, but if it does, whoever is listening may have picked up our conversation,"

"Oh no,"

"Stay right here, do not move," she nodded, and I went back to the car. I grabbed the bag and picked up the little camera and clutched it in my hand. I took out my phone to call the errand boy, but the number was disconnected. Sneaky little bastards. I the camera into the duffle bag and the bag into the trunk. I signaled for Lacie to come back to the car, and sent her a mind link,

We only speak in mind link from now on until we get home.

Okay, I understand.

Climb into the car through the driver seat, we need to make it seem like only one door closed.

She nodded her head and climb into the passenger seat from the driver's side. I closed the door. She went to put on the seatbelt, but I stopped her

before she could. I gestured we do it at the same time since I have no idea how sensitive the microphone on the camera is if there even is one.

Remember half-pint, mind link only

I got it.

She gave me a smile and I smiled back. It was time to make the seven-hour drive home. The entire way, Lacie didn't say much and just stared out the window. I had to stop for gas once and made sure Lacie got out through the driver's side. We both used the restroom and picked up some more snacks and hot foods to eat in the car. The entire time we were driving, I was paranoid that the camera had a GPS tracker on it, so I decided that I would go the firm and have Dani shimmer, Lacie, back home to avoid any suspicion.

Mikey, why are we at the firm? Lacie asked in a mind link.

I need to get Sully to look into the hidden camera. I don't know anything about it, which means it could be wired with a GPS tracker. I can't lead these people back to the packhouse. It would blow our entire cover, assuming it's not already blown.

Okay. So, how do I get home?

I'm going to text Dani as soon as I get the bag inside. Dorian's building is equipped to block out any transmitters, so it will disable the camera's GPS locator if it has one.

Okay.

Just wait in the car and I'll let you know when it's safe. She nodded her head. I got out of the car and popped the trunk. I grabbed the bag of cash and went inside. As soon as I went through security the alarm went off. Security officers jumped, and I held my hand up for them to be quiet. I grabbed one of their wands and scanned it over the bag, and sure it, it started to beep. That only meant that was a transmitter on or inside the bag.

I dug through the bag and found the camera. I clenched in my fist and had the security guard run the wand over my hand, and it went off. I was glad I made the trip to the firm instead of the house. Security gave me a lead box and I dropped the camera inside of it. This also prevented it from transmitting and kept those double-crossing fvckers in the dark.

"Give this box to Sully ASAP,"

"Yes, Mr. Rays," I went back out to the car,

"Come on, half-pint, we're good now,"

"Whew, not talking really s.ucks," she said with a big smile.

"Have you called Dani yet?"

"Not yet,"

"Why?"

"Because if you can't see in this garage, there's a Lambo, a Supra, and..."

"Aries is here!" she jumped for joy.

"Come on, let's go inside,"

{Aries' P.O.V.}

"Aries, please stop pacing, you're giving me a fvcking\*g headache!" Dorian shouted at me.

"Babe, leave him alone, he's just anxious," Allie said putting her hand in his shoulder. I kept pacing Dorian's office ignoring the fact that I was annoying him. Thankfully, Allie found a way to keep him distracted.

"Allie, not now,"

"Why?" she giggled, and I heard him m0an. I didn't want to be in the office with them doing the deed, so I walked to the door to leave when the smell of cinnamon and apple hit me.

"Lacie," I swung open the door, and there she was, right in front of me. "PRECIOUS!"

"Hi...Oh!" I picked her up and spun her in circles. "Babe, we've only been apart for less than 20 hours,"

"It felt like so much more than that, baby," I k!ssed her and hard.

"Mikey, what's wrong?" Dorian asked. I stopped k!ssing Lacie and saw the worried look on his face.

"We need to talk," we all went into the office and closed the door. "So, I got a good look at the benefactor, he's young, and a he's a wolf,"

"How young?" I asked.

"Late teens, maybe early twenties. That's not the problem we have though,"

"There's a problem?" I asked.

"Babe, Mikey said that there was b.utton cam on the duffle bag,"

"What?!" we all shouted.

"Dorian, I don't know if had a microphone or not, but I didn't see it until after Lacie woke up in the trunk, and we had a full-on conversation,"

"Why the hell would there be a camera in the first place!?" I asked.

"They probably didn't trust Mikey, or they were trying to get recon on him," Dorian replied.

"There was also a GPS transmitter on it, which is why I came here to the firm," Mikey said. "I wasn't sure if it had one at first, which I came here to be cautious, but once I went through security, it went out like a fvcking\*g fire alarm,"

"Did you put it in a lead box?" Dorian asked.

"I did, and I had security send it directly to Sully so he could look into,"

"Forget the camera, did you get a picture of the benefactor," Allie asked.

"I did," Mikey replied and pulled out his phone. "There's a camera on the front and back of the car, so I made sure that my phone was recording the data. Dorian, I just email it to you," we call gathered around Dorian's computer. We watched as he opened the email and double-clicked the attachment.

"Oh.my.god," Allie said

"Baby, isn't that?"

"It can't be," Allie mumbled. "It's not possible, how!? When!? Why!?"

"Uh, can someone explain to the rest of us in the room?" I asked.

"THAT'S MY CLASSMATE!"

"Cla.ssmate?!" Mikey, Lacie, and I shouted.

"I don't understand, how can this happen? How does he know Maya? How does he have ten million dollars just lying around!?" Allie grabbed her hair. "Why are the people I consider my friends turning into my worst enemies!?"

"Who is this guy?" I asked.

"His name is Brian Choi,"

"Cho," Allie corrected.

"Whatever, the point is, he's an Alpha,"

"WHAT!?"

"He was just given his t!tle during the Christmas and New Year's break," Allie answered.

"Giz, where is pack located?"

"Reno, it's called the White Lake Pack,"

"Alpha, should I send the men to pick her up?" I asked.

"No, we stick to the plan. We need both Maya and Heather to drop their guard," Dorian said. "Aries, call Bernie and tell him Lacie was k!lled," I nodded my head. "Baby, you call Cianna and tell her to work her social media magic," Allie nodded.

I made the call to Bernie, and tried to put on my saddest tone of voice ever,

"Aries, how are you?"

"Not good," I said on the verge of crying.

"What is it? Why are you ..."

"Bernie, it's Lacie,"

"What about her!?"

"She went out without her guards, and she never came back. I..." I paused trying to get my voice to crack. "I received a text with her picture, and a message saying that the bounty was collected," I broke down. "I'm sorry Bernie! I tried to protect her! I really did! This is all my fault!" I broke down completely and just whaled like a baby. I pictured Lacie back in the hospital when she was first poisoned. I thought about how she was more than likely going to die, and all those raw emotions just came flooding back to me.

I could hear Bernie sobbing on the other end of the phone, and then I could hear a woman crying, Corinne. I hated lying to them like this, but we needed them to believe it.

"Aries, did you recover her body?"

"No, bounty hunters don't return the bodies, they dispose of them," I said through my crying. I looked at Lacie who was crying too. I wasn't sure if she could feel my emotions or if she felt guilty lying to her parents like this.

"I don't blame you; I know you loved my daughter, and you did your best,"

"It wasn't enough, though, she's gone. I might as just k!ll myself for failing her."

"Don't do that, Lacie would not want that,"

"But I'm alone again,"

"You have us, we will always be your family because you were Lacie's family. Corinne and I will take care of the memorial services, and we will have it, here at our home. Because this where Lacie was born,"

"I understand, I will let Dorian and Allie know,"

"Has anyone contacted Cianna?"

"Allie is doing it now,"

"Okay, we have the memorial for Lacie next Wednesday, we need at least a week to prepare. We also need to and try and contact Heather,"

- "WHY!? Heather's the reason Lacie almost died the first time! Don't forget, Dorian still wants her dead!"
- "Heather still deserves to know what happened to her sister," he said and hung up. I immediately stopped acting and looked at everyone.
- "Well, maybe getting Heather to shower her face won't be that hard after all," I said to them. I looked at Lacie who was still crying. "Hey, come here," she ran into my arms and kept crying.
- "I love you," she whimpered. "That was some good acting sk!lls,"
- "I told you, pretending to be sad when you're fake dead would be easy for me,"
- "Okay," Allie said getting off the phone. "Cianna is going to talk with Bernie and help set up the memorial, she's obviously going to be fake crying too,"
- "Alright, now we just have to wait for the memorial to take place, and with any luck, we will catch everyone at once," I said.
- "What about your classmate, Gizmo?" Mikey asked.
- "I don't know to be quite honest," She let out a big sigh. "On the one hand, I feel like he betrayed me, but then I realize that he was more than likely manipulated into doing it, so it's not entirely his fault,"
- "Wait, we put out the bounty for Maya, wouldn't that deter her from coming to the memorial service?" Lacie asked.
- "Not if she was really was only using Brian for his position as an Alpha to get what she wanted. If her ultimate goal is still getting Aries to take her back, she will leave Brian," Allie replied.
- "That's a big gamble," I tell the room.
- "If she doesn't show up, then we send the boys after her, or, I can go after her," Mikey said. "I can always downplay that you reached out to me too," he says to Dorian. Dorian just nodded in agreement.
- "Alright, Precious, let's get you home," I tell her and brush her hair.

"Aries, hold up," Mikey stops us from leaving. "We're going to have Dani shimmer her home. We can't afford anyone seeing Lacie alive, not until the memorial is done, and not until Heather and Maya are caught,"

"Wait, so I have to stay locked up in my room?!" Lacie whined.

"Unfortunately, yes," Dorian replied.

"What about my pup!?"

"Don't worry Lacie, Sam will take care of your pup until all the drama passes in the next week or so, once that's all said and done, then I will call max to reverse the spell," Allie said calmly. Lacie pouted in frustration. "Also, it would be a good thing for you and Aries to stay secluded in your room, have a little private time, no one will know," she smiled.

"Allie's right, it will look like Aries is mourning the loss of Lacie being secluded," Dorian agreed. "Also, I suggest breaking a few things in the packhouse, and start a fight with someone, just don't let it go too far,"

"I can do that," I answered. "Precious, I will see you at home," I gave her a k!ss.

"I just texted Dani," Allie said and in a matter of seconds, Dani popped up in a cloud of orange smoke.

"So, I guess I'm going to have to keep a big secret won't I," Dani said and smiled. "Come on, Lacie," Lacie gave me one more k!ss before taking Dani's hand and disappearing.

"Alright, well, I guess I'll go home and break a few things," I said and walked out. As I walked to the elevator and got in, I smiled to myself. I was going to break something alright. I was about to go home and break Lacie's sweet delicious body by fvcking\*g her into the next millennium.

{Maya's P.O.V.}

I was waiting impatiently in Brian's office while he went to confirm that b\*\*\*h Lacie was finally dead. I knew sleep with a rich young Alpha would be worth it in the end. I paced his office and stared at the clock. He should have been pack over an hour ago, and he was still not here.

"Ms. Maya, please stop pacing, you're giving me a headache,"

"And should I care," this guy was so fvcking\*g annoying. I wanted out of this damn house, but that fvcking\*g bounty that Dorian put one me ruined everything. I still couldn't get ahold of my parents. I figured that they were also banished along with Esther if they haven't called me back, but even rogues have cell phones.

"Ms. Maya, the master has returned,"

"Finally," I grunted. A few minutes later, Brain came into his office with a smile on his face. "Well?"

"It's done, Lacie Hamilton is dead,"

"YES! Finally, that little slut is gone!"

"Whistler, have you been following the camera feed?" Brian asked.

"Camera?"

"We put a b.utton cam on the bag, I wanted to see if we can find something to use against the bounty hunter so we could leverage him to k!ll Shaw for us,"

"Why?"

"Killing Shaw automatically voids your bounty,"

"Oh, that would be nice," I say and look at the butler.

"I have sir, and you're not going to like it,"

"Why?"

"Because there is no microphone it, and we only picked darkness for a while. Based on the shaking in the picture, he appeared to drive for few a smiles before stopping the car. After what seemed like another ten minutes or so, then, it appears he threw it into the bag of cash,"

"What else?"

"For a few hours, all we had was darkness, and then there was interference with the feed, nothing but static, and now we've lost the transmission,"

"WHAT!? Are you telling me we have nothing!?"

"I'm sorry sir, but it appears that this Razor character is better than we thought,"

"I wish I could get a look at this guys, or least speak to him to thank him for k!lling that b\*\*\*h Lacie for me,"

"I can show you what he looks like, baby," Brian said to me. I looked at him. "My car has a dashcam,"

"Oh, show me," he pulled out his phone and dug through the dashcam footage.

"Here," he handed me his phone. I took one look at the photo and I dropped the phone. This had to be a mistake.

"Maya?" I picked the phone back up and looked again. I was shaking horror and rage. "Maya, what's wrong?"

"This has to be a mistake; he can't be the bounty hunter!"

"Maya! Talk to me!"

"Brian, are you sure!? Are you sure that he's the bounty hunter you hired!?"

"I'm positive! What's wrong!?" he asked grabbing my shoulders.

"Brian! That's Michael Rays!"

"Who's that?"

"HE'S THE GAMMA OF DESERT MOON!!"

### Desert Storm Chapter 73 - Tips

### {Brian's P.O.V.}

I couldn't believe it. I had been played. I lost ten million dollars which is more than half of the pack's net worth. I willingly gave ten million dollars to the Gamma of Desert Moon and had no idea. How could this have happened? Not only that, but Allie is also the Luna, which means, if this guy got a picture

of me, he could have shown it to her. They know who I am, they know where my pack is, which means, they can start a war with us anytime and we would lose. Or worse, Shaw could challenge me for my pack, and I would lose. There's no doubt that I would lose.

"AHHH!!!" I growled and threw my computer across the office. I couldn't believe this was happening. I've been Alpha just under six months, and I had already royally fvckingd up. All because I wanted to please Maya, all because of my infatuation with her. My father was right, I never should have gotten involved with her.

"Brian! What's the meaning of this!" my father said barging into my office. "Why are there ten million dollars missing from the pack account!?" I couldn't even look at him. I was in so much trouble. "Daedab ahn hae!?" (Are you not going to answer!?)

"I paid a bounty,"

"You didn't," he snarled. "You went through with the bounty!?! You disobeyed me! You got involved with something that had nothing to do with you, and now we're short ten million dollars!"

"I did it for Maya!"

"Maya is a rogue! She is not your concern! I don't understand where I went wrong with you! I never should have given you the t!tle!"

"Abuhgee!" (Father!) He was about to respond when our Beta walked in and whispered something in his ear. I could barely hear him, but the look on my father's face said it all.

"WHAT!?!?!" he turned to face me; his eyes black as night. "NUH JAEJUNGSHEEN EEYA!?!" (ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND!?!)

"Father, please..."

"DAKCHYUH!!!" (SHUT UP!!!) I closed my eyes and kept silent. "You targeted a member of the Desert Moon pack!? Do you realize who you have pissed off!?!" My father was seething in anger. Just then, Beta relayed another message to him. He nodded his head and my Beta left. fvcking\*g traitor. "Well, I guess there is one way to salvage this,"

"Father?"

"It appears that Chris came upon a bounty, one specifically for your rogue mistress,"

"No! Father, you can't! I promised to protect her!"

"Well, you shouldn't make promises you can't keep, Brian,"

"Father! I am the Alpha!" I snarled at him.

"Then prove it! Fix your mess! Hand over your mistress to Desert Moon, or I will do it! And I will have your t!tle rescinded!" he snarled back. Without even letting me reply he stormed out of my office. This could not be happening. Why was everything going wrong? I had to figure out a way to salvage this before my father turned Maya over to Shaw.

{Mikey's P.O.V.}

"HONEY I'M HOME!!!" I roared as I came in through the garage. Dorian and Allie were laughing behind me.

"MI AMOR!!!" I heard the se.xist Latina American accent echoing from the living room. I put my bag down and Sin came running into my arms. Even though I had seen her a few days before and spent our vacation together, I just missed her so much. "Te extrañé mucho!"

"What?"

"I missed you so much!"

"Yo también," I replied.

"Oh, nice," she smiled and k!ssed me.

"Uhhh..." I heard Allie behind us. We stopped k!ssing and turned to look at her.

"What's up, Gizmo?"

"Skank, I think you and your hubby need to go upstairs, like right now," we looked at each other and then back at her. She lifted an eyebrow.

"Oh sh!t!" Sin shouted. "Mi Amor, that's the bad eyebrow lift," Sin said.

"Oh," I grabbed my bag and we ran upstairs. "Damn, I guess I came home at the right time,"

"No kidding!" As soon as we got to our room, I locked the door, and mind linked my parents to watch Allen for the next three days.

"How about we get started with a shower?" I tell her and raise my brows. She immediately giggles and attacks my mouth with k!sses that only she knows how to give.

"Before we do that, you need to put this back on," she says as she walks over to the nightstand. She comes back with my wedding band. She slips it back on my finger. "Mikey,"

"Yes, my goddess,"

"I want you n.aked and in the shower with me in the next ten seconds or I'm going to get started without you," She takes off her maxi dress, and is already completely n.aked. She walks straight into the bathroom and turns on the shower. I don't think I had ripped off my own shirt or pants before, but I did, and I jumped Sin in the shower before she could get in. It was going to be a glorious three days.

{Allie's P.O.V.}

After Sin and Mikey ran upstairs, Dorian and I told Mrs. Johnson to prepare Sin's favorite foods and plenty of water. Then we made our way upstairs to check on the twins before dinner.

"Mama!" Demarco called out as soon as we entered the nursery.

"Dada!" Daisy also called out. I honestly wished Daisy would reach for me because Demarco is getting to the point where I can barely hold him anymore. Even with the werewolf strength, this boy is getting too big. We relieved the nannies for the rest of the night.

"No Daisy!" Dorian shouted. I looked over and see that she's trying to bite him, yet again. He lightly fl!cked her on the forehead making her scowl at him.

"Did she just scowl at you?" I asked trying not to laugh.

"She gets that from you,"

"Yeah, I don't deny that," I reply and just smile. "I just didn't think she'd start doing it so young," Daisy tried a few more times to bite Dorian, and every time she did, Dorian either fl!cked her or growled at her. She finally quit and walked over to me and Demarco. Sam eventually brought Keegan in, and Leah brought in Danica.

"Where's Sawyer?" I asked.

"Playing with Monique,"

"Sam, you good?"

"I'm fine, it's been a day since the transfer took place, calm down," she rolled her eyes and placed Keegan on the floor. Daisy and Keegan ran to each other and started to play. Leah but Danica on her tummy and Demarco just sat next to her and shared his toys.

"Seriously, sweetest thing ever," Leah said watching them.

"Keegan, no!" Sam scolded. I looked over, and Keegan is k!ssing Daisy on the mouth. It's a slobbery baby k!ss, and everyone knows that he has no idea what he's doing, but it's funny nonetheless but not to Dorian.

"Okay, that's it, nah uh, this is too much for me," Dorian says and picks Daisy up. The moment he does, she starts to scream bl00dy murder.

"Dorian, they're just babies!" I tell him.

"Exactly! They're barely two years old and Keegan is already trying to make out with her!"

"Oh my god," Leah, Sam, and I scoff and just laugh at his hysterics.

"Ahhh!!" Daisy cries and pushes Dorian away.

"Dorian put her down!" I shout over her crying. "You're causing her to stress out!" he grunts in frustration and puts her down again. She immediately stops crying and goes back to Keegan.

"I can't with this, I'm going to go shower," Dorian leaves the nursery, and we start laughing again.

"Eh...Eh..." Danica starts making noises and we look over, and she moves her body back and forth.

"Hey, she's doing body movements," I tell Leah.

"Hmm...Maybe she will start crawling a little sooner than expected," Leah replies.

"Damn, I really want another pup," Sam says out of the blue.

"Why the sudden want for another?" Leah asks.

"I want one of each, like you guys. Even Katie has one of each," she replied.

"Yeah, having one of each really works out," I tell her. "Who knows, maybe Andre and Dani will have a boy next, and then you and Lucas can have a girl, and they can be mates,"

"Sin just went into heat, so who knows, maybe they will end up pregnant this round," Leah replied.

"Sin's in heat?" Sam asked.

"Oh yeah, I sensed it about half an hour ago or something like that," I tell her.

"Ah, perfect timing for her then,"

"I know right,"

"Did the plan work?" Leah asked.

"It did, but things took a weird turn,"

"Weird how?" they both ask in unison.

"I can't talk about it yet. It's actually quite sensitive but everything is in motion for the most part,"

"How is Aries doing?" Sam asked.

"What?" I looked at her.

"Aries, how is he doing?" I stared at her for a minute and realized that nothing in the house was broken.

"Wait, has Aries come home yet?" I asked them, and they both shake their head no.

"Watch the twins," I run out of the nursery and head over to Lacie's room. I send her a quick mind link,

Lacie?

Hi, Allie.

Is Aries with you?

No.

Open the door for me.

She opens the door and I squeeze in. She looks at me confused.

"Where is he?" I asked

"I don't know, I thought he was coming home with you guys,"

"Lacie, he left an hour before we did," she was about to say something when we heard a loud crash in the living room and a massive roar.

"Aries is home," Lacie said.

"Stay here," she nodded. I open the door and peek my head make sure no one is around. I squeeze out and immediately run downstairs. Sure enough, Aries is in the living room making a mess of everything. Brandon, Andre, and Carter are trying to hold him down. I figured that Aries was going for theatrics.

"What's going on!?!" I shouted in my Luna tone.

"Gizmo, he just came in guns blazing and started throwing sh!t, we don't know what's wrong!" Brandon shouted.

"Aries!" I run over and grab his face. He has tears in his eyes, and he wreaks of alcohol, but not on his breath. "ARIES!" I shout in my Luna tone, and he starts to calm down.

"What the hell is going on!?!" Dorian shouts.

"Aries, talk to me, what's wrong?" He falls to his knees and starts to bawl. "Aries?"

"Hey man, what's wrong?" Brandon asks. He and Andre both look at me and I nod my head letting them know this is all an act. Aries' hand starts to shake as he shows me his phone. I look at it and gasp. It was a picture of Lacie, and she was dead. This must have been a photo that Mikey took, and he sent it to Aries. What was crazy was how well the potion worked. Lacie actually looked like a corpse.

"Oh my god! Lacie!" I start to cry myself. Dorian takes the phone and his eyes turn black. Brandon snatches the phone and he shows it, Andre and Carter.

"Oh no, Lacie," Andre says softly.

"Luna! What's happening!?" an Omega asks, and several are gathering around. I cover my face and start to cry and hide into Dorian's c.hest.

"What is with the screaming!?" Dani asks as she runs down the stairs. "What is going on? Why is everyone crying?"

"Dani, Lacie...She..." Andre's voice breaks and Dani immediately starts to sob herself. Damn, everyone is a good actor. I sent a quick mind link to the others to let them know of Lacie's 'death' and told them to act sad for the next several days.

"I don't understand, how was Lacie caught!?" Carter asks.

"Aries, you need to tell us what happened?" Dorian said with such seriousness.

"I took her to get pizza, and then to Target to go shopping. Then we went to get ice cream, and I went to the bathroom really quick. When I came out, she was gone, and ice cream was dropped on the ground. I tried to follow her scent, but I lost it. She was taken, and then this morning, I got that photo," Aries said while still crying. Damn, this guy was good.

"Brandon and Andre, take him to his room," Dorian commands. They nod their head and held Aries to his feet. He's still crying and gr0aning as they help him up the stairs. Dani goes with them.

- "LACIE!!!" he screams. I'm still hiding my face in Dorian's c.hest, and the whole time I'm thinking to myself what an amazing ac tor Aries is.
- "Come on, baby, we need to call Bernie," Dorian says and rubs my shoulder. I force a few tears to fall and nod my head. We head straight to his office. When we get there, everyone is already waiting with the pups, including Lacie and minus Sin and Mikey. We shut the door and lock it.
- "Lacie, you're supposed to be hiding in your room," I tell her and wipe away my crocodile tears.
- "Dani brought me,"
- "Aries, I have to admit, that was pretty good," Brandon said.
- "I have to agree, you actually scared me until I realized it was all an act," Andre stated
- "I was wondering why nothing was broken when we came home," I said as Dorian and I sat down at his desk.
- "Yeah, I figured that it would seem more real if I went and got plastered drunk, and then came home and started a scene," he replied.
- "Babe, you don't drink," Lacie said.
- "I know, I just spritzed a little bit of scotch on my clothes and my neck to make it seem like I did. What better way to convince people that know me well that something is terribly wrong than coming home drunk and crying like a baby?" we all nodded in agreement.
- "Alright, so the rest of the plan is that we're going to go fly down to Florida next week for the fake memorial. Bernie and Snell Island are under the impression that Lacie is actually dead, we need their sadness to be real. Cianna will post on social media, and we're hoping that Heather sees it," Dorian explains.
- "What about Maya?" Brandon asked.
- "Yeah, did you guys learn anything about the benefactor?" Lucas asked. Dorian and I look at each other.

"It's my old classmate from school. He's a new Alpha of a small pack in Reno," I tell everyone.

"WHAT!?" they all shout.

"Well, if we know where they are, why haven't we gone over there and picked her a.ss up!" Leah asks while holding Danica.

"LEAH!" I shout because all of the pups are in the office.

"Oops,"

"Anyways, we haven't called them out because I don't think my classmate realizes the world of crap he is in right now. Although, I'm sure he's seen Maya's bounty," I tell everyone. "Also, we can't just go barging over there or any like that because as of right Mikey is the only one who knows what he looks like. If we go over there, Brian, the Alpha will know Mikey betrayed him, and we can't afford to lose the upper hand we have,"

"It could also be possible Maya used the Alpha to put out the bounty, so we also have to see him a potential victim," Dorian added.

"If Maya doesn't show herself at the memorial next week, then we will go get her. If they know Maya has a bounty out, they can't risk letting her out in public," I tell the room.

"I spoke with the two assassins Sinbad and Persephone, and they have already tracked her to Reno," Aries says.

"When?" Dorian asked,

"About an hour ago,"

"Wow, they're good," I state.

"They're two of the best," he replied.

"Alright, to everyone in this room, Lacie is officially deceased, and we have to act that way. Which means, we all eat dinner as awkwardly as possible, girls, shed a few tears here and there. Aries and Lacie, you two stay confined to your rooms. Aries, come out after like three days or something," Dorian says. We all nod.

"Um, how am I supposed to eat?" Lacie asks.

"We will have to have Dani shimmer food to you secretly, but we will also place some food outside the door, so it looks like Aries isn't eating," I reply, and she nods. "Also, when we go to Florida next week, Aries and Lacie, you two will be coming with us, but Lacie we're going to put you in a hotel nearby. Dani, you will shimmer her to the jet the day we leave,"

"Got it,"

"Alright, when all of you leave this office, you are sad and devastated," Dorian said.

"Dani, will you shimmer us to our room?" Lacie asked.

"Sure thing," Dani took their hands and quickly shimmered them to their room and shimmered back. She then put on her saddest face possible and walked out with Andre and Monique. Everyone took their pups and went to their rooms to be sad. The twins were in their playpens in Dorian's office, and we just decided to chill in here with them until dinner.

At dinner time, we did what Dorian said and acted very awkward and sad and barely touched our food. We eventually did eat, but we had to make it like it was forced, and we spent most of the dinner feeding our pups to make it seem like we didn't have appet!tes. Once we all went upstairs, Leah took a plate of food to Aries, and left it at his door, while Dani snuck some food in plastic containers and water up to Aries and Lacie so they could eat. We came up with a knock pattern to let them know Dani would be stopping in, so they knew to stay covered or not to freak when she showed up.

The girls and I moped around the house for like two days after that pretending to be sad, and then guys would check on Aries here and there, and he would throw miscellaneous items at the door to tell them to go away. We still hadn't heard back from Aries' hitter friends. Cianna called and said she and Bernie finalized the memorial service arrangements, and we were going to be heading out Monday morning. Cianna posted about the memorial and a post dedicated to Lacie, which ended up getting a lot more attention than we originally thought it would. We hoped that the extra attention made it's way to Heather's eyes and ears.

{Brian's P.O.V.}

#### \*SLAP\*

I turned my cheek as my father slapped me across the face. I still hadn't turned Maya over to Desert Moon, and it had been three days since he first ordered me to, and I was out of time. I couldn't hide Maya anymore.

"You're the biggest disappointment I have ever seen!" my father spat in my face. "I have already spoken with the elders, and your t!tle will be rescinded as soon as Maya is turned over!" I had nothing to say. I had royally fvckingd up, and there was no way to redeem myself.

"Sir," the Beta came into the office.

"WHAT!?" my father roared.

"You might want to come outside," my father and I went with him to the front of the house and were met with two individuals, a man, and a woman.

"Who are you?" my father asked.

"My name is Sinbad, and this is my wife, Persephone,"

"Why are you on my territory?"

"We are here because we believe you are holding a wanted fugitive," my eyes widened. They were here for Maya. I had to warn her, but how? I couldn't mind link her, and I didn't have my cell phone on her. I couldn't mind link the butler because my father had him banished after it was discovered he helped me with the bounty.

"Why should I hand her over to you?" my father asked.

"Now, now, let's not be hostile," Persephone said. "She's wanted by the great Dorian Shaw himself, and for fifteen million dollars, we're not leaving without her. So, you can either give her over willingly, or..." she snapped her fingers, and about ten others showed up out of nowhere. "...We k!ll your entire pack, it's up to you,"

"You think the dozen of you can k!ll my pack!?"

"You're right, we are possibly outnumbered, here on the ground, but what's not to say we don't have more hiding within the tree lines," Sinbad said. My father tried to pick up their smell.

"Oh, you won't be able to sense them, because, well, their scents are currently masked," Persephone said and smiled. My father was going to say something, but then a radio went off.

"Sinbad, we've located the fugitive, she appears to be hiding in the Alpha quarters on the fourth floor," The voice on the other end said.

"NO!" I tried to jump him, but I wasn't fast enough. Before I even got to him his hand already on my throat.

"Tsk tsk tsk," he said while holding me in the air. "What made you think you could take me on? Just because you're an Alpha doesn't mean you're strong and mighty,"

"Now that we have everyone's attention, give us the fugitive Maya, or I will put a silver bullet in your son's head," Persephone said to my father pointing a gun straight at me.

"Please, don't hurt my son,"

"Father, no," I croaked.

"Take the fugitive, she's a rogue anyway," Persephone nodded her head and five men went inside the packhouse. I was still being held by the neck by Sinbad. He refused to put me down. I tried to claw at his arm, but he was just too strong for me. I'm an Alpha, how could a rogue hunter be stronger than me? A few minutes later, I could hear screaming and cursing. They found Maya.

"NO!! LET ME GO!!" I could hear struggling and crying. I was helpless. I couldn't save her. "WHY!? BRIAN!!" she screamed my name and then I heard her gasp. She saw the predicament I was in.

"Brian didn't make this choice, I did," My father said to her.

"AHH!!! YOU'RE NOT THE ALPHA! IT'S NOT UP TO YOU!" she screamed

"Brian is currently under investigation by the elders; therefore, he currently has no authority as Alpha!"

"AHH!!! GET YOUR fvcking\*g HANDS OFF OF ME!!" Persephone turned around and smacked Maya across the face.

"Damn, no wonder Aries didn't want to be with her. Her voice sounds like a fvcking\*g banshee,"

"Aries!?" Maya shouted.

"Yes, Aries. He specifically called for us to find you, and we brought a long some friends so we could split that the yummy fifteen million dollar bounty," Persephone said while smiling big.

"What if I gave you information about a certain bounty hunter? Personal information that no one knows!?" Maya said.

"What kind of information?"

"The ident!ty of the bounty hunter named Razor," all of their attentions were on her. They seemed intrigued. Persephone looked back at Sinbad and they both smirked. Then they burst into laughter and so did the other hunters.

"Oh my gosh, babe, she actually thought she could bribe us to turn against Razor," Sinbad said and squeezed my neck tighter. I was really starting to struggle to breathe.

"Silly girl, every single bounty hunter, and hitter you see before you are not stupid enough to turn against the mighty Razor. We don't want his real ident!ty, because well, we'd never need it," Persephone said. "Baby, drop the runt and let's get going, I want to get paid, and it's a nine-hour drive to Desert Moon," Sinbad dropped me and did a lowball by kicking me in the face with the heel of his foot.

"You're lucky we're only here for the girl, otherwise, I would have snapped your neck," he says to me.

"NO! YOU CAN'T DO THIS!!" Maya yelled.

"Goddess shut her the fvck up!" Persephone shouted. One of the bounty hunters holding her punched squared across the face knocking her out cold.

"MAYA!" I tried to run to her, but I was too dizzy from the kick to the face. I heard my father growl and then turn his heel to go back inside. I was left in the middle of the front yard pavement and I watched in horror as Maya was taken. My reign as Alpha was coming to an end before it even began.

# Desert Storm Chapter 74 - Tips

{Brandon's P.O.V.}

"Mmm...Come to daddy, Leah,"

"Brandon, why are you so horny?" she giggled and tried to push me away. "We're supposed to be mourning the death of our friend,"

"Well, she's technically not dead, she's four doors down the hall and probably doing the same thing we're about to do," I tell her and k!ss her neck while groping her b.reasts.

"Bran...oh...mmm..."

"That's right sweetcheeks, give in to your desires, let me pleasure this beautiful body of yours," I laid her down and k!ssed her all over. I sat up and took off my shirt. My d!ck was up and raring to go. I took off her tank top and ripped off her panties.

"Dammit, stop doing that! I'm going to run out of underwear!"

"We can always go shopping. Now hush and let me eat this sweet p.ussy," I got off the bed and pulled her to the edge. I pushed her legs back and started to devour her se.x like a hungry animal. As I was pleasuring Leah, I was interrupted with a mind link by Leroy.

Beta, I'm sorry for the late-night disturbance, but I can't seem to reach the Gamma.

Sin is in heat, so he has a block up for another two days.

Then I need your assistance.

It can't wait until morning!?

I'm afraid not sir, I do apologize.

What is it?!

We have guests.

This late at night!?

"Brandon! What the hell are you doing!?" Leah shouted. "Since when do you s.uck at eating p.ussy!?"

"fvck, I'm sorry, sweetcheeks, I'm being mind linked,"

"UGH!"

Beta, it is very important. They claim to have caught the fugitive.

Let them in! I'll get Dorian and Lucas.

"Leah, I'm sorry, but someone is claiming to have caught Maya,"

"What are you still doing here?! Go!" I gave Leah a quick k!ss and put my clothes on. I sent a quick mind link to both Dorian and Lucas,

Saddle up! I think Maya's been caught!

As soon as I opened my bedroom door, Lucas came running out of his and we almost ran into each other,

"Oh sh!t, watch where you're going, man!" I shout at him. We both run towards the stairs, and we could hear Dorian's door open and his feet running down as well.

"Too bad Aries has to pretend he's out of it, and Mikey is too busy fvcking\*g Sin," Dorian said as we all skipped down the stairs. We ran out the front door, and as we did, a van pulled up. As it came to a stop, the passenger door opened, and a tall redhead came out.

"Which one of you is the Alpha?" she asked.

"That would be me," Dorian said stepping forward.

"Very nice to meet you Alpha," she bowed her head. "My name is Persephone, I believe we share a few mutual acquaintances," as she said this, the back door opened, and man as tall as Dorian came out. "This is my husband, Sinbad,"

"You're the two that Aries talked about," I said. They both nodded.

"Alpha, is this fugitive?" Sinbad asked and removed a blanket. We looked and sure enough, it was Maya, but she looked dead.

"Is she dead?" Lucas asked.

"No, we had to knock her out a few times on the way here," Persephone said. "The b\*\*\*h wouldn't shut up,"

"Alpha, we may have a problem," Sinbad said.

"What kind of problem?" Dorian asked.

"She appears to know Razor's real ident!ty, and even tried to bribe us with the information. That was another reason why we had to keep knocking her out," he replied.

"We also believe that if she knows this information, the baby Alpha of White Lake in Reno knows it as well," Persephone added.

"sh!t!" I shouted. "Dorian, we're going to have to put a c0rk in this and fast, if that information gets out, then it can become a real threat,"

"Let's deal with Maya first. Brandon, you, and Lucas take Maya down to the cellar. Place her isolation and chain her with silver,"

"Yes, Alpha," Lucas threw Maya over his shoulders like a dead pig, and we took her down to the cellars. Isolation was a specific section of the cellar that had one window on the door and was fully soundproofed. There was a single vent in the floor that allowed for oxygen from the outside, but the tunnel was twenty feet under, and then a hundred feet out. Even if she wanted to scream the distance alone would drown it out before anyone could hear.

Once we chained her up, we made sure she only had enough slack for her to reach the toilet.

"Damn, those guys did a number on her face," Lucas said.

"Who gives a fvck, the b\*\*\*h tried to k!ll all of us, and almost succeeded in k!lling Gizmo and half-pint," Lucas dropped her head like an old sack, and we locked her up. The cell was guarded by a ten-digit code, and retina scanner like the holding cells at Dorian's company. We went back to the main house, and we were met with a pissed off Sam and Allie.

"Gizmo, Sam?"

"Babe, what are you doing up?"

"Is it true!? Maya has been caught!?" Allie asks.

"It's true," Lucas and I reply.

"Let me at her!!" Sam tried to push past us.

"Babe, she's out cold, and she's in the isolation cell. Plus, you're technically pregnant,"

"I can still kick her a.ss!"

"Not while carrying Lacie's pup," he whispers. "Go back to bed,"

"Wait, why is she in isolation?" Allie asks.

"Because, apparently she knows that Mikey is Razor," I reply.

"How!?" they both ask.

"We're not sure, but the people who caught her thinking the White Lake Alpha may know as well,"

"Oh my god, that's not good," Allie responds.

"Who caught her?" Sam asks.

"The hitters that Aries recommended, Sinbad and Persephone," I reply.

"Are they still here?" Allie asks.

"Dorian is out front talking to them now," Allie takes off running.

{Allie's P.O.V.}

As soon as Brandon told me that the hitters who caught Maya were still here, I needed to speak with them. I ran out front as fast I could, and sure enough, they were speaking with Dorian,

"Baby, why are you up?" Dorian asks as I run up next to him nothing but a tank and shorts.

"You must be the Luna," a man as tall as Dorian says.

"I am, my name is Allie, welcome," I say with a smile and shake his hand.

"My name is Sinbad, and this is my wife Persephone," I took one look at her, and my mouth dropped. She was drop-dead gorgeous. To think this chick was an assassin blew my mind.

"Wow, if I wasn't married with two kids and straight, I'd so do you," I tell her.

"Well, I will definitely take that as a compliment," she said with a big smile. "You're pretty se.xy for a tiny wolf," I gave a smug and prideful smile.

"I wanted to personally thank both of you and your team..." I say looking at the dozen or so individuals standing around the van. "...for catching Maya and bringing her back to us,"

"Please, for fifteen million dollars, and a debt to repay Aries, it was our pleasure," Sinbad said.

"I need to know though, our Beta and our head trainer said that Maya knows the true ident!ty of Razor, is that true?"

"Yes it is, she was attempting to bribe us with the information to let her go; however, all us before you have too much respect for him and would never do anything to get on his bad side," Persephone replied.

"How would she know though?" I ask no one in particular.

"It's possible that Brian had a dash cam on his car, or even caught a glimpse of him with the b.utton camera he placed on the duffle bag," Dorian says. "He could have shown Maya,"

"Dammit, that's not good," I mumble and bite the tip of my thumb.

"Do you two know the White Lake Alpha?" Sinbad asks.

"I do, unfortunately," I grumble. "I'm still trying to decide if I need to go kick his a.ss or not,"

"Well, I can tell you from dealing with him firsthand, he's a very weak Alpha. The entire time we there attempting to capture Maya, we dealt with his father rather than him," Sinbad explains. I look at him and furrow my brows. "I get the feeling that he had a s\*\*\*\*I relationship with her, and had developed feelings,"

"What?" Dorian and Lask.

"I believe that my husband is correct," Persephone added. "When the Alpha's father allowed us to take her into custody, Brian, as you call him, became visibly upset, and Maya even called out for him to save her,"

"She had to have used se.x as a bargaining chip, that's the only way she could have manipulated him into putting out the bounty," I say out loud.

"We're curious though, how does Razor play into all of this?" Sinbad asked.

"They hired him to take out a pack member," Dorian replies.

"Oh, I think we saw that one, Lacie I think her name was," Persephone replied, and we nodded.

"I wonder why she was so adamant about giving up his ident!ty though," she says.

"Razor is an associate of mine, and he came to me letting me know that they had contacted him,"

"Oh, he worked his magic and played the White Lake Alpha then," Sinbad replied, and we just nodded again. "Typical. For someone is retired, that fvcker gets to have all the fun,"

"This bounty wasn't too bad, but I really would liked to have k!lled her," Persephone replied.

"Wow, I like you, you're cool!" I exclaim like a little kid.

"Aww, thanks Luna," she said tapping my shoulder.

"Sinbad, Persephone, thank you for your hard work, if you send me your banking information, I can wire you the payment,"

"All the information in on this card," Sinbad said handing Dorian a card.

"Give our regards to Aries and Razor when you see them," Persephone said and waved goodbye. "Let's go boys!" she shouted, and their team got into the van and they left. Dorian and I headed back inside where Brandon, Lucas, and Sam were waiting.

"They leave?" Brandon asked and we nodded.

"Is that b\*\*\*h awake yet?" I asked.

"Allie!" Dorian scolded.

"What?! She almost k!lled us, Dorian!"

"I get that, but you're too eager to k!ll her in return,"

"I don't want to k!ll her, I want to beat the sh!t out of her and get information on that other skank Heather, and figure out how the hell she met Brian and fvckingd up his life,"

"I think it would be best if we talked to him first," I looked at him like he was crazy. "Allie, Maya is a pathological liar, and we can't trust anything she says,"

"Fine,"

"Look, tomorrow is Sunday, and there's no training. So, let's all go back to bed, get some sleep, and then we can deal with Maya in the morning," Dorian said. We all nodded and went back to our respective rooms.

"fvck, I hope Leah didn't fall asleep," Brandon mumbled.

"Aww, were you guys interrupted?" I asked in a teasing tone.

"Yes, and it s.ucks," we all laughed at him. When we got to the second floor, those three went their way, and Dorian and I went back to our room.

The next morning after breakfast, I went to take breakfast to Aries and Lacie and to check on them. I knocked on their door letting Aries know it was me,

#### "Allie?"

"Hey, can I come in?" I asked with a sympathetic tone just in case anyone was watching or listening. He nodded and opened the door for me. As soon as he closed it. I saw Lacie lying in bed with a big smile on her face. "How are you holding up in here?"

"Not bad, Aries f\*\*\*s the life out of me, but other than that, I'm good," I rolled my eyes and shook my head.

"I brought you guys breakfast," I say setting the tray on the nightstand.

"Hey, what was all the commotion last night?" Aries asked sitting next to Lacie.

"Huh? Oh, your hitter friends came through,"

"They found Maya!?"

"They didn't just find her, they brought her back, she's down in the isolation cell right now,"

"Oh my gosh! Finally, some good news!" Lacie exclaimed.

"The good news stops there," I tell them. They both furrow their brows at me. "Maya knows that Mikey is Razor and tried to bribe Sinbad and Persephone with the information. And before you freak out, they didn't take it because they're too afraid of Mikey, but..."

"But if she knows, then your college buddy might know too," Aries finishes my sentence.

"Exactly,"

"What are we going to do?" Lacie asks.

"Mikey just came up for air, so Dorian is speaking with him now. I'm going to see if I can get Brian and his dad on a video call in the conference room to try and save him because I think Maya used se.x to manipulate him,"

"se.x!?" they both ask in shock.

"According to Sinbad and Persephone, it was evident that Brian and Maya have been sleeping together, and that he actually may have cared about her. I need to see if that clouded his judgment in any kind of way," they nodded and didn't say anything. "Anyway, eat your breakfast, and just put the tray out in the hallway. I'll send an Omega to get it in a little bit," I left their room and made sure to put my sad face again. As I was leaving, I passed by Mikey would look absolutely outraged.

"Mikey?"

"Not now, Gizmo,"

"Okay," I didn't want to push him. I'm sure hearing that his ident!ty was compromised pissed him off. I saw Dorian coming down the stairs.

"Hey baby, how did it go with Aries?" I just nodded my head letting him know that I informed Aries and Lacie of Maya's capture. "Let's get White Lake on the phone before Mikey decides to go k!ll the entire pack,"

"Yeah," we go down the conference room, and I send Brian a text telling him to call the number, and that it's important. We wait for about ten minutes, and the call comes through. Dorian answers it, and I see Brian, an older gentlemen that looks like him, and another older gentlemen and a woman, all of them seem to be Korean.

"Good morning," I say to them

"Good morning," they all reply, except for Brian. He just looks so defeated.

"I'm sure you all are wondering why I asked to speak with you today, but first, please allow me to introduce myself, my name is Allison Shaw, I am the Luna of the Desert Moon pack, and this is my husband, and Alpha, Dorian,"

"Good morning Alpha and Luna Shaw, my name is JungTae Cho, this is my wife, SunHee, and you know our son, Brian. This is our Beta, MinHyuk,"

"As much as I would like to speak in Korean with you all, given that my husband is joining, let's keep this in English," I tell them, and they nod. "Wonderful, now, first thing is first, Brian, I need you to tell me how you met Maya," he closes his eyes and just stares at the table. "Brian! I asked you a question!" I shout.

"I met her in New York during spring break,"

"How?" I ask.

"She was a str!pper at a club that my friends and I went to. I knew that she was a wolf, and I found her really attractive. We got to talking, and she automatically knew I was an Alpha,"

"So what? You just decided to bring her home with you?"

"Not at first. I was wary of her, but she seemed really nice, and she told me about how her mate rejected her, and then was given a second chance mate. She told me you decided she should be banished for getting into a fight with the new girl, and that she ran away to avoid banishment,"

"Is that all she told you?"

"In the beginning, yeah, but she eventually told me the other girl's name, and asked if I could help her get revenge. I knew how Maya felt having someone betray you like that. My first mate when I turned 18 rejected me as well, and was immediately given a second chance mate, a Beta of another pack. So, I empathized with her,"

"So, your empathy is the reason why you put out a bounty on Lacie!?" they all looked at me. "Yes, I know it was you! The bounty hunter Razor caught you in his dashcam!"

"Razor? Shouldn't you be calling him by his real name?"

"So, Maya did tell you?"

"She did. Imagine my surprise to find out that..."

"Don't say it! Do not reveal his ident!ty!" I growled in my Luna tone. "You are on thin ice right now, Brian. If you disclose that information, he won't hesitate to go over there and k!ll you,"

"Tell me the truth Allie, is Lacie even dead?"

"No,"

"You all played me!"

"We didn't do anything! You got yourself into this mess because you decided to help Maya!"

"I was helping someone in need! Someone I empathized with!"

"You were helping a lying, conniving, self-centered b\*\*\*h!"

"What are you talking about?"

"Maya lied to you about everything! Nothing she said to you was true, well, except the fighting with Lacie part, that was true, but everything else was a lie!" Brian's eyes popped out of his head and so did everyone else's. "Brian, Maya is unmated and always has been. Aries was not her mate, he never was. Aries was a rogue bounty hunter who worked for Dorian for years and then joined our pack a little over a year and a half ago. Lacie is his one and only mate. She joined our pack after they found each other on Black Friday of last year. Which was two weeks AFTER Aries broke things off with Maya! Their relationship was purely s\*\*\*\*I, nothing more. Maya attacked Lacie in the townhome she shared with Aries and put her in the hospital. Not only that, but we also have reason to believe that Maya set their house on fire!"

"Oh my god," Brian's mom gasped and covered her mouth in shock.

"In addition to that, Maya and Lacie's sister attempted to poison Dorian, our Beta, our Gamma, our Delta, our high ranking officer, Aries, and the three Yellow Moon Alphas with Dimethylmercury on New Year's Eve! But because our female Beta has the ability to see future events of imminent danger, she was able to stop it from happening; however, Lacie and I were inadvertently exposed to the poison and we both spent six weeks in a coma! The poison has no cure! Lacie and I were lucky to have survived!" All of their faces turned pale hearing that I almost died.

"Is that why you weren't in school this past semester?"

"Yes, that's exactly why. That's also why we have a bounty out for Maya. She is an accessory to the attempted murder of nine ranked wolves between two packs. Her initial crime of attacking Lacie and the arson would have earned her banishment, but now, Maya will be executed,"

"You said nine ranked wolves, based on what you said, I only count eight," the Beta said.

"Lacie is the daughter of an Alpha," they all gasped. "My guess is that Maya told you Lacie was a low-level Omega," Brian nodded. His face was still in shock.

"Luna Shaw, we are so sorry for inconvenience our son and his inability to see through Maya's lies have cost you and your pack," his father says.

"Brian, I called because I wanted you to know the truth. I know you're not bad a kid, but the fact the matter is, Maya played you and manipulated you. I'm sorry that this happened to you Brian, I really am. I wish you would have called me first, then none of this would have happened,"

"AHHH!!! HOW COULD I HAVE BEEN SO STUPID!? THAT CONNIVING b\*\*\*h!"

"Brian, getting mad about it now isn't going to do anything," I tell him.

"Luna Shaw, we want to thank you for clearing this matter up for us, but unfortunately, in light of the situation, Brian will be str!pped of this t!tle," his father says.

"Please don't do that," I respond. They all look at me. "JungTaessi, Brian is a good kid, and I have no doubt he will make a fine Alpha with time and experience. He is young and naïve, and it's not his fault that he was manipulated. Maya is just that good. She even lied to her own parents and best friend the same way she did to him,"

"Ohmonah! Wahnjun akma yah!" (Oh, my goodness, she is the devil!)

"What did she say?" Dorian asked.

"She called Maya the devil," he made an O shape with his mouth. "Brian, I'm on your side, and I want you to keep your t!tle, but I need you to keep the information about the bounty hunter to yourself. You cannot tell anyone what you know. You will literally put innocent lives in danger,"

"There's a problem then," he replied. "There was another person with us when Maya said who he is,"

"Who?!"

"Our butler, well, ex-butler. My father had him banished for helping me and Maya concoct the bounty,"

"sh!t!!"

"Luna, do not worry, we will track him down. Hopefully, he has not told anyone," the Beta says. "If you will excuse me," he leaves the call.

"Allie, why are you trying to help me?" Brian asked.

"Because I know you thought you were doing the right thing, that's because you're a good person with a kind heart. And unfortunately, someone used that against you. Learn from this experience. Understand that, if someone is running because they are afraid of banishment, it typically means that they did something wrong. Don't believe every sad story that you hear,"

"Thank you, and I'm sorry,"

"You're going to get through this Brian, this is just one big learning experience, so learn from it,"

"I will, and please tell Aries and Lacie that I'm truly sorry for what I did,"

"I will,"

"Mr. Cho," Dorian stands to his feet. "If you send me your accounting information, I will wire you back the ten million dollars. We never intended on keeping it,"

"Thank you, Alpha Shaw, that would be much appreciated. I will have Brian text the information to the Luna,"

"Also, Allie,"

"Yeah?"

"Give Maya my regards," he smirked, and I smirked back. We end the call and as soon the screen goes black, Dorian and I both slump into the chair.

"Well, hopefully, we can keep Mikey's secret ident!ty a secret," I say to Dorian.

"That Beta better find the ex-butler," Dorian replies and I just nod. "Now that's over with, how about we have a chat with Maya,"

"I think we should have Dani shimmer Lacie and Aries down there too, I would love to see Maya's face when she's Lacie alive and well,"

"She probably already knows Lacie is alive,"

"True, but I still want to see her face," I tell him. Dorian just shakes his head at me.

Now that we have Maya in custody, we just had to pray that Lacie's fake memorial service would bring Heather to us. Lacie got her rival, now it was time that I got mine.

## Desert Storm Chapter 75 - Tips

### {Maya's P.O.V.}

fvck my life. It feels like I was hit in the head with a frying pan ten times over. When I finally woke up, I was hoping that my having been caught was just a bad dream, but it wasn't. I woke up in a dark room with no light. My wrists and ankles were burning, and I realized I was chain downed with silver. Wherever this was, I didn't like it. I tried to break the chains but to no avail. The silver was weakening my immune system, and my wolf Josephine was nowhere to be found. I tried to tap into her to see if shifting would help, but nothing. She wasn't answering me.

I sat in darkness while continuously trying to break the chains for the goddess only knows how many hours.

"IS ANYONE OUT THERE!?" I shouted to see if anyone could hear me. But all I got was dead silence in return. "SOMEONE! PLEASE! GET ME OUT OF HERE!" I shouted again, but still silence. "Ugh! Where the fvck am I!?" I shouted into the empty darkness around me. All this work, all this planning down the drain all because Brian hired the wrong bounty hunter. He hired the Gamma without knowing. How the hell could the Gamma be a ruthless bounty hunter? That didn't make any sense. I grew up in this pack, and I never knew that he was a bounty hunter, I just thought he worked with them closely at the Alpha's firm. As I about to scream out again, I heard the door opening, I looked up, and immediately, I knew it was the Alpha.

"Time to wake up, Maya," he said.

"I am awake," I growl. Now that I was considered a rogue, I didn't have to be respectful, but that didn't mean I was any less scared of the guy. I mean, seriously, he's a fvcking\*g giant.

"I would watch that tone if I were you, b\*\*\*h," I heard the Luna's voice. I snap my head up and see her glaring at me.

"Come here to gloat that I got caught?"

"No, I came here to get some answers out of you, and depending on how you answer will determine whether or not I disfigure your face, and pop those implants,"

"fvck y..." before I could even finish, I felt a fist to the face. The inside of my cheek was bleeding

"How about we try this again? I'm going to ask you a question, and you're going to answer me truthfully, if I even sense that you're lying, which I will, I'm going to hit you. Understand?" I didn't say anything, then felt a slap across the cheek that she just punched. "DO YOU UNDERSTAND!?"

"Yes, Luna,"

"Good. Brandon, Lucas, strap her to the chair," The Beta and Lucas came into the cell and pulled on the chains to get me to stand. They walked me over to the chair in the middle of the cell that I didn't even know was there. The only light that was coming into the cell was because the cell door was open. "Now, Maya, we already know that you beat up Lacie, and sent her to the hospital the week before Christmas. That same night, her home caught on fire, and the pack fire inspector has already determined it was arson. So, tell me, did you set their house on fire."

"I don't know..." I was interrupted with a punch to the nose. I heard it crack, bl00d was instantly running down my face.

"Try again," she says with a smug look.

"Yes, I set their house on fire,"

"Why?"

"Because that home should have been mine! I should have been the one sharing that home with Aries, not that little Omega slut!"

"So, you burned it down?! Do you realize that the fire was so bad that it spilled over to two other townhomes next to it? You're lucky that those homes were vacant! Given the time that it happened, you could have k!lled innocent pack members!" she shouted.

"Collateral da..." I was met with a punch to the gut taking the wind out of me. As I was heaving for oxygen, the Luna hit me once more.

"The fact that you were about to say collateral damage is why I hit you twice, one for each additional home you burnt down. Now, let's move on to the fact that you tried to poison the men at the club the night of New Year's Eve," I snapped my eyes up at her.

"How do you..."

"How do I know? We all know," she said pointing to the men in the cellar. "You and Heather were both caught on camera!" sh!t, I knew that the club had cameras, but I thought were in a blind sp0t. "Tell me, Maya, whose idea was it?"

"Heather's,"

"Where did you get the poison?"

"A witch in the marshlands in Florida,"

"How did you and Heather meet?"

"I have a friend in Tampa, and I went to stay with her. She got into me str!pping so I could make money, and that's how I met Heather, we worked at the same club,"

"Why? Why try and poison all the men at the club?"

"Initially we weren't going to, our target was you and Lacie," When I said that, the Alpha let out a fierce growl and grabbed me by the throat.

"Dorian, stop!" the Luna said trying to stop him from k!lling me. "Babe, let her go!" After a few seconds of not being able to breathe, the Alpha let go of me. I

started to cough for air. "Babe, calm down," she pushed him back and calmed him down before coming back to me. "Why were you targeting me and Lacie?"

"Heather wanted to get back at you for manipulating her mate to reject her, and Lacie is obvious,"

"How did you know that we would all be at the club?"

"We didn't. Our initial plan was to give Esther the poison and slip it into your food or drinks. But when Heather called the club to get us the VIP lounge, and the club manager said that the owner was reserving it for himself, she told me. I knew then all of you would be the club, at least, all of the ranked members would be. So, Heather wanted to get you at the club that night, but then lucky for us, all of you, including Lacie and Heather's ex-mate, showed up. We were already waiting in line when we saw you guys exit the limo,"

"So, you guys changed your plans to target the men?"

"No, we planned to still try to get you and Lacie, but when we saw the lap dance happen, Heather lost it, and honestly, so did I,"

"How did the bartender fit into all of this?"

"We saw him trying to fl!rt with the girl with the pink hair, and how she kept turning him down. When she went and gave Deacon the lap dance, we could see how pissed off he was, so we recruited him,"

"That's when you all decided to go after the men instead,"

"Yes,"

"Andre was right, jealousy and revenge," Brandon said.

"What's more ironic is that Allie and Lacie ended up poisoned anyway," Lucas said. I looked at him and then back at the Luna.

"Yes, that's right, somehow fate had its way, and Lacie and I spent six weeks in a coma because we were exposed to the poison in the drinks. The men survived because of Leah,"

"But, how did you two survive!? The witch said it has a high mortality rate!" I was livid, was I lied to?

"It does," Lucas says. "The poison has no cure, and the mortality rate is over 85%; however, thankfully, the Luna and Lacie were strong enough to fight it off, and they fell in to the 15% of survivors,"

"Lacie!? How!? She's a lower level Omega! How could she be strong enough to fight it off!?" This didn't make any sense.

"Maya, did Heather tell you her pedigree?" the Luna asked.

"Yes, she said she's the daughter of an Alpha," I replied.

"Okay, did she tell you her relationship with Lacie?"

"What relationship? She said that she didn't know Lacie,"

"Oh wow, looks like both of you are conniving liars," she said. I furrowed my brows while sniffling the blood in my nose. "Heather and Lacie are sisters,"

"WHAT!?" I exclaimed.

"Yeah, they are full bl00d-related sisters. So, you know what that means right? Lacie is also the daughter of an Alpha,"

"That lying slut! I'm going to fvcking\*g k!ll her!" I started to struggle against the chains and screamed at the top of my lungs. I couldn't believe that Heather would go as far as to allow someone to poison her own flesh and bl00d.

"What's worse is that right now, you're taking the fall for everything that has happened," the Luna said.

"WHY!? I gave you all the answers you wanted!" I shouted.

"Well, because we can't touch Heather, the last we checked, she went to a non-extradition country, and so, she's in the clear, for now," I was seething in rage. "I have another thing I want to ask,"

"What?"

"Why Brian?" I looked at her.

"How do you know Brian?"

"We were classmates at UNLV. We are friends,"

"He didn't say anything about knowing you!"

"Well duh, you made him believe that Dorian and I were horrible leaders, and you manipulated him into putting out a bounty for your own personal vendetta against Lacie. So, I ask again, why him?"

"Because he was an Alpha, and he was young. He was an easy mark,"

"I figured that was the reason, I just needed you to confess it. Brian now knows the truth, and the entire truth,"

"Well, I know the truth too! That the Gamma is the bounty hunter Razor!"

"Yeah, we already know that you know, but it doesn't matter, because you won't be alive long enough to tell anyone,"

"What does that mean!?"

"Maya, the elders have signed your execution papers," the Alpha says. "You attempted to poison ranked members of two packs, two of which are Alphas, and almost succeeded in k!lling in your own Luna, those crimes on top of attacking Lacie, and then burning down their home is more than sufficient to warrant your death,"

"AHHH!!! WHY IS LIFE SO UNFAIR! I DID EVERYTHING FOR ARIES! I REJECTED MY MATE SO I COULD BE WITH HIM!!"

"You what!?" they all exclaimed

"You rejected your own mate because you wanted to be with Aries? That doesn't make any sense Maya!!" the Luna shouted.

"That's easy for you to say!" I spat at her. "You were blessed with the Alpha when you were still human! You, Sin, and Leah! All three of you were the lowest of the low! Two humans and a hybrid mated to the ranked members! Not only that, but all three of you were also hand-chosen by the moon goddess! Blessed wolves! I was born a wolf! I was born here! I deserved to have a mate that was ranked or at least a high level! But no! The moon goddess mated me to an unattractive low-level Omega!"

"Could you be any more shallow!?!"

"That's rich coming from you!" I spat again. "By the time I met my mate, Aries and I had already started sleeping together. I fell in love with Aries, I figured that if I rejected my mate, the moon goddess would make Aries my second chance mate, but she didn't!! Aries dumped me the same day!! The same fvcking\*g day!! He never called, he never texted, and he put up a block so I couldn't mind link him! I saw him taking some new girl into his townhouse a few weeks later, but she never left!! She kept going in and out whenever she pleased! So, I went to go confront him, then she answered the door! That's when I smelled it. Aries' scent was all over her! Then she told me she was his girlfriend and his mate! Can you fvcking\*g believe that!? I reject my mate for him, but instead of the moon goddess giving me a second chance with him, she gives him Lacie! And he accepted her and marked her! His mark should have been on my neck! Mine! Not Lacie's!"

"Maya, do you realize how selfish you sound?" Brandon said to me. I snarled at him. "You broke some guy's heart because he wasn't attractive, and you expected the moon goddess to bless you with a second chance? You rejected the mate she gave you for your own personal greed and expected to her reward you?"

"I did it for Aries! How is that selfish? I did it for love! How is that selfish!?"

"You did for yourself!" Lucas shouted at me. "You hurt, used, lied to, and manipulated other people to fulfill your own happiness! That's what makes it selfish! You didn't want Aries to be happy, you only wanted yourself to be happy!"

"I could have made him happy! But he didn't give me the chance! Once he was tired of me that was it! He threw me away like I was nothing to him! Then out of nowhere Lacie shows up and wham bam, I have a mate, fvck you, Maya!"

"Lacie didn't just show up on out of nowhere," the Luna said to me. "Believe it or not, Lacie and her friend Cianna, ended up at our pack because of Heather,"

"What?"

"Yeah, actually, Heather, Lacie, Cianna, and a couple of their other friends were in Las Vegas the week of Thanksgiving. The Friday after, the same day Aries and Lacie found each other, Lacie and Heather got into a h.uge fight over the whole Deacon thing, so Heather kicked Lacie and Cianna out of their

hotel room, and with nowhere else to go, Lacie asked if she and Cianna could stay with us just until they left, but instead of leaving, they found their respective mates. So, in hindsight, all this happened because of Heather," hearing all of this made me lose my mind.

"NO!!! AHHH!!!! NO!!! WHY!?!?! AHHH!!!" I thrashed and screamed and pulled on the chains. Heather that fvcking\*g b\*\*\*h! I knew joining forces with her was a bad idea, but she promised that she would help me get Aries back. "I WANT TO TALK TO ARIES!!"

"Why? He doesn't want to see you," Brandon said.

"He owes me an explanation at the very least! I need to know why he didn't love me back!!"

"If that's your final request, then I will grant it," the Luna says. She turns to face the door, and Aries walks in. But instead of him being happy to see me, his eyes are filled with rage and disgust. That's not what sent me over the edge though, she walked in behind him. Lacie.

"WHY ARE YOU ALIVE!?!?!" I scream at her. "YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE DEAD!!!"

"Wow, you really are stupid," Brandon said. "You said it yourself you knew that Mikey was Razor, so, did you honestly think that he would go through k!lling Lacie? A friend?" he just shook his head and made fun of me.

"AHHH!!!!" I stomped my feet and thrashed my body against the chair. "WHY!? WHY!?"

"Quit your whining and listen to me carefully, Maya," Aries said in the most hatred filled voice ever. "I told you from the very beginning that what you and I had was purely s\*\*\*\*I, and that was it. I found you attractive enough to fvck you, and that was all. I had no intention of dating you, let alone marking you. I was given the chance to find a mate when the Alpha graciously offered me membership into the pack. When you started to become clingy and start talking about pups and marking each other, that's why I broke it off. You became obsessed and started to show up at my house unannounced, you even broke in several times, but I let it all go because I knew you were just trying to get attention. But the moment you put your hands on my mate, that was it for me. I hated you with a passion, and I wanted you out of my life. So, I

reported you, but then you had the nerve to set my home on fire, thinking you could get back at me,"

"I loved you! Why wasn't that enough!?"

"Because I didn't love you! And I was never going to!" his words were filled with so much hate and honesty. This hurt more than when I rejected my mate and when he accepted it. I looked back at him, my eyes black with anger, then at Lacie, the b\*\*\*h that took everything from me. That's when I saw it, the piece of shiny jewelry on her left ring finger.

"YOU'RE ENGAGED!?!?" I snarled at her. "IT WASN'T ENOUGH THAT YOU TOOK ARIES FROM ME, THAT YOU'RE GOING TO MARRY HIM!!!" I screamed at her.

"We're not just engaged, Maya," Aries said to me. He went over and put his arms around Lacie. "Lacie and I are expecting,"

"AHHHH!!! YOU b\*\*\*h!! YOU TOOK EVERYTHING FROM ME!!!" I screamed at her. I needed my wolf, I needed to shift to k!ll her. That pup should be mine and only mine. As I was screaming, I felt someone grab the back of my hair, and then I was hit across the face several times. When I looked up, I saw Lacie in front of me. Her eyes black as night. I watched as her fist made contact with my face again, and then she hit my abdomen.

"That's for slamming my head into the floor!" she punched me to the right. "That's for burning down my house!" she punched me to the left. "That's for trying to k!ll Aries!" she punched my abdomen, "That's for almost k!lling me!" she punched my abdomen again, "and that's for putting a bounty on me!" Finally, she head-b.utted me, "That's for almost k!lling Allie,"

"Precious, that's enough," Aries said to her. He had a pet name for her.

"You two are dismissed, have Dani shimmer you back to your room," Dorian said to them.

"Say hi to your parents for us," Lacie said with a c0cky tone. What did she mean by that?

"Damn, she looks like sh!t," Brandon said lifting my head.

"Doesn't matter, she's going to die anyway," the Luna said.

"I thought Aries wanted to do it," Dorian said. Aries wants to k!ll me?

"He does, he wants to use the rifle Lacie got him for Christmas. Said something about it symbolizing both of them k!lling her essentially," Lucas said. "Which, I'm still waiting on those rifles boss,"

"Calm down Lucas, Lacie's friend at MI6 finally came through. We should get the shipment in another month or so,"

"Please," I muster up enough to speak after being beaten. "Let me say goodbye to my parents,"

"Yeah, that's not going to be possible," the Luna said. I lifted my head, tears streaming down my half bl00died face. "Your parents are waiting for you in hell,"

"What!?"

"I'm sure you saw the news story about three pack members being executed for trying to traffic the Alpha twins, right?" Brandon asked. I looked at him

"No," I said in disbelief.

"Yeah, it was your parents and your friend Esther. So, they're already dead," he replied.

"Don't worry, Maya," the Luna said lifting my chin. "You're going to see them real soon."

"Knock her out,"

"Yes, Alpha!" I felt a sudden blow to the head before I was consumed by darkness.

{Aries' P.O.V.}

After Dani shimmered us back to our room, Lacie immediately fell to her knees and she was shaking uncontrollably.

"Precious, it's okay, I got you,"

"Oh my god, is she okay?" Dani asked.

"Yeah, she will be. Go, I'll this," I tell her. She nods her head and shimmers out.

"I can't believe I did that; I don't know what came over me," Lacie whispered.

"You were angry, it's understandable," I reply.

"I couldn't stop, Aries. I couldn't stop hitting her. Even with her face all bl00died, and her spitting up bl00d from me hitting her in the stomach, I just couldn't stop myself," Lacie was starting to panic.

"Hey, come here," I put her face into my neck. "Take a deep breath and try to calm your breathing,"

"I didn't think I could be capable of that. What if I'm turning into an evil b\*\*\*h like her,"

"You're not. You're the furthest thing from evil. Your actions and reactions are normal and to be expected. She hurt you multiple times, she tried to hurt me, she hurt the people we care about, and still she never once apologized for her actions. How you acted is how many normal people would react. If you didn't react that way, I'd be more worried. And the fact that you're now feeling remorseful about it already proves you're not evil," I rubbed her back and let her cry it out. Lacie and I have been through so much in the last six months that I'm honestly surprised that she's still with me. Most women would have run for the hills by now, but not her. She's so strong and courageous. I thank the moon goddess every day for giving her to me.

After a few minutes, Lacie finally calmed down, so I put her to bed. I laid down with her and just held her close to me. While we were laying down, there was a knock on the door. I carefully removed myself from the bed and opened it. It was Dorian and Lucas. I opened the door for them to come in.

"How is she?" Dorian asked.

"She's resting now. Everything that happened down in the cellar freaked her out. She can't believe she did that to Maya,"

"Well, her reaction is normal, if it were Sam, I wouldn't have even stopped her," Lucas says.

"Plus, Maya was pretty badly beaten up by Allie already, so Lacie didn't do all the damage," Dorian replies. I nod. "So, how did you want to do to this? Lucas says you want to use the rifle Lacie gave you," I nodded.

"Yeah, I want to be the first time I ever use it to be on Maya, she deserves to die alone in the desert."

"Lucas is still whining that you haven't shared yet,"

"I thought Lacie's friend at MI6 came through,"

"He did, but Lucas is just being a whiny little b\*\*\*h,"

"Hey, I'm the best marksman in the pack, that's why I am a team lead, I deserve to have the best toys in the business,"

"Which is why I'm getting them for you and your team, just be patient," Dorian said to him. I just smirked. "When did you want to do this?"

"Sunset,"

"I'll get it set up, you just be ready," I nodded my head. They both left my room, and I laid back down with Lacie. After tonight, Maya will officially be out of our lives for good. I only hoped that we could catch Heather too.

{Heather's P.O.V}

"Ah! Ah! Yes! fvck me!" I shouted as I was being fvckingd in the a.ss by a hotel guest. After getting to Abu Dhabi in the UAE under a false ident!ty, I found work at a hotel that catered primarily to tourists. I made money being a massage therapist and used my looks and se.xy body to do a little more than massage male guests.

"Mmm... So, fvcking\*g tight," he m0aned. "Argh, I'm going to c.um,"

"Yes, c.um for me!" I shouted. He m0aned and gr0aned, and then I felt him pull out and c.um all over my back and down my a.ss crack.

"Fuuccckkkk..." he huffed and puffed. When he was done, he slapped my a.ss and cleaned me off. He laid down on the bed and tossed me a few hundred dollar bills as a tip.

"I hope your massage was satisfactory," I say to him.

"Very much, thank you," I smiled and got dressed. I packed up my supplies and headed back down to the employee locker room. I didn't have any massages lined up for another couple of hours, so I decided to take a break. I pulled out a tablet and decided to browse Instagram.

When I opened the home page, I saw that had over two dozen direct messages from people,

Heather, I'm so sorry for your loss. Let me know if you need anything.

Heather, I heard what happen. My condolences,

I can't believe that this happened. Give your family my regards.

Girl, so sorry to hear about your sister. I hope you're doing okay.

I kept scrolling through the messages, and they were all same. What happened to Lacie? None of these messages made any sense. I started scrolling through other's people's posts when I passed up one that caught my attention. I scrolled back up and saw that it was posted by Cianna. It was a picture of her and Lacie together. The caption read,

Lacie, I can't even begin to say how much I'm going to miss you. This honestly cannot be happening. You were just getting to your life and finding happiness with Aries, and now this. What am I going to do without you? This is just too much to bear. I love you so much, Lace. RIP.

Lacie was dead? I saw a second picture on the post and slid over to it. It was a memorial announcement for this coming Wednesday at my parents' house.

"So, Maya finally went through with it and got you. That's what you get for being a little slut baby sister," I say out loud while staring at the post. As much I think Lacie deserved everything that happened to her, I still couldn't pass up the fact that I had an opening to go home. Since there was a death in the family, I could use bereavement to get out of work for a week. I went to my supervisor and told her about it, while fake crying. She gave me a week off, and I booked a flight home.

## Desert Storm Chapter 76 - Tips

{Cianna's P.O.V.}

I felt like a ton of stress was relieved off my shoulders when Lacie texted and said that Maya had been caught and executed. That was one enemy b\*\*\*h down, and one more to go. I know for a fact that Heather saw the post about Lacie's memorial service tomorrow. People were sending me messages left and right, and I had to pretend that my best friend was dead, even though she was alive and well.

"Cici, are you ready?" Lucian asked me as we landed at Tampa's airport.

"Yes, time to put on an act," I tell him. "Are Dorian and them here?" I ask as we deplane.

"Yeah, Shorty just texted and said that they arrived yesterday and have been staying in the packhouse. Corinne is a mess, she apparently hasn't slept much,"

"Well, in her mind one daughter is a criminal with a death warrant on her head, and the other is dead, so it's not surprising,"

"I still think faking her death was a little extreme,"

"Luci, if they didn't fake her death then someone would have actually tried to k!ll her. Remember, there was a bounty on her head," I tell him.

"Oh yeah," he responds. I shake my head. We get into the rental car that Lucian had reserved, and we head over the packhouse. It was so strange being back in Florida all these months later. The thirty-minute drive the packhouse was short and sweet. When I saw the condo complex, I teared up a little bit because, for three years, that was my home. Then the additional three minutes it took to get to the packhouse made me tear up even more. I couldn't believe how much smaller it actually was compared to the packhouse at Yellow Moon.

When we drove through the gates, I sent a mind link to my parents to let them know I was here. They were the only people I still had a link to, other than my brother Carl. My mom was the first out the door running to us before the car even stopped. By the time I was out of the car, my mom had me in a bear h.ug.

"Hi, mommy,"

"Oh, Cianna, my baby," she sobbed.

"Mom, I'm alive, and I'm well, why are you crying?"

"I just missed you, baby girl, and it's the circumstance that brought you home that has me crying," I got a little teary-eyed knowing that I was lying to my parents. But, I knew that once everything was said and done with, they would understand why I needed to deceive them.

"Lucian, it's good to see you again," my dad says to him.

"Henry, it's a pleasure to see you again as well; although, I wish it were under better circumstances, as Melanie said,"

"Where's Carl?" I ask.

"He's still at his condo, he will be stopping by for dinner later," my mother replied.

"Oh, okay,"

"Come on, Dorian, Allie, and Aries are already inside," my dad said. We walk into the house and as soon as we do,

"Cianna!" Allie shouts and comes running over. She gives me a h.uge h.ug. "Why does it feel like I haven't seen your a.ss in forever!?"

"It's only been like a month," I tell her.

"Has it only been a month!?"

"Yeah," I reply. "I guess with all the sh!t going on, Evelyn and the triplets, Lacie dying, it seems like more time has passed," just then, I feel a tap on my shoulder. I turn around and see a very sad and heartbroken Corinne. Seeing her so sickly made me burst into tears. I hated hurting her like this. I give her the biggest h.ug I can, and I can sense that Allie has tears in her eyes as well. As I pull away from her, she signs something to me.

"She's asking how you're holding up?" Allie translates.

"I should be asking you that, Corinne," I reply. She signs something again.

"I'm doing the best that I can. It's hard knowing that I've lost both of my children over something as stupid as jealousy," Allie translates again. Allie

and I just look at each other. Corinne goes into the kitchen to help the kitchen Omegas get dinner ready.

"Hi, Luci," Allie says. I almost forgot Lucian was with me.

"Hey, Shorty," he gives her a big h.ug.

"How is everyone at Yellow Moon doing?" she asks.

"They're going good. The triplets are a handful and none of us are sleeping through the night, but overall, we're alright," Lucian replies. "Where's the big man and Aries?"

"Behind your a.ss," we hear a deep voice and turn around to see Dorian, Aries, Amber, and Ronnie. Lucian goes up to him and does a manly handshake and a bro h.ug.

"Hi, Amber! Hi, Ronnie!" I squeal and h.ug them both.

"Hi, Cianna," they both reply.

"All of us need to talk in private," Dorian says. We all nod, and we walk over to the dock behind the packhouse. Seeing the harbor again brought back so many memories.

"What's up, little brother?" Amber asks.

"Before I say anything, you two need to stay as calm as possible,"

"Why do I get the feeling that we're not going to like this?" Ronnie asks.

"Because you're not," Allie replies.

"Sis, Ronnie, Lacie's not actually dead," Dorian says. Before they could even scream, Dorian shushes both of them.

"What do you mean she's not actually dead!?" Amber screams in a whisper while punching Dorian at the same time.

"We faked her death," Aries answers.

"What the fvck? Why!?" exclaims Ronnie.

"Because we needed to catch Maya," Allie responds. "But we're also using the opportunity to get Heather to come out of hiding,"

"What!?" they both exclaim.

"We found out that Heather fled to the UAE, which is a non-extradition country," Dorian says. "We're using Lacie's memorial as a means to see if she will come out of hiding. We were originally going to use to it to get Maya as well, but we caught her a different way,"

"Maya first, how did you catch her?" Amber asks.

"She manipulated and coerced a classmate of mine who is an Alpha in Reno to put out a bounty on Lacie. She was careless and made mistakes, so we put out her bounty when we realized she was behind the whole thing. A few assassin acquaintances of Aries' found her, and brought her back to us," Allie replies.

"What happened to her?"

"I shot her in the head Sunday night," Aries answered.

"Damn," Amber and Ronnie replied.

"I also had her parents and best friend k!lled a few weeks ago," Allie smiles. We all look at her.

"Why?" Ronnie asked.

"They kidnapped and tried to traffic the twins," Dorian replied

"WHAT!?" we all shouted. I didn't even know this had happened.

"Dorian, why didn't tell us this happened!?" Amber asked punching him again.

"You didn't see it on the news?" Dorian answered her question with a question.

"I did, but I didn't know it was Maya's parents and friend that was responsible," Lucian replied.

"You never told me any of this!" I say punching him in the arm.

"It was on the news, Cici, I figured you would have seen it," he replies.

"Luci, since when do you see me watch the news?!"

"You two can b\*\*\*h later," Amber says cutting in. "Tell me about the plan to get Heather? Because honestly, I want a piece of that b\*\*\*h myself,"

"Cianna?" Allie looks at me.

"I posted the announcement of memorial on Instagram. She still follows me,"

"How do you know that?" Ronnie asked.

"During Evelyn's gender reveal, I post an Instagram live video of the gender reveal, and Heather saw it. She sent quite a variety of derogatory private messages to me, and even threatened to k!ll Evelyn and her triplets," I tell them.

"So, you're thinking she would see the memorial announcement and would show up here to mourn?" he asked.

"No, we think she's going to show up and gloat," Aries responds.

"We found out from Maya that Allie and Lacie were originally their targets with the poison, but their plans changed when Deacon showed up and found Evelyn to be his mate. There's a lot of other details, but in the end, they still got Allie and Lacie, but they didn't know it at the time," Dorian says.

"Wait. what?" I ask.

"Not now, Cianna," Allie says brushing me off. I look at Lucian and he just shrugs.

"Wow," Amber replies. "So, if she's alive, where the hell is Lacie?"

"She's here, in St. Petersburg, we have her hiding out at a hotel about ten minutes away," Allie replies.

"I cannot believe you guys!" Ronnie exclaims in a shouting whisper. "Do you know how much hell Corinne is going through right now!? Why couldn't you at

least tell them Lacie is actually alive and all is this is a plan to catch Heather!?"

"Because I don't trust Bernie," Dorian answers immediately. "You saw how he reacted when I had Heather's death warrant and bounty signed. He tried to stop it. If he knew we were faking Lacie's death to try and catch Heather, there is no doubt in my mind he would find a way to contact her and tell her to stay away,"

"I don't like lying to Corinne, Amber, especially since being a mom myself, I can only imagine how much pain she is in. But as a mother, I know that I would do whatever it takes to protect my pups, no matter how old they are, and that is why I can't trust her right now either. Corinne loves Heather regardless of the many laws she has broken, and I know she would also try and keep Heather from being executed,"

"Deacon ended up getting his own death warrant signed by Elder Jeffries down at Mojave Mountain," Lucian says.

"What?" Amber asks.

"Heather attempted to k!ll my brothers and me, she threatened to k!ll Evelyn, our Luna, and their triplets. We have proof of these threats, which is why Elder Jeffries had no problem signing it and reaching out to Archie on our behalf, so Deacon didn't have to come down here,"

"This is ridiculous," Amber scoffs. All this fvcking\*g drama because Heather couldn't just accept the fact that she was rejected," We all just made the face that said 'yeah, no kidding.' We all just stood around for a few more minutes trying to just take everything in. It seriously was a lot of information, and I knew that Amber and Ronnie were upset we didn't tell them sooner, but they also understood why we're doing what we're doing.

Even if Heather and I were friends at one point, I'll never forgive her for attempting to k!ll Lucian. It was like if she couldn't be happy no one could. After we talked a little more about what the plan was, we were called into the house for dinner. I hadn't realized that were outside talking for a few hours at that point. When we got into the house, I was surprised to see Selina and Nikki.

"So, it's true," Nikki said to me. "You found your mate,"

"I did, what about you two?" I asked. They just gave me a dirty look.

"Cici, care to introduce me to your friends?" Lucian asks.

"Sorry, babe, but they're not my friends, they're actually Heather's friends," I tell him. "Why are you guys even here? You didn't even like Lacie,"

"We didn't dislike her either," Selina said.

"Right, you just didn't like her enough to stick up for her, or me, when Heather decided to leave us stranded," I sneered.

"We didn't think you guys would actually leave,"

"Well, we did, but it all worked out didn't it? Because I met the love of my life, and technically Lacie did too, but that was sadly short-lived,"

"What happened to Lacie anyway?" Nikki asked.

"Why don't you ask Heather the next time you talk to her. I'm sure she knows what happened!" I shout and walked past them into the dining room.

All of us sat down to dinner, but it was quiet and awkward. Aries had to pretend to be distant, while Allie, Dorian, and I had to pretend to be angry, while Lucian had to remain somewhat neutral. While we were eating, my brother came in,

### "CIANNA!"

"Hi, Carl!" I get up from my seat and h.ug my big little brother.

"You must be Lucian,"

"I am, and it's great to meet you, Carl. Cici tells me a lot about you,"

"All lies, I swear," Carl replies.

"So, you're not good looking ladies man that treats women with respect, and was a straight-A student throughout high school?"

"Uhhh...Well...I...Uh...Dammit!" Carl stuttered.

"Pfft!!" I started laughing.

"Cianna, don't mess with your brother that way!" my mom yells.

"I didn't do anything! Carl assumes that I talk sh!t about him, when in actuality, I don't," I say in snobbish tone. Carl just grumbles and rolls his eyes.

"Anyway, how are you doing sis?"

"I'm okay, I'm sad, but overall, I'm doing alright. I don't know what I will be like tomorrow during the memorial," I lie straight out of my teeth. Carl gives me a loving brotherly h.ug. "Carl, this is Dorian and Allison Shaw, Alpha and Luna of the Desert Moon pack," I introduce them to Carl. "Guys, this is my kid brother Carl,"

"Nice to meet you," Dorian shakes his hand.

"Hi, Carl," Allie says with a big smile.

"Whoa, you're pretty," Carl says to Allie and stares

"Carl! Don't stare at the Luna!" I smack him upside his head.

"What!? I can't give a compliment?"

"Compliments are fine, but no staring!" I scold him. "This is Aries, Lacie's mate."

"Aries, I'm sorry for your loss," Carl says to him sincerely.

"Thank you," Aries says softly shaking his hand.

"I know that we're all here because of the loss of my daughter, but let's try and have a decent dinner," Bernie says half-heartedly. We all nod and get back to eating. Dinner went relatively smoothly after that.

Lucian and I decided that we would go to see Lacie at her hotel, so we took Aries with us. Allie and Dorian were staying at the packhouse like they always did. The drive to the hotel was short, and Lucian and I were easily able to get a room. We were lucky enough to only be a few doors down from Aries and Lacie. I went with Aries to see her while Lucian took our bags to our room.

Because we had to keep Lacie a secret, she and I couldn't squeal at the top of our lungs when we saw each other.

"How are you? What's it like being dead?" I ask her.

"It's just like being alive, only know no one knows," she replies with a cheesy grin. "How are my parents doing?"

"Your mom looks like sh!t, and your dad is very emotionless,"

"I feel bad lying to my mom like this," she says.

"We all do, but Allie said something earlier that makes me believe we're doing the right thing,"

"What did she say?"

"That as a mother, she would anything she could to protect her kids even if they break the law. So, she thinks that even though your mom loves you, if we told her the plan to try and trap your sister, she and your dad would warn her to stay away,"

"Of course, they would, especially my dad. Heather was always his favorite. Why do you think she turned out the way she did?" Lacie had a valid point. I was going to say something when I got a mind link from Lucian,

Cici, open the door.

"It's Lucian," Lacie went around the corner just in case someone else happened to walk by. We closed the door; she came out of hiding.

"Hey, Lace,"

"Hi, Lucian,"

"I'm sorry that you died,"

"I'm sorry you have to come my memorial," the joked with each other. "So, question, how are you guys pulling this off without a body?"

"Easy, bounty hunters keep their target's body and dispose of it on their own," Aries explains.

"That's is both convenient and disturbing," Lucian replies, and I nod in agreement.

"Did you eat yet, babe?" I ask Lacie.

"Not yet, why didn't you guys bring me back anything?" she asks, looking straight at Aries.

"We actually ran out of food," I tell her. "There were a lot more pack members coming by than we anticipated, it would honestly look strange if we took any food out of the house,"

"Oh, yeah, that's true," Lacie says. Just then, her stomach growls.

"Precious, do you want pizza?" Aries asks

"Yes!" Lacie exclaims. This girl and her damn pizza.

"We should order from FI!ppers,"

"Oh my god! Yes! Fl!ppers!" she squeals.

"Hawaiian?"

"You know it," I smile and quickly call FI!ppers. Luckily, they're open pretty late and are within delivery range. I add some breadsticks, and wings to the order just in case the guys want to eat some, and it takes about an hour to get to the hotel. Lacie hides in the bathroom, which turned out to be a good thing because the delivery guy happened to be an old classmate of ours from high school. He didn't recognize me, but I sure as hell recognized him. He was the jock type that was a bully and picked on a lot of people.

It wasn't surprising to see him working as a pizza delivery guy this many years later. He barely graduated and lost his track scholarship for getting a DUI while underage. Humans can be so stupid sometimes.

"You can come out," I tell Lacie. I put the pizza, breadsticks, and wings on the table in the hotel room, and she goes to town.

"Oh my god! I forgot how good this place is," she says with her mouthful.

"Precious, are you going to share?"

"No, you ate already,"

"Yeah, Aries, Lacie doesn't share her pizza," I tell him. He just pouts and snags a slice anyway.

"HEY!" she shouts with a growl.

"Remember what Allie said about taking food from a pregnant woman!" she shouts at him.

"What did you say?" I look at her.

"Oh, yeah, uh...I'm pregnant,"

"WHAT!?" Lucian and I exclaim.

"b\*\*\*h WHEN THE HELL WERE GOING TO TELL ME!?"

"After we...caught...my...sister..." she says slowly while bringing a slice of pizza to her mouth.

"Precious, that only counts when you're actually carrying the pup," Aries replies.

"What the hell does that mean!?" I ask.

"Uh, well, I mean, we are expecting, but because of the whole bounty thing and my having to die, Allie's friend Maxine, you know the good witch...She used magic to transfer my pup's soul into Sam's body for the time being," Lucian and I look at them like they're insane.

"So, you're saying that Sam is currently carrying your baby?" Lucian says in the form of a question. Aries and Lacie nod.

"Think of it as a magical surrogate," Lacie says sticking a breadstick in her mouth.

"So, you're not pregnant?" I state in the form of a question.

"Well, not at the moment, but I will be once we catch my sister, and all this sh!t is finally over and done with," I lift my brow at her. What she was saying made no sense. "Cianna, Maxine can use her magic to put my baby back inside of me."

"Ohhhh...That's so weird, but cool at the same time,"

"Why didn't you guys ask Shorty to carry your pup?" Lucian asks. Lacie and Aries just look at each other and don't say anything.

"Uhh...You guys good?" I ask.

"Yeah, it's just that...Allie had her reasons to say no when we asked, so we went with Sam," Lacie replies. I wanted more of an answer, but Lacie shook her head at me. That typically meant, there was more, but she wasn't at liberty to say. So, Lucian and I dropped it. After Lacie finished eating, we all sat around and talked for a couple of hours. Lucian and I eventually went back to our room to sleep and get ready for Lacie's fake memorial in the morning.

{Heather's P.O.V.}

"Ladies and gentlemen, as we begin our final approach into Tampa, please put your chairs and tray tables in their upright position, turn off any large electronic devices, and place personal items under the seat in front of you. Flight attendants will be coming by to pick up any last-minute trash you may have,"

Finally, after traveling for almost an entire fvcking\*g day, I'm landing in Tampa. This trip was the worst, but it was worth it. I can't wait to see my family's face when I show up at the memorial. All the condolence messages I have been receiving are making me sick. Everyone assumes that Lacie and I got along and that I'm sad about her death. fvck that and fvck her. She deserved to die. She betrayed me first by finding her mate and then living with him. The bigger betrayal is when I found out she was now at Desert Moon.

Of all the fvcking\*g packs in the fvcking\*g world, her mate had to be from there. I don't get why she didn't just reject him. Why she actually willingly joined the pack that belonged to that selfish b\*\*\*h Allie. I already knew that there would be a possibility of seeing her at the memorial, but it would just give me the chance to kick her a.ss. Because of her, Deacon moved on and found someone else. The fact that he was able to love someone while bearing my mark still makes my bl00d boil. Then he went and made her his Luna, a position that rightfully belonged to me, and then they had pups together.

Those mutt pups. Part fairy and part wolf. I don't understand how he could choose someone like her over a goddess like me. Once I was finished here with Lacie's memorial, I need to find a way to get into Yellow Moon and reclaim what rightfully belongs to me.

# Desert Storm Chapter 77 - Tips

### {Allie's P.O.V.}

"Baby, are you ready?" Dorian called from the bedroom. I was still in the bathroom getting ready for Lacie's memorial.

"Yeah, I'm coming out now," I say. I took a last look at my hair, and dress and walked out. "You know, I don't know how I am supposed to react to all of this now," I tell him.

"It's a fake memorial,"

"Yeah, to us, and a few selected people, but her family and other friends, they think it's real. Am I supposed to ugly cry, or just sniffle?"

"Somewhere in between?" he said. Although it was phrased more like a question.

"You're not helping,"

"And I think you're overthinking," I rolled my eyes because I knew he was right. I was way overthinking everything. Apart of me was just so desperate to catch Heather. I want her to pay for everything that she has done. While I was deep in thought on how I was going to make Heather pay for everything, there was a knock on our door. Dorian went to open it, and it was Amber and Ronnie.

"Hey, are you guys coming or what?" she asked.

"We are, Allie is just over-analyzing everything," Dorian says. I squint my eyes and stick my tongue out.

"Sister, you're such a little kid sometimes," Amber says to me. I scoff at her remark.

"It doesn't help that she looks like one too," Ronnie replies.

"What is this pick on Allie day!?" I said annoyed. They all just chuckled at me.

"Come on, we need to go," Dorian and I nodded, and we all headed downstairs. We were having the memorial at the packhouse because it would

be kind of odd to have a memorial at a funeral without a body, and since our kind didn't do funerals the way humans did, it made more sense.

Mercury and I were on high alert. I focused on Heather's soul, or lack thereof just in case I would be able to sense her. What everyone didn't know what Fury, Warlord, Poseidon, and Carter were in St. Petersburg searching for any signs of Heather. They came on their own dime because we needed to be sure that no one would suspect anything. The only people that knew were Dorian, Aries, and me. Even Lacie was kept in the dark for her own safety and sanity.

We were all gathering in the backyard, which thankfully was plenty big enough to hold the 300 plus people attending Lacie's memorial. I could sense plenty of humans around as well. What I didn't like was the fact that there were more than one a few women both werewolf and human checking out Aries and Dorian. I was this close to gauging their eyes out for even looking at my husband.

"Allie, I can sense your anger, and you need to calm down," Dorian whispered.

"Too many skanks and sluts are trying to eyefvck you, Dorian," I reply.

"Too bad for them, they're only eye-fvcking the space around me, cause the only thing in my mind is my d!ck inside of you," I pressed my l!ps and my th!ghs together because that one statement made me we.t.

"Baby, you get horny too easily nowadays," he said and gently pinched my a.ss cheek. Thankfully Cianna and Lucian were behind us, so seeing a little PDA such as that wouldn't phase them. After all, they have seen Bandit mount Mercury. While I was trying to fight the urge to k!ll every woman eyeing Dorian and keep myself from trying to fvck him in front of everyone, Bernie came to the podium. Thank God, I said to myself.

"Good morning, everyone," Bernie started his speech. "As many of you know, my youngest daughter Lacie was kidnapped and murdered last week," this was the story we had to spin to the non-supernaturals because saying she was taken out by a bounty hunter would be, well, to say the least, alarming. "Lacie was a blessing to all those who knew her, and everyone who met her fell in love with her. Lacie was a beautiful soul, she was kind, caring, loving, passionate, and empathetic. She was the kind of person who always put others above herself. She was wise beyond her years, and intelligent. She

was an overachiever in every aspect of her life, and she was never afraid to go after her dreams. Although Lacie decided not go to college, we were never worried about her making it in this world. Although she was young, barely 20 years old, Lacie lived a full and prosperous life. She fell in love, got engaged, and had more than plenty of friends who loved her dearly. To my precious daughter, I love you with everything that I have, and I miss you dearly,"

After Bernie's eulogy, there was not a dry eye in the crowd. I mean, I could tell that some were forced and faked, but even I was actually shedding a few tears. I looked over at Corinne was completely beside herself. I shook my head and just kept my head down. I don't think I could make contact with her without completely caving. I knew what she was going through better than anyone. In a sense, Lacie was murdered. Her baby was murdered. If there was one person who knew what that felt like, it's me. The only difference is that Lacie is alive and well, and my baby isn't. I will never forget that day my pup died. It was the worst pain I had ever experienced. Corinne may be in pain, but it's because she doesn't know the truth. Her pain will eventually go away. Will she and Bernie be pissed, hell yeah they will be, but they will be happy knowing that their child is perfectly healthy.

Cianna was up next, and her eulogy was actually very comical. She told the entire crowd half the stupid sh!t Lacie did when she was growing up, and most of it I'm sure Lacie would not be happy about that she told. A lot of the stuff she talked about was quite surprising, and I didn't expect from someone as mature and responsible as Lacie, but I guess everyone had their terrible teens and acting out moments. Lacie turned out to be quite the prankster, and when I turned to look at Aries, he just nodded. Apparently, Lacie has been playing a lot of pranks on him lately out of sheer boredom.

The rest of the memorial was actually pretty monotonous, and after individual eulogies were given, a small plastic sailboat with a picture of Lacie was placed into the harbor to sail off into the open waters. Bernie and Corinne eventually disappeared into the house, so Amber, Ronnie, Henry, and Melanie helped take care of the guests. There were plenty of refreshments and small finger foods for everybody. While the humans were mingling, most of the pack members were either off doing their own thing or went back to their condos.

Dorian, Lucian, Aries, Cianna and I were hanging out in the back corner of the backyard where no one would bother us,

"Shorty, anything?" Lucian asked me.

"No, I don't sense her anywhere," I bit my bottom I!p. "Guys, if she doesn't show up this entire plan is a bust," I tell them.

"Not completely, we still got that b\*\*\*h Maya out of the picture," Cianna replied.

"Maya was merely a pawn. Even Heather used her to an extent. Maya and Heather may have worked together, but Heather was the mastermind behind it all," I reply. Aries looked like he was about to say something when I saw his eyes cloud over. Even though his eyes were open, his face looked angry and really irritated.

"Aries, what is it?" Dorian asked when his eyes were back to normal. Thank goddess no humans were around us.

"That was Carter, they sp0tted Heather," he replied but his voice didn't seem excited.

"Why do I feel that there's a but coming?" I said to him.

"But he lost her,"

"WHAT DO YOU MEAN HE LOST HER!?" I growled through my teeth trying to not gain any unwanted attention.

"Aries, what happened?!" Dorian growled as well.

"Carter said that an Uber dropped her off at the condo complex, but before she could in, someone pulled her off to the side. He said that they were talking and then they both took off," my hands were in the tightest fists they could ever be in. We were so close, but someone intervened.

"Please tell me that Carter got photos of the person who helped her," I said.

"He did, and he's currently following them again. He's called for the others, and they're going to try and ambush them,"

"They can't do that in the open!" I exclaimed in a shouting whisper.

"Baby, they're professionals, they know how to make it discrete," Dorian said to me.

"Who are you guys talking about?" Cianna asked. Dorian explained to them that we had four bounty hunter pack members scattered with a few miles of the packhouse to try and catch Heather and warn us of her arrival.

"So, the plan in itself worked, she actually came," Lucian said. "The only problem is that a third party we didn't plan for just got in the way,"

"We need to leave the packhouse. There are way too many eyes and ears here," Cianna said and we all nodded in agreement. Dorian mind linked Amber to update her, and to let her know we needed to leave.

I was not about to let Heather getaway. We were too close to finally catching her. I don't care who this third party is, he was not going to get in my way.

{Lacie's P.O.V.}

I was sitting in the hotel bored out of my fvcking\*g mind. I was currently playing solitaire on my phone trying to beat my record of three minutes to finish one game.

"Ugh, this is so stupid," I said out loud and tossed my phone on the bed. This had to be the worst part of being dead. Boredom. "Blah blah blah, oh my goddess I am so bored! UGH!" I try to mind link Aries and am met with a block. "Ugh of course he has a block up!" I thrash my head back and forth not knowing what to do. "Grrr ... at least if Aries was here we could have se.x to pass the time," I got up from the bed and just paced around the hotel room talking to myself. I fl!pped through the T.V. but there was nothing good to watch. I grunted in frustration again and grabbed my phone to play Angry Birds. After several levels, I started to get frustrated because I was stuck. I threw the phone on the bed and just sulked.

Being patient was not one of my strong suits, and I had no problem admitting that. I wanted to try and take a nap, but sleep would not come easily. I was too anxious to know if my sister did indeed show up, but with everyone having a mind block up, I was in the dark. After much deliberation, I decided that I would just pleasure myself until Aries contacted me.

I str!pped down to my b.ra and underwear and started to imagine Aries, doing all sorts of things to me. I used one hand to grab my b.reast, and the other hand started to rub my delicate se.x on the outside of my underwear. It didn't take long for me to get we.t. Just thinking of Aries I!cking my folds, sticking his

tongue in, and biting my cl!t was enough to drive me crazy. I reach in my underwear and started to rub, pinch, and twist my cl!t.

When I felt I was thoroughly we.t, I removed my underwear, and gently inserted two of my fingers, and quickly found my g-sp0t. Although the angle wasn't the same, the pressure against g-sp0t along with the images of Aries having his way with me was enough to make me start m0aning in ecstasy.

"fvck," I m0aned out loud. "Aries, yes, fvck," I decided to keep my link to him open just in case I was still pleasuring myself when his opened up. That way, the first thing he would hear would be me crying out his name in pleasure. I started to rub, finger, pinch, twist, every part of my delicate p.ussy until I made myself c.um. It still wasn't enough though, I wanted more. I inserted a third finger which was a lot, but the slight pain that came from it, made me think of Aries rock hard thick c0ck, fvcking\*g me until I saw stars. That alone was enough to send me over the edge. I was m0aning so loud, that I was sure if there was anyone next door to us they could hear me. Oh well.

Just a little more, I thought to myself. I few more fl!cks, and a little imagination, and I was would c.um so hard. Just as I was about to c.um, the hotel door swung open,

"AH!" I shouted and quickly covered myself with the blanket.

"Precious, what the fvck?" Aries was standing in the doorway.

"Move, Aries!" I heard Allie's voice. They all pushed their way in, and the next thing I knew, I was 95% n.aked and Allie, Dorian, Lucian, and Cianna were in the room with us.

"Lacie, were you m\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*g?" Aries asked.

"I...Um...I...N-no," I stutter.

"b\*\*\*h, don't lie, I can smell it," Cianna said.

"Lacie, don't be embarrassed, I masturbate all the time,"

"ALLIE!" Dorian shouted.

"What? Men aren't the only ones that pleasure themselves. Women do too, and probably more frequently," she responded while sitting on the bed next to

me. "You know Lacie if you never help getting rid of some s\*\*\*\*I tension, I would be more than happy to help," she said and caressed my arm.

"Oh my god, Allie!" I squealed and smacked her arm.

"Ow!" she laughed and smacked me back. We both started to laugh. "Girl, I'm just messing, but no, seriously, instead of using your fingers, why not get a customized toy,"

"A what?"

"A toy. You know, a se.x toy, like a dildo,"

"Why would I need a toy!?"

"Yeah, she doesn't need a toy, Allie!" Aries said sounding offended.

"I'm not saying you're not enough Aries, I'm sure you're plenty for Lacie; however, there are times when you guys aren't home, and us women want se.x,"

"She has a point," Cianna agreed.

"Cici!?" Lucian exclaimed.

"Guys are so stereotypical when it comes to m\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*n and women pleasuring themselves," Allie said sitting straight up. "I do it all the time when Dorians' busy at the firm and I don't go with him. My hands are so small that it doesn't do anything for me. And there aren't any toys out there that even remotely resemble the feeling of Dorian's magical pole, so I ordered one of those DIY dildo makers online, and I made a mold of Dorian's d!ck," she said and smiled with absolutely no shame.

"Big man, is that true?" Lucian asked Dorian, and he just nodded without hesitation.

"I'd rather have Allie m\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*g to a mold of my d!ck rather than someone else's that you would buy at a store," he replied.

"Okay, this is a conversation for another time," Aries said quickly changing the subject. "Precious, put your clothes on, we need to talk," I nodded my head, and got out of the bed wrapping myself in the sheet and went into the

bathroom to quickly put my clothes back on. When I came out, everyone was sitting down and hovered over Aries' laptop.

"What's going on?" I asked.

"Precious, come here," I went over to Aries and sat on his lap. The look on his and everyone else's faces was not a happy one.

"What happened?" I asked knowing that something went wrong. Aries quickly explained to me that my sister did in fact show up at the condo complex, more than likely to get into her old unit. When he told me that some guy stopped her and then made her get into a car with him, I was shocked. I was even more shocked to find out that our four bounty hunter compadres were basically hunting down my sister.

"Carter is emailing me photos of the man right now," he says to me.

"Why didn't he just text them to you?"

"He needs to upload them first. He takes photos from at least 100 feet away with a long-range telephoto lens," Dorian explains. I made an O shape with my mouth. I honestly wondered who could be helping my sister. I was about to say something when there was a notification on Aries' laptop indicating he got the pictures from Carter.

"Alright, the moment of truth. Let's see who the mystery man is," Aries said while opening the attachment. The moment I saw the man in the photo, I looked back at Allie, and her eyes were black as night. I heard a menacing growl, and at first, I thought it came from Aries, but then I realized that he came from Dorian. I looked at him, and his eyes were even blacker than Allie's.

"Just when I thought we could rule this fvcker out," I said.

"Lacie, is that who I think it is?" Cianna asked, and I nodded my head.

"Precious, who is that?" Aries asked me.

"Babe, that's my ex, the one that went to high school with Allie," I answer. Aries suddenly gripped my h!ps really tight, and I could feel the anger radiating off of him.

"sh!t! sh!t!" Cianna growled pacing back and forth. She always did that when she got really mad. I looked back at the screen and glared at the man in the photo. Shawn Jensen, this isn't over.

{Heather's P.O.V.}

After landing in Tampa, I got my bag from baggage claim and made my way to the Uber pick area. I ordered my ride, and it arrived a few minutes later. The drive to St. Petersburg was long and boring because of the traffic. I had the driver drop me off at the condo complex so I could drop off my stuff before heading over to the packhouse to give my sister a proper send-off. Which would consist of me telling everyone what a self-centered w\*\*\*e she was, and that deserved to die.

When the driver pulled up to the condo, I gave him a five-dollar tip and got out. I stared at the condo complex, not really afraid of who would see me. No ones I've been up to and would assume that I just moved out to be on my own. I grabbed the handle of my bag and was about to go in when a car pulled up behind me. I turned around,

"Shawn!?"

"Heather! You need to come with me!"

"What the fvck why?"

"You're being followed,"

"What? What the fvck are you talking about? And what the hell are you doing here?"

"I just flew back in from New Hampshire because I heard what happened to Lacie. I saw you at the airport and figured you were here for her memorial too. I was going to ask if you wanted to ride with me, but then I saw someone following you and taking pictures of you, and I could sense that he was a wolf,"

"What?!"

"Heather, he got into an Uber right after you did, and after yours dropped you off, he got off about two blocks from here. I'm certain that you're a target of some kind. You need to come with me, now!" he said and pulled my arm

forcing me to get into his car. He took my bag and threw it into the back a seat and drove us away.

"Shawn, where are we going?"

"Safehouse, where no one can find you,"

"I need to go to my sister's memorial!"

"We can go tomorrow, right now it's not safe with you being followed,"

"Why would someone want to follow me!?"

"I don't know, have you pissed off anyone lately!?" well I mean, I did try and k!ll several people and threatened to k!ll my ex mates new mate and their mutt pups, but other than that, nope. I think to myself.

"No, why would you even think that?"

"Because I know you, Heather!"

"Just because we fvckingd once a few years ago doesn't mean you know me, Shawn,"

"I know enough,"

"Why are you even here?" I ask him.

"I told you. I heard what happened to Lacie, and I wanted to come to pay my respects. Whether she knew it or not, I loved her, and I wanted to believe that she was my mate,"

"Well, I hate to break it to you Shawn, but a year after you two broke up, Lacie found her mate, and he happened to be a lower level Omega,"

"What!?" he replied with a growl.

"Yeah,"

"Is it someone I know?"

"Doubt it, he's not even from Florida. Lacie moved to Las Vegas,"

"What? Las Vegas?"

"Yeah."

"Are you telling me she went to the Desert Moon pack?"

"How do you know about the Desert Moon pack?"

"Heather, every ranked wolf in America knows the Desert Moon pack and their reputation. I also happen to be old high school classmates with the Luna,"

"WHAT!? YOU KNOW ALLIE!?"

"Intimately,"

"What do you mean intimately?"

"Allie was actually my best friend's mate, Devin McMillian. He was supposed to be the new Alpha of my pack in New Hampshire,"

"What do you mean by was?"

"Devin almost k!lled Allie after she turned 18, by se.xually assaulting her. She was human back then, so she didn't know anything about werewolves or the supernatural. So, after surviving the assault, she went to the police, and since Devin wasn't Alpha yet, and there was more than enough evidence to send him away, the Elders of our state banished him while he was incarcerated, which left me to pick up the pieces,"

"You seem to know about a lot about the details,"

"I was supposed to be the Beta after Devin became Alpha. I knew that he was going to assault Allie, but I didn't stop him. After he got incarcerated, I left town and moved here. I needed to wait out the statute of limitations because if I got caught as an accessory, I would have been banished myself, then our pack would have been dismantled,"

"So, you let Allie get assaulted?" he nodded. "Well, I'm sure she fvcking\*g deserved it. Allie is a b\*\*\*h who fvckingd up my life and made my mate reject me. Too bad that fvcking\*g cunt didn't die all those years ago,"

"What the hell are you talking about?" he asked. I gave him the cliff notes version of everything that went wrong with Deacon because of Allie. "Damn, I didn't think Allie would do that. She always seemed so nice," he said.

"Nice? Please, Allie's a vindictive b\*\*\*h who only cares about herself," I cross my arms, and look out the window.

"Says the girl who s.educed her sister's boyfriend,"

"That was one time, and you didn't have to sleep with me, you wanted to,"

"Be that as it may, I loved your sister, and I wish the hell I could turn back time,"

"It wouldn't matter. You weren't her mate," I tell him rubbing salt in his wounds.

"Get some rest, we will be at the safe in an hour,"

"Whatever," I snub and close my eyes. Thoughts kept racing through my mind. Why would someone want to follow me? It's not like anyone knew what I had done. I made sure to keep my ident!ty secret, and I was careful at the club. Too bad I couldn't contact Maya, wherever the hell that b\*\*\*h went. I figured her a.ss is celebrating getting rid of my sister and was on her way to find Aries as speak.

I looked over at Shawn and realized that him being a ranked member would come in handy. Maybe I could use his rank as a means to get into Yellow Moon unprovoked. That was a plan for another day. First, I needed to figure out who was after me, and why?

### Desert Storm Chapter 78 - Tips

## {Shawn's P.O.V.}

I couldn't believe it when Heather said that Lacie had a mate that was low-level. It's rare for a ranked female to be mated to a non-ranked wolf unless she was mated to a human. At one point in my life, I truly believed that Lacie would be my Luna, and we would be happy together. The one year that we were actually together was probably one of the happiest years of my life. But then, she caught me cheating on her with her sister, which I have regretted

since the moment it happened. But when she turned 18, and she didn't turn out to be my mate, I was even more heartbroken. I was damn near outraged.

I know for a fact that I felt the mate bond with her, even if she wasn't of age yet. There was no denying that it was there, so the fact that she didn't turn out to be my mate made absolutely no sense to me. After losing Lacie, I waited out the rest of the statute of limitations before going back to New Hampshire to claim the Alpha t!tle. I hated being the Alpha, but with Devin confirmed dead, I had no choice. His parents weren't very thrilled when I told him what happened after he got out of prison.

They were more outraged at him for going after Allison again after they specifically told him to stay in New Hampshire and wait out his probation, but that fvcker never listened to anyone. I honestly felt horrible for what happened to Allison, but hearing that she was given another mate, and another Alpha wolf at that was bonkers. Now, the tiny human that no one ever liked was the Luna of one of the strongest packs of the Western United States. I guess sh!t happens for a reason. Devin's parents and my parents almost didn't believe me when I told them that. But when they did some research, they almost sh!t themselves.

I often wonder why the moon goddess hasn't given me a mate yet. I've been to multiple packs the last few months and nothing. I was honestly sick of waiting, because I need a Luna to help me run my pack. I'm still upset that it wasn't Lacie.

After driving for what felt like forever, I finally arrived at the safe house that I bought in Orlando.

"Heather, we're here," I say and shove her to wake her up.

"Ugh, you didn't have to shove me, a.ssh0le,"

"Quit your b!tching and get out of the car," we both get out, and I grab her bag from the backseat. I unlock the front door and we go in. I take her upstairs and show her to the guestroom she will stay in until I can figure out why she is being followed and by whom.

{Carter's P.O.V.}

I wasn't sure what happened, I knew for a fact that I was made. That's the only explanation for this fvcker coming out of nowhere and messing up the

Alpha's and Luna's plans to catch Lacie's sister. We were so fvcking\*g close, then this tool showed up and is now making us play hide and go seek. Luckily, I was able to get a clear shot of this guy's license plate as well as the make and model of the car he was driving. This would allow me to hack into the DMV database to see who the owner of the car or at least see if the car had LoJack.

After I got the pictures of the guy, I uploaded them and sent them to Aries. I started working on hacking into the Florida DMV database. Once I was in the system, I looked up the license plate and found that it was a rental, which was not a good thing; however, all rentals come with LoJack installed just in case the car is ever stolen. I got the program set up, and started to trace the vehicle, while that was working, I got a call from Aries,

"Yo,"

"Carter, the guy in the photo's name is Shawn Jensen, he's an Alpha,"

"What the fvck, are you serious?"

"Yeah, and he's also Lacie's ex-boyfriend,"

"Lacie had a boyfriend before you?"

"Yes, that's not the point. Did you find anything?"

"Yeah, I followed him, but lost him in traffic; however, based on the highway he was taking, it looks like he was heading to Orlando. The car he was driving is a rental, but it has LoJack, so I'm tracing it now to get an exact location,"

"Okay, contact the others, and tell them to head out to Orlando, we will meet you guys there,"

"You got it. Once I get a location on the car, I will text you the GPS coordinates,"

"Okay,"

As soon as I hung up the phone, I got a ping on the computer indicating my program found the car. I pulled up the coordinates, and put it into Google maps, and found that it was a house. It was more than likely a potential

safehouse. I got the coordinates and the address and texted them to Aries. I packed up my stuff and ordered an Uber.

"Hey buddy," I told him when I got in the car.

"Is this right, you want to go to Orlando?"

"Yeah, why?"

"I don't know if I can go that far, man,"

"I'll give \$500 cash on top of the fair, now drive,"

"You got it,"

The drive only took about an hour and a half, and as promised, I gave the driver \$500 on top of the fair. I had him drop me off two blocks from the house, and I sent my coordinates to Aries and the others. About twenty minutes later, Fury, Warlord and Poseidon showed up.

"Hey, how did you get here?" Fury asked me.

"Uber,"

"Damn, why didn't I think of that," he replied.

"How did you get here?"

"I drove my rental car,"

"You know those things have Lojack in them right?"

"It's called disabling theirs and putting in my own. It's spoofed so it looks we're still in St. Petersburg,"

"Nice,"

"Where's Aries and the Alpha?" Warlord asked.

"They're on their way now, they should be here soon," I answered.

"So who is this guy anyway?" Poseidon asked.

"He's an Alpha of a pack, and Lacie's ex-boyfriend," I replied, and they all looked at me like I had grown two heads. "Hey, I'm just telling you what Aries told me," We stood around for about fifteen minutes or so when a range rover pulled up. The driver's window rolled down and it was the Alpha.

"Sir!" we all bowed our heads.

"Which house is it?" he asked.

"It's two blocks from here, Alpha, I wasn't sure if they suspected they were being followed, so I wanted to stay out of sight until you arrived,"

"Okay, give us a few minutes. I need to park the car away from here," we bowed our heads again, and he drove off. About ten minutes later, we saw the Alpha, Luna, and Aries coming to us.

"Lead the way," Aries said. I nodded once and led them to the house where the target was.

#### {Heather's P.O.V.}

"Mmmm...you're so good at that," Shawn m0aned as I deep throated his c0ck. He grabbed the back of my head, fisting my hair, and started to fvck my throat. I started to make gagging noises while saliva ran down my chin to my neck, and tears streamed down my face. Though I wished I were s.ucking on Deacon's c0ck instead of Shawn's he would have to do for now.

"You like that, you like that I can deep throat every inch of you," I said while tugging and pulling his e.rection. His eyes snapped shut when I squeezed it hard with my hand, and he started to gr0an as he squ!rts his load all over my hand.

"Ohhh...sh!ttt...ohhhh...fvckkk," he m0aned and grunted. I kept pulling on him until he became too sensitive and pushed me away. I wiped my hand on a tissue as he cleaned himself up.

"I think I've sufficiently thanked you," I tell him while standing up to my feet. Just as he was pulling his boxers and pants back on, we heard the doorbell. I looked at him, and he looked just as confused as I did. "Are you expecting someone?" I asked.

"No," he replied standing to his feet. "No one knows about this house," he replied. We both went downstairs, and I saw him look through the peephole.

"Who is it?"

"Some guy in a suit,"

"Maybe it's one of those marketing people that go house to house, we used to them get them all the time,"

"Yeah, maybe," Shawn opened the door. "Can I help you?"

"Yes, I'm sorry to bother you, but my car broke down just up the road, and my cell is dead. Do you by chance have a phone I can use to call a tow truck?"

"Yeah, sure, come on in,"

"Thanks, man, you're awesome. I asked four other people they've all slammed the door in my face,"

"Sorry to hear that, give me a minute and I'll get my phone for you,"

"You're too kind," Shawn went back upstairs, and I just waited by the front door with the stranger. He was kind of hot, for a human at least. I wouldn't mind jumping his bones. He made a quick glance at me and smiled. I smiled back and gave him a seductive look. I looked at his left hand and saw no ring.

"So, how's your day so far?" he asked me.

"Not too bad, yourself?" I asked with fl!rty eyes.

"Was going well until the sh!t with my car. I mean, can you believe my luck," he grunted in frustration.

"Well, I'm sure I can find some way to make it better," I reply to him and gently caress his arm.

"I'm sorry?" he said with a confused look.

"Don't be coy, you know what I'm talking about," I caressed his arm a little more and I!cked my I!ps.

"Ahem, I don't think this is appropriate, what would your husband say?"

- "Oh, he's not my husband, just a friend, I'm single,"
- "Really?" he said with a smirk. Men were so easy. They just can't help but fall for me.
- "Tell you what, let me hitch a ride back with you when the tow truck gets here. I'm sure I can make your day a lot better,"
- "Yeah, I think that sounds like a plan," he easily agreed. I was going to say something more when I heard Shawn coming down the stairs.
- "Here you go man,"
- "Thank you so much," the stranger took Shawn's phone and called a tow truck service. After a few minutes on the phone, he hung up and gave the phone back to Shawn. "Thank you again, he said it would take at least an hour though,"
- "Sorry to hear that, I really hope he gets here sooner than that,"
- "Yeah, thanks again,"
- "Um, wait," I stop him from leaving. "Shawn, I think I'm going to go wait with him, I mean, he is alone,"
- "Heather..." I pulled Shawn to the side.
- "I've been in this house for almost five hours, I am not going to just idly sit in here bored out of my mind,"
- "You weren't bored when you were s.ucking my d!ck ten minutes ago,"
- "Get over yourself, I was thanking you from getting me out of St. Petersburg,"
- "Heather, what if whoever was following you followed you here?"
- "I doubt it, otherwise they would have made a move already,"
- "Hey, I'm sorry to interrupt, but I'm going to head out now,"
- "Wait, just another minute, I'll go with you to keep you company!" I yelled out to him. I was not going to let a hot guy just walk away.

"Heather, don't,"

"fvck off Shawn, I don't need your permission to do anything," I shoved him off and went to hot guy. "Okay, let's go," I tell him. We both walk out the door and he leads to me where his car is broken down.

"So, your name is Heather?" he asked me.

"Yeah, what's your name?"

"My name is Percy,"

"Percy, that's a cute name for a cute guy,"

"You think I'm cute?"

"I think you're hot," I reply and press my b.reasts against his arm. "I think we should have a little outdoor fun,"

"You know indecent exposure is still a crime,"

"Only if we get caught," I say and grab his c0ck and start to firmly rub it. I was surprised that it wasn't hard yet after I openly fl!rted with him and shoved my b00bs into his face. Humans always took longer than wolves did. I pulled him around the corner where there was a small crevice just big enough for the two of us.

"Please, don't do this here, it's not ladylike,"

"Ladylike? Do I look like someone who is ladylike to you?" I replied and then shoved my tongue in his mouth. His hands immediately grabbed my a.ss cheeks, and I started to unbuckle his pants.

"Things with you really don't change, do they?" I heard a familiar voice. I stopped what I was doing and turned to see Allie. I see her smirk when I felt a sudden pain on my neck. As my consciousness started to go in and out, I heard another familiar voice,

"Sweet dreams sis,"

{Lacie's P.O.V.}

"LACIE!?!" the boys shouted.

"Hi," I replied with a smile.

"You're supposed to be dead!" Carter exclaimed.

"Yeahhhhh..." I just shrugged. Just then, Warlord pinched me. "Ow! What the fvck was that for!?"

"Making sure I'm not dreaming," he replied.

"You're supposed to pinch yourself dumba.ss!" I shouted at him.

"How are you here!?" Poseidon asked.

"She flew in on the jet with us," Allie replied. "That's why we had you guys take commercial flights. We couldn't risk anyone seeing Lacie, not until we got Heather,"

"I'm so fvcking\*g lost right now," Fury said rubbing his temples.

"You guys can ask questions and freak out later," Dorian said to them. "Right now, we need you guys to take her to the Orlando airport. Grayson should have already landed and will be waiting for you guys. Keep her knocked out, and as soon as you get her into the packhouse, get her into the isolation cell in the cellar until we get back,"

"What about you guys?" Carter asked.

"We're going to fly back on Yellow Moon's jet with Lucian and Cianna," Allie answered.

"Go now, and make sure no one sees you," Dorian commanded.

"Yes, Alpha!" the guys replied, and they picked up Heather and carrying her like she was a drunk instead of drugged.

"I think it's time we go pay Shawn a visit," Allie says. We all walk up to the house, and Aries rings the doorbell, covering the peephole with his hand. Luckily, there were no windows on the side of the door that would allow Shawn to see us.

"Decided to come ba... Who the fvck are...LACIE!? ALLISON?!"

"Hi," Allie and I said in unison.

"Lacie, you're supposed to be dead!!"

"So, I've been told,"

"Shawn, we need to have a serious chat, how about inviting us in," Allie said with her eyes black. Shawn gulped and opened the door for all of us to go in. We got settled in the dining room where we all sat and faced each other. Shawn sat at the head of the table.

"So, you're probably wondering why Lacie is sitting here, and not in a ten-foot grave somewhere," Allie started to say. Shawn kept staring at me, which was making Aries agitated. I kept my hand on his th!gh to keep him at bay. The last thing we needed a wolf fight in the middle of a suburban neighborhood. "Shawn! Did you hear me!?"

"Huh? Yeah, sorry. I'm just caught off guard by all of this," he looked at her, back at me, and then back to her. "Wait, how the fvck did you even know where I was!?"

"We have resources," Allie replied. "Now, I'm going to ask a series of questions, and you're going to answer them truthfully because if you don't, I will personally make sure you join Devin in hell,"

"Allie, I don't take threats likely! I'm an Alpha!"

"And I'm a Luna! A high level one at that. I can easily subdue you just by touching your hand. So, unless you want to be rendered unconscious and facing judgment with the Elders of Florida and New Hampshire, I suggest you answer my questions, comprender?" he glared at her a moment, but a growl from Dorian was all it took for him to nod his head in agreement.

"What do you want to know?"

"Why did you help Heather?"

"I thought she was in danger. I saw someone following her and I figured I would keep her safe,"

"Yeah, maybe," Shawn opened the door. "Can I help you?"

"Were you aware that Heather is wanted for the attempted murder of multiple ranked pack members between my pack and Yellow Moon's in California?"

- "What?! No, I had no idea!"
- "Were you aware that Heather manipulated Aries' ex-lover to k!ll Lacie?"
- "WHAT!?" Shawn looks at me in shock and disbelief.
- "It's true Shawn, my sister has been trying to get me k!lled ever since I met my mate," Shawn's gaze immediately went to Aries and they both had a staredown with each other.
- "Shawn, did you know that Devin was going to assault me?" Shawn looked at her and her eyes were focused on his. Trying to determine if he was going to lie or not. With her soul sensing ability getting stronger as time went on, Allie was now able to detect the change in someone's aura if they're going to try and deceive her.
- "Yes," he replied. I immediately let out a small gasp. "I knew Devin was going to force you into se.x, but I didn't know that he would leave you for dead the way he did,"
- "Why didn't you stop him?"
- "I couldn't, he was the future Alpha of our pack, and to go against him would be treason."
- "Even when it came to the life of an innocent human!?!" she shouted.
- "Allison, you were his mate! I couldn't inter..."
- "THAT DOESN'T MAKE WHAT HE DID TO ME OKAY!!!" she roared in her Luna tone. Shawn was so startled by her outburst and that even for an Alpha, he jumped back.
- "I never said what he did was okay, I knew it was heinous and I knew that he never should have..."
- "Shut up Shawn!" I shouted at him. "You were an accessory to the crime! And you know it! Admit it! You came to Florida to avoid the statute of limitations, didn't you?" Shawn's eyes were fixated and filled with guilt.
- "Yes, I di..." before he could even finish his admission, Allie punched him straight in the face, and we could all hear the cracking sound of his nose breaking.

"You pathetic son of a b\*\*\*h! Do you think you're worthy of being an Alpha!? You let an innocent human get a.ssautled, and you had prior knowledge of it happening. Then instead of coming clean and accepting the fact that you played a part, you ran away to another state! You're a fvcking\*g p.ussy, Shawn! You're pathetic, weak, and a disgrace! I don't care what the statute of limitations is! I'm going to see to it that you are removed from your position as Alpha!"

"I'd like to see you try!" Shawn spat back. "Just because you're a Luna doesn't mean you're strong enough to take me on!"

"She may not be, but I am," Dorian said very calmly. It was so calm; it was actually scary. "Shawn Jensen, if we can't find a legal way to str!p you of your t!tle, then I will challenge you for your pack," as soon as Dorian said that, you could smell the fear on Shawn. "I suggest getting yourself prepared,"

"Also, don't bother looking for Heather, she's already in our custody and she's coming back to Desert Moon with us," Allie said.

"What are you going to do to her?" he asked.

"Why do you even care?" I asked in return.

"Lacie, I get it that she did some horrible things to you, but she's still your sister,"

"So, it's okay for her to try and k!ll me, my mate, my Alpha, my Luna, and my other friends, but it's not okay for her to pay for her crimes?"

"That's not what I'm saying,"

"Then what are you saying, Shawn? Please, enlighten me. Why do you care what happens to Heather?"

"She's a good person. She's just upset and angry at Allison,"

"Oh, let me guess, she told you that her mate rejected her because I somehow manipulated him into doing it, is that right?"

"Yeah, how did you..."

"She's lying Shawn!" Allie exclaimed. "Heather was rejected because her exmate didn't care about her, and he didn't want a mate at the time. He is an

Alpha who wasn't ready for a Luna, and she forcefully marked him without his consent thinking it would keep him from rejecting her. But little did she know, that doing that, made him hate her completely, so he rejected her. Not to mention the multiple times she assaulted me," Shawn was so bewildered at that point, he didn't know what to say.

"Want to know why her mate didn't want her?" I ask him. He looks at me and gives me a look of curiosity. "My sister is what you call an 'impure wolf',"

"What's that?"

"An impure wolf is a someone who intentionally has an affair with a mated wolf,"

"What? Are you saying that Heather had an affair with a mated wolf?" he asked.

"Not just one, but many. Cianna's actually the one who told her mate, who happens to be the triplet brother to her ex-mate," I answer. "She started sleeping with mated wolves when she was 16, and she ruined so many relationships within Snell Island's pack, that it completely destroyed the balance of male to female ratio. All the women that were scorned because of my sister sleeping with their mates, rejected their mates and left the pack,"

"Wait, did you say she started when she was 16?"

"Yeah, I did," I say to him "You see Shawn, I think you and I were supposed to be mates, I really do, but because you cheated on me with my sister, who was impure, the moon goddess rescinded the bond so that when I gained my wolf, you and I would not be mates,"

"WHAT!?" he slammed his fists on the table and stood to his feet. "Lacie! Are you telling me that it's my own fault that we're not together!?"

"That's exactly what I'm saying. You slept with my sister knowing full well that I was your potential mate, so, the moon goddess punished you, by taking it back,"

"Shawn, do you know what happens when a wolf cheats on their mate?" Dorian asks him. Shawn shook his head. "They spend the rest of their life mateless,"

"W-w-what!? Are you saying that I'll never have a mate!?"

"That's exactly what we're saying?" Allie chimes in.

"Lacie didn't have her wolf at the time!? That doesn't count!"

"Actually it does, because you see, as Lacie said, you felt the mate bond, which means, you had already claimed her as your mate; therefore, cheating on her, meant you cheated on her dormant wolf, and it doesn't help that you cheated on her with her sister who is an impure wolf," Aries tells him.

"What the fvck!?!" Shawn sat back in his seat grabbing his head and shouting strings of curse words.

"This is Karma, Shawn," Allie says to him. "You allowed a future Luna to be assaulted, and in doing so, the moon goddess gave you a mate that was related to an impure wolf knowing full well that you would cheat on her. As such, now you're an Alpha with no Luna," Shawn was seething in anger and hurt at Allie's words. She was basically pouring gasoline on an open flame, burning him more than he was already burned.

"I think we're done here," Dorian said. We all nodded and stood up to leave.

"You know Shawn, I would say have a nice life, but knowing that you played a part in my assault, you don't deserve a nice life. I hope you burn in hell," Allie says and takes Dorian's hand. I stop and look back at him. He's just staring at the dining room table completely dumbfounded.

"At one point I loved you Shawn, and I prayed to the moon goddess that you did turn out to be my mate because I wanted to spend the rest of my life with you. But when I saw you happily having se.x with my sister, I never hated you more. I also hope you burn in hell. Oh, and don't worry, you will have plenty of time in the afterlife to fvck my sister again. After all, you two deserve each other," I take Aries' hand and we all leave Shawn's house.

We make the quick walk to Dorian's rental, and we head back to St. Petersburg. It was time that I told my parents, about everything.

Desert Storm Chapter 79 - Tips

{Lacie's P.O.V.}

The drive back to my parents' house actually went pretty quickly. The entire drive there, I sat on Aries' lap and he just stroked my hair. There were no words needed. My sister was finally caught, and she was on her way to our packhouse where she would be judged and more than likely, executed. At this point, Dorian said that she wouldn't even have to stand trial. Since we had Maya's confession on record and the fact that we also had their faces on the CCTV footage from that night at the club, in addition to Chris the bartender's confession, this was a slam dunk.

When we pulled up to Snell Island packhouse, Amber, Ronnie, Lucian, and Cianna were outside waiting for us.

"Hi guys," I said getting out of the car.

"You little b\*\*\*h, get your a.ss over here!" Amber said and pulled me into a sisterly h.ug.

"Kiddo, do you realize how torn your parents are? How could you lie to them like this?" Ronnie asked.

"I'm sorry, Ronnie, but this had to be done. But we caught Heather in Orlando, and some of the bounty hunters that came with us are taking her back home now," I answered. "Where are my parents?"

"They're in your dad's office," Amber replied. "They don't know anything, so be ready to receive some backlash," I nodded.

"No time like the present," I said and took Aries' hand. We all walked into the house, and sure enough, Cam, Carl, and Amber's other pups were in the living room. When they all saw me, their faces were priceless. Carl was about to say my name really loud, but Cianna shushed him. They were warned to stay quiet for now. After we settled them, we went to my dad's office. The door was slightly ajar, and I gently knocked on it,

"Come in," I heard my dad's voice. I took a deep breath, and opened the door,

"Dad?" my mom's and his faces went extremely pale, and they both of their jaws dropped to the floor. "Hi, mommy," they were both dead silent.

"La...Lac...Lacie? LACIE?!" My dad shouted at the top of his lungs. My mom's eyes filled with tears, and they immediately fell from her eyes. I don't think I'd ever seen her run so fast in my entire life, as she engulfed me in a h.uge h.ug.

I could feel her tears on my shoulder and my neck, and she was hitting my back while making sounds of anger, frustration, hurt, and betrayal.

"I'm sorry, mommy," I sobbed. She hit my back a few more times before pulling her head back and cupping my face. I couldn't help but cry with her. I loved my mom so much, and I felt so guilty about having hurt her with our lies. She put her forehead to mine we both just sobbed together. I could hear sniffling behind me, and I knew that Allie, Amber, and Cianna were also crying.

"I don't understand," I heard my dad say. "How? How are...Lacie, we thought you were dead!!"

"I know, dad, and I'm sorry we lied to you and mom and everyone else, but we had to," I tell him.

"Why!?" he shouted.

"Because we needed to catch Heather!!" I shouted back. My mom pulled away from me, and my dad was shocked.

"What are you talking about?" he asked.

"Dad, Heather was hiding out in a foreign country, one that has no extradition treaty with the U.S., so we had to fake my death in an attempt to lure her here. She's a narcissistic b\*\*\*h who needs to pay for her crimes!"

"Lacie, you betrayed your sister!?"

"HEATHER BETRAYED ME!!!" I screamed making my mom jump back. "She tried to k!ll me! She almost succeeded!" I just looked at him and gawked. "Dad, how can you stand there and still try to defend her after everything she has done!?"

"Because she is my daughter!"

"AND I'M NOT!?!" I scream at him. "Dad I can't believe you! It's almost as if you love her more than me!" when I said that, the looked of admittance flashed across his face. "Oh my god, you do don't you?" I said softly. "You love Heather more than me. Enough to defend her when she tried to k!ll me," he just stood there silent not meeting my gaze. He didn't even deny it. The amount of heartache I felt at the instant was more than I could bear.

"How did you even find here in the UAE?" he asked.

"What? Dad, how did you know where she was?"

"You said so yourself,"

"No, I didn't. I said she went a country with no extradition treaty, I never said which country," the look on his face realizing he made a terrible mistake. "Oh my god, you helped her!?! You helped her leave the country!?!"

"Bernie! Is this true!?" Amber shouted. I had almost forgotten everyone else was also in the office.

"Bernie! Have you lost your mind!?" Ronnie shouted.

"What was I supposed to do! Let Dorian k!ll her!?" my dad shouted. My mouth hung as the tears fell from my eyes.

"Bernie! Do you realize what you have done!? You interfered with an official investigation set by another Alpha and one that was authorized by an Elder! Our Elder!" Amber exclaimed. I couldn't take it anymore. I threw myself at Aries and started to bawl. My own father favored Heather over me, enough to where he helped her leave the country to avoid punishment for her crimes. I couldn't believe that my own father would betray me this way.

"Daddy, how could you?" I sobbed while burying my face into Aries' c.hest.

"AMBER! SUMMON YOUR ELDER!" Dorian roared.

"There is no need for that," I heard a familiar elderly voice. I look up and saw Archie in the doorway. "Miss. Lacie, I'm glad to see you are not actually dead," I smiled through my tears. Archie was like a grandfather to me and was always so kind.

"Archie, why are you here?" my father asked.

"I was coming to inform you of the results of our internal investigation. Though it has taken some time to gather the evidence needed, the Elders of Florida have determined your fate,"

"My...Fate!?"

"Yes, we all agree that you are no longer fit to be Alpha. Not only have you allowed your daughter to live her life as an impure wolf, but you allowed the pack doctor to embezzle funds because of your failure at auditing the clinic; in addition, multiple pack members have come forth indicating that you have robbed them financially by charging them almost double what their condos are actually worth, you have stolen from the pack's account, and top of that, you just admitted to interfering with an official investigation of another pack," while Archie was listing off my father's crimes as an Alpha, I looked at my mother who was in tears, and her eyes showed nothing but disappointment and shock. She had no idea my dad was doing any of this. He did everything behind her back. He didn't just betray me, he betrayed her as well.

"BERNIE! HOW COULD YOU DO THIS TO OUR PACK!?!" Ronnie roared. Ronnie and my dad went way back. Although my dad was several years older, they basically grew up together. My grandfather and Ronnie's dad were the best of friends, and they worked so hard to make this pack strong. My dad turned this pack in shambles because of his irresponsibility.

Archie confidently walked up to my dad and shook his head,

"Bernard Hamilton! I, Archibald Bane, Elder werewolf of the state of Florida, hereby rescind your t!tle as Alpha of the Snell Island pack!" my dad slumped back into this chair as his Alpha aura disintegrated. Which in turn, my mother lost her Luna status. My dad and Heather were one and the same. I guess the saying 'the apple doesn't fall from the tree' is true. I looked over Cianna, who was also in tears just covered her face with her hands and leaned into Lucian. By helping Heather, my dad also betrayed her.

"What is going on!?" I heard Hank yell as he came through the door. "Why did I feel as if Bernie...What!? Lacie!?"

"Lacie!?" Melanie shouted.

"What happened!? What did we miss!?" Hank asked. I guessed that they felt the emptiness of not having an Alpha or Luna anymore.

"Hank, Bernie betrayed all of us," Ronnie said with a heavy heart.

"What do you mean?"

"He helped Heather leave the country! He interfered with an official investigation, he stole from us, and has been stealing money from pack members!" Amber shouted as her eyes turned black with rage.

"Given that there is no heir that can rightfully take the place as Alpha, I, Archibald Bane, Elder werewolf, hereby declare you, Ronald and Amber Dearing as the new Alpha and Luna of Snell Island,"

"WHAT?!" they both shouted.

"It is the law that we must follow. If an Alpha dies or is str!pped of their t!tle with no heir, the Betas will be promoted,"

"Wait, Archie, you didn't even give us a chance to discuss this," Ronnie said.

"You were both already aware of what would happen if the Elders all agreed to str!p Bernard of his t!tle; therefore, I did give you a chance," Archie with a smile. "Alpha Dearing, I will leave it up to you to decide what to do with Bernard," with that final statement, Archie walked out of the office. I was in complete in an utter shock. What just happened? I came here to tell my parents I wasn't really dead, but in the span of about thirty minutes, not only did I tell my parents why I lied to them, my dad admitted to caring about Heather more and helping her leave the country, he was found to have embezzled from the pack, stole money from pack members, he and my mom lost their t!tles, and now Ronnie and Amber were the new Alpha and Luna.

Everyone just stood there not knowing what to do. I looked over at Cianna who also no longer cry ing but also in a state of shock. Her parents were mortified at everything that just happened. I looked up at Aries, and he just shrugged his shoulders while shaking his head and disbelief.

"Well, Alpha Dearing," Dorian said breaking the awkward silence. "What do you plan on doing with Bernie? Are you going banish him? Or will you allow him to live as an Omega?" Ronnie looked at him, then at Amber, and then at me. Why he looked at me, I had no idea, but he did. Then he turned back to Amber, and both of their eyes clouded over. They appeared to have been discussing the matter in private. I looked over at my dad who was completely defeated and my mom was now looking at him with utter disgust.

"Dorian," Ronnie addressed him. "What would you do if this was your pack?"

"I can't tell you that, Ronnie. This isn't my pack, this your pack now, it's whatever you decide would be best for your pack. You know what crimes he has committed," Dorian replied.

"Allie?" Ronnie looked at her.

"Nah uh, don't look at me. I'm behind Dorian on this one. This is your pack, along with Amber's now, you two make the decision," Allie replied without hesitation. Amber and Ronnie looked at one another, and Amber nodded. Ronnie took in a deep breath.

"Corinne, Lacie, I'm sorry, but, after careful consideration, Amber and I have decided that Bernie will be banished," my mom broke down in tears, and so did I. "Bernard Hamilton, I, Ronald Dearing, Alpha of the Snell Island Pack, hereby banish you. Henceforth, you will now be considered a rogue," my dad didn't even say anything. He just hung his head and nodded. "Corinne, I will you give you the choice to either stay with the pack or be released to leave with Bernie," Ronnie told her. I could tell that she was torn between the two choices.

"Mom," she looked at me. "Follow your heart," she closed her eyes and h.ugged her body trying to make a decision. After a few heart-pounding minutes, my mother nodded her head indicating she made a decision. She walked over to me and h.ugged me tightly. Then she mind linked me,

Lacie, my baby girl. I love you so much, but I can't leave your father. As much as I despise what he has done, I still love him very much. I'm sorry that he did what he did to you, and helped your sister knowing full well the crimes she has committed. But as a mother, I understand that he was only trying to protect her, and now it's my turn to protect you. I'm going to leave with your father, but it's because I know that my presence will keep him at bay, and he will not be able to threaten anyone.

I understand mommy, and I love you too. I'm sorry that this had to happen, but please know that you can always come to visit me at Desert Moon. Since you're being released and not banished, I'm sure Dorian and Allie will at least allow you into the territory. Besides, I'm going to need you to help me plan my wedding and help me when my pup is born.

She pulled away at my words and was in shock. I just smiled and nodded. She h.ugged me again and sobbed. I loved my mom so much, and I knew that

she would never have allowed my dad to do what he did had she known. But she can't help but love him because he loved her regardless of her disability.

Lacie, tell your sister that I love her too and I forgive her for what she's done. You're both my daughters, and I love you both. Whatever you do Lacie, don't let your sister die without telling her that you love her. I know that you hate her now, but in the end, she's still your sister.

I nodded my head and cried into my mom's shoulder. I signed 'I love you' on her back, and she did it to me as well. She k!ssed my forehead and went back to my dad. She looked at Ronnie and Amber and nodded her head as she took my dad's hand. Even my dad was shocked that she chose to leave with him, rather than stay.

"Corinne, are you sure?" Ronnie asked her and she nodded her head again. "Very well, I, Ronald Dearing, Alpha of the Snell Island Pack, hereby release you, Corinne Hamilton," my mom said her tearful goodbyes to everyone. Ronnie gave her and my dad 48 hours to pack their things and leave the packhouse, and they walked out of the office. Hank and Melanie went with them. The rest of us just stood there in very uncomfortable silence, trying to absorbed everything that happened.

Archie confidently walked up to my dad and shook his head,

"I need a drink," Amber said and walked out of the office. We all just followed after her to the kitchen where she was already opening a bottle of werewhiskey. She pulled out several glasses, while Allie popped open a bottle of werewine. Even though I was still underage and don't like to drink much, with everything that had just happened, I needed a glass myself. After we downed a glass or two each, other than Aries, we all let out a deep breath. No one said anything, we all just stood around the island in the kitchen and looked at each other. Then out of nowhere, Allie broke the silence,

"So, what's for dinner?" we all looked at her "Don't look at me like that! I'm hungry, and I have no shame in breaking the awkward silence to make it known," we just couldn't help but laugh. Dorian pulled into a h.ug and k!ssed her forehead.

"Well, it's a little too dramatic to ask the Omegas to cook dinner tonight with everything that happened, so how about we order out and get Carl and the pups to join us too,"

"Is there a Wing Stop nearby?" Allie asked.

"There is one on 34th," Cianna replied.

"Alright, I will put in a h.uge order," Amber said.

"I can send Carl and Camden to go get it," Ronnie stated.

"Just order a bunch of those family packs," Allie said. Amber nodded.

Dinner that night was interesting, to say the least. Although everyone was happy and laughing a lot, I did spend most of the night explaining to Carl and the kids that I didn't actually die and that it was all an act. Since all of them were old enough to understand what I was saying, they were shocked but understood why I did what I did. I didn't tell them that Heather was the one who was after me, but I did tell them that someone was.

We also told them what happened to my parents, and that Ronnie and Amber were the new Alpha and Luna. Although the kids were happy about it, they also knew why it happened and they were sad that Bernie and Corinne were no longer part of the pack. Ronnie told his parents everything, and they were also very devastated to hear what my dad had done. Ronnie announced to the pack that I wasn't actually dead as well and told them that the details of why I had to fake it was confidential.

The next day, Ronnie announced to the pack my parents' and Heather's departure from Snell Island, and he went into detail about that. Pack members were sad that my mother chose to leave but understood that she could not leave her mate. What was even sadder though was that the majority of the pack, was happy that my dad and Heather were banished. It made my heart hurt knowing that all those pack members hated my dad and sister enough to be happy about the fact they were banished. It was a hard pill to swallow, but I didn't blame them for their hatred either.

Our flight back home was filled with tranquility as we all just relaxed and talked the entire flight to Las Vegas. Lucian and Cianna were going to drop us off, have their jet refueled, and then immediately leave for California. Although I wanted them to stay so Cianna and I could catch up, Deacon needed them back for pack business, and because they had another real estate contract coming up that they needed to fly to New York. I promised Cianna that as soon as I got my pup back inside of me, we would plan a gender reveal party.

When we got back home, everyone was waiting for us, out front and it was announced to the pack that I wasn't actually dead as well. Brandon reported that the boys had made it back with Heather with no hiccups and that she was currently conscious in the isolation cell and has been screaming bl00dy murder ever since she woke up.

"I mean seriously, the fact that she hasn't lost her voice is incredible," Brandon said shuddering.

"Have you guys fed her at all?" I asked.

"We gave her a small meal this morning for breakfast, but she refuses to eat it and demands to know where she is," he replied.

"She saw my face when we filled her with the drug, does she not remember?" Allie asked.

"Don't think so; although, she does keep asking for someone named Percy," Lucas replied.

"Hahaha!!!" we all laughed.

"What's so funny?" Mikey asked.

"Percy is probably Poseidon," Allie answered. "We used a ruse to get Heather out of the house,"

"What kind of ruse?" Andre asked.

"One where it required one of the four guys to draw straws, and Poseidon lost," Dorian said. Everyone looked at us funny.

"Poseidon had to fake that his car broken down and had to get Heather to come outside with him. It worked, but what he didn't expect was for her to jump his bones in the middle of the sidewalk," I tell them.

"Ohhhh..." everyone reacted in unison.

"Damn, the poor guy must be traumatized," Lucas said.

"I think Heather was the one traumatized, Poseidon was probably the first guy that was limper than an overcooked noodle after she hit on him," Allie said making everyone roar in laughter. "Are we going to interrogate her right now? Or are we going to wait?" Brandon asked.

"I think we should wait," I tell them. They all look at me. "My sister deserves to suffer in isolation and darkness. She's fvckingd up all of our lives in more ways than one," everyone nodded their heads, but not Allie.

"fvck that, I'm going down there, and I'm going to finish what I started in Florida," she said and made a beeline to the cellar.

"No, no, no," Dorian said stopping her and throwing her over his shoulder.

#### "DORIAN!!"

"We are going to wait because we can't afford for you to k!ll her just yet," he replied. "Everyone, go to your rooms and get some rest. We are going to do what Lacie suggested and leave Heather in isolation for a few days,"

#### "NO! I WANT TO KILL HER!"

"And you will in a few days," he said smugly. He carried Allie upstairs while she was still kicking and screaming. The rest of us went upstairs and into our respective rooms. It had been a long few days, and I was just ready to get everything over and done with.

I knew that my sister's days were numbered, and I was trying to figure out a way to honor what my mom said about not hating Heather before she died. But it was so hard not to hate her. I needed to confront her, and I needed answers.

# Desert Storm Chapter 80 - Tips

# {Allie's P.O.V.}

After Dorian got me up to our room he threw me onto the bed. I was far from amused. I sat up and glared at him.

"Don't look at me like that, Allie,"

"Why did you stop me!?"

"Because you were going to k!ll her!"

"EXACTLY!" I said and threw my hands up.

"Allie, I get why you want to, but did you forget that Heather is still Lacie's sister!?"

"Your point being!?"

"Allie, Heather is Lacie's sister! She's her family!" I dropped my arms and looked off to the side. Dorian had a point. "Baby, I know that you want to get back at her, and she will be punished, but you have to see this from Lacie's perspective. Her sister, her only sister is going to be sentenced to death. That's the same if it were me about to lose Amber, or if Demarco were to lose Daisy. Heather may be fvckingd up in the head, but Lacie isn't, and right now, she has to deal with the fact that her one and only sibling is going to die,"

"You're right, I'm sorry. I just...Ugh...I just hate her so much! Ever since the day we met her all she has done is try to ruin our lives. I almost lost one of my best friends, she threatened you and the people I care about, she almost k!lled me and Lacie, and now, I may never be able to have kids again," I said with tears falling from my eyes. "Dorian, I never thought it would be possible to hate someone so much, and the fact that I can, actually scares me," Dorian h.ugged me tightly, and cooed me.

"I understand baby, but don't let that hate consume you. It's not who you are, but it's also understandable. Believe me, I hate her too. I mean, you technically did die, and those ten minutes your heart stopped, I wanted nothing more than to rip Heather limb from limb. So, trust me, I hate her just as much as you do, but I don't let it consume me, because hate can be dangerous. It can put you in a dark place, and I won't let you get lost in that darkness,"

"I just want this to end already, I'm tired of all of this. I just want to live my life with you, and the twins, and our friends and family. I want all of us to live happily with no drama and no enemies. Is that too much to ask?"

"It's not baby, but that's also not going to be easy. We're werewolves, and we will always have enemies, but hopefully, after this, we can go a few years without anything happening," I nodded my head and just leaned into him as he cradled my head. We just stood there holding each other for a few minutes before we decided to take a long, hot, and relaxing bath.

After giving me a good massage in the tub, Dorian and I settled in bed and just had dinner sent to our room. We ate in comfortable silence, and he worked on stuff for the firm while I read a book. After a while, I ended up falling asleep. I wasn't sure how long I had slept for, but I felt the bed dip a few times and realized that Dorian was getting ready for bed as well. I felt his arms scoop me closer to him, and I instinctively nuzzled into his c.hest. I took in a long breath of his delicious lavender and ocean breeze scent and fell into dreamland.

The next morning, at training, I made sure to apologize to Lacie for my primal instincts to k!ll her sister. Although Lacie understood where I was coming from, she was also appreciative that came to apologize. I did admit it was Dorian that made me realize the error of my ways, but overall, Lacie was understanding and didn't hold it against me. As a group, we all agreed that Heather would say in isolation for another 48 hours before we went to interrogate her.

### {Heather's P.O.V.}

I have no idea what the hell is going on. I've been screaming for help for hours, but no one seems to come to my aid. I don't where I am, or how the hell I even got here. All I know is that I'm chained down with silver because I can feel it burning my wrists and ankles. It's dark, in this room, and the only light that I get is from the tiny window in the door. A window small enough to give a glimmer of hope, but I have not seen a single soul.

Whoever these people are and wherever it is the hell I am, they have given me food and water, but I refuse to eat or drink it. The only thing I do know is that Percy is part of this. I remember rubbing his d!ck and k!ssing him, but that's all. Nothing else is coming to my mind and it's driving me insane. Delilah hasn't even spoken to me in I don't even know how long. Her silence started at New Year's when I made the plan to k!ll all of the ranked members that ruined my life. As much as I loved Deacon, my letting someone else to target him is what pissed off Delilah, and ever since then, she hasn't spoken to me.

Sometimes I'm glad is she mute right now because all she would do is rub in my face what a screw up I am and that it's my fault we're in this mess. After that night, Delilah changed her tune towards me and started to blame on me as well. It was like she was a completely different wolf and was no longer on my side. Whatever, she can go to hell along with everyone else.

As I was sitting in the corner of the room that I was in, I heard the door open, and a tray slid across the floor, and what sounded like a bottle of water.

"Mealtime prisoner," I heard the voice.

"Who are you!? Where the fvck am I!?" I asked on the brink of tears. I was literally being held captive.

"Think of this place as your personal hell," he said with an evil tone and shut the door. I couldn't deny that I was starting to lose the will to go on. I was hungry and I was thirsty, but I still refused to eat whatever it was they were giving me. I couldn't trust that they didn't lace it with poison or something. But I needed the water. I felt around the floor and finally found it. I twisted the cap and found that it was perfectly sealed. I quickly ch.ugged it but stopped about half-way. I wasn't sure if they would give me another, so I had to drink it sparingly. I put the cap back on and hobbled back over the bed. It was nothing but a spring cot, but it was better than sleeping on the cold floor.

After goddess knows how many hours or days went by, I found myself becoming more and more depressed. I was freezing cold because the air was on full blast, but I had no blanket or sheet to keep me warm. Even for a werewolf, I found myself actually getting cold, and that's hard to do. Every so often, the door would open, and whoever the guard was would remove the tray of food that I left uneaten. After three, or was it four, failed attempts to get me to eat they only started to give me water.

I wasn't sure how long I had been in this prison cell, but when the door opened again, I assumed it was the guard was going to bring me water, but that wasn't the case. I felt myself being grabbed from the bed, and a sack or bag of some sort was being placed over my head.

"What the fvck! Get off of me! What are you doing!?" I shouted trying to fight off whoever it was that had me.

"Shut up b\*\*\*h," I heard a click, and from inside the sack, I could see that a light had been turned on.

"Make sure she's secure," I heard a manly voice. Why did this voice sound familiar? I felt my chains being moved around, and clinking sounds around what sounded like a metal bar or something. I felt myself being forced to sit

down, and I realized I was sitting on a metal chair. My chains were securely fastened, and I couldn't move my arms or my legs at this point.

"WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME! DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM!?" I screamed.

"As a matter a fact..." I heard a female voice. A voice I would never forget.
"...We do," she said and removed the sack from my face. The sudden burst of light blinded me, and I hissed closing my eyes again. "Hello, Heather," I slowly opened my eyes and the figure in front of me came into view.

"Allie," I tried to lunge at her but found myself unable to move. "What am I doing here?!"

"You're my prisoner," she said with a c0cky tone. I just glared at her. "You see, I know that it was you and Maya who tried to k!ll my husband and my friends. You were caught on camera," my mouth dropped in disbelief. "I also know that it was you who plotted the whole thing, Maya said so. And before you even suggest Maya is lying, don't bother. You see, remember what I said about my and the two ranked females having powers, well, you see, our Beta's power prevented the poisoning, so that's why you failed and our Gamma is currently reading your mind as I am speaking and is relaying the information me via mind link," I just looked at her in shock, anger, and dismay.

"You're probably wondering how you were caught?" I heard another voice. He stepped out from the shadow of the room, and it was Lacie's mate, Aries. "You see, we knew that you wouldn't be able to resist coming to Lacie's memorial, so we made sure that we had people waiting for you at the airport. What we didn't expect was for your friend to give us the run-around and take you to Orlando,"

"You see Heather, one of the people we had following you were able to get a photo of your friend, and thankfully, it's someone that I know very well," Allie said to me. "Small world isn't it? The fact that Shawn and I went to high school together,"

"WHAT!?" I exclaimed.

"Yeah, Shawn and I have known each other since we were 15. Believe it or not, Shawn was the best friend to my ex that almost k!lled me," I couldn't believe what I was hearing. Allie knew my sister's ex. "So, luckily, because we knew that information, our friend who was unfortunately made, was able to

redeem himself but tracking the LoJack on Shawn's rental, and to his little hideout in Orlando. There we concocted a plan to get you out of the house, and you made it really easy,"

"Percy," I gritted through my teeth.

"Yeah, Percy. You see, his actual name is Poseidon, and he's also a bounty hunter. I know you and your whorish ways, and I knew that you wouldn't be able to turn down a se.xy werewolf,"

"WEREWOLF!?!" I exclaimed. "But he smelled human!"

"Yeah, it's called masking one's scent. We're not stupid Heather, we knew if you or Shawn smelled another werewolf, you would get suspicious. Thankfully, as I said you made our job easy. You were too anxious to jump Poseidon, so catching you off guard was glorious," she threw in my face with the most obnoxious tone.

"YOU b\*\*\*h!" I screamed and tried to lunge at her again.

"Calm yourself Heather, or my guys will pump you full of wolfsbane," she said and pointed to the two guys next to me. One of them was holding a syringe. "Oh, where are my manners, Heather, meet Lucas, our head trainer, and high-ranking officer of our pack, and to your left is my personal guard, Simba. You see, our Beta should be here right now, but after your little stunt on New Year's Eve, Simba wanted in on the action. You see Heather, I know that you initially wanted to k!ll me with the poison, but when you realized that not only did your sister have a mate, but Cianna had one too, and it just happened to be Lucian, Deacon's triplet brother. Maya told us everything, but what you don't know is that by some twisted act of fate, Lacie and I were exposed to the poison and spent six weeks in a coma,"

"Wait, you survived the poison!? That witch told me no one could survive!" I shouted at her.

"Ah, but you see, there is still a 15% chance for survival, and Lacie and I were on the winning side,"

"Lacie is dead! It doesn't matter how she died! Lacie is dead, and she fvcking\*g deserved it!"

"Why would I deserve to die?" I froze when I heard the voice. I looked past Allie and saw her.

"LACIE?!? But...You're supposed to be dead!!" I shouted.

"And I was, for five minutes that is. It pays to have friends that are witches who know what they're doing," I glared at her and then back at Allie was giving me a smug smile.

"Wait, if you're alive, then what the hell happened to Maya?" I asked.

"Her soul is burning in hell," Allie answered. "And you will be joining her soon,"

"WHAT?!"

"Yeah, you see Heather, we have a death warrant signed by three different Elders. Our Elder here at Desert Moon, an Elder in California, and Archie," I couldn't believe what I was hearing. Archie betrayed me.

"You won't get away with this! I'm an Alpha's daughter! Call my father!"

"Ooooh...Yeah, sorry can't do that," Allie replied.

"Dad is no longer an Alpha," Lacie said to me. "He was str!pped of his t!tle, and banished by Ronnie and Amber, the new Alpha and Luna of Snell Island,"

"Wh...what?"

"Yeah, you see, daddy made a mistake by helping you escape to a nonextradition country. That on top of all the other crimes he committed while Alpha got him banished. He can't help,"

"What have you done Lacie!? How could you betray your own family like this!?"

"ME!? ARE YOU SERIOUSLY GOING TO GO THERE RIGHT NOW HEATHER!!!" She roared in my face. "YOU had an affair with my boyfriend! Then you kicked me out of the hotel during Thanksgiving, which I should really thank you for because it led me to the love of my life. Then you allowed for someone to threaten my life, then you two b!tches threatened the life of my mate, my pack, and my friends, then you almost k!ll me in the process, then you let Maya put a bounty on me! If there was any betrayal done to our family it was all from you Heather! Don't blame me for your misdeeds!"

"fvck YOU LACIE!!! YOU SHOULD HAVE DIED! YOU DESERVED TO DIE! WHY DO YOU GET TO BE HAPPY AND I DON'T!?!" I screamed back at her.

"Oh, I'm glad you brought that up," Allie said. "You see, as much I would like to see you two fight, I need to get to another point, and that's why you don't get to have a mate,"

"What are you talking about?"

"Heather, you're what the powers that be call an impure wolf,"

"A what?"

"An impure wolf, you know, you're tainted, dirty, disgusting, and all of those other synonyms. And it's not just because you're a w\*\*\*e who sleeps with any man willing to put his d!ck inside of you, it's because well ... Actually, no, that is why you're considered impure. The fact that any man or wolf is willing to put his d!ck inside of you even mated and marked ones," I just looked at her confused.

"Heather, Cianna told us that you had affairs with mated males in our pack," Lacie said.

"So? It's not my fault they can't keep in their pants," I spat.

"No, but it is your fault for having no mate. You see Heather, you having slept with mated wolves is why you're considered impure. The moon goddess is punishing you for breaking the bonds she worked so hard to create, and since you started to do it before you were of age, you were given a wolf just as fvckingd up as you," Lacie continued.

"That's also why Deacon didn't want you. His wolf Midnight could sense your impurity, and that's why he was so compelled to reject you. Also, why your mark didn't do anything. It's also why when Evelyn, Deacon's true destined mate was able to rid him of your impure mark and place her own," Allie said.

"What?"

"Your mark held no significance. It was worthless. Evelyn is Deacon's second chance mate, and when she accepted him and claimed him as her own, your mark disappeared," Allie added on.

"Oh, and I figure I should come clean about something," Lacie said to me while almost smiling. "You weren't smelling things when we were at the hotel, you really were smelling Deacon. He and his brothers were actually in the same hotel we were, I was just helping them avoid you the entire time we were there,"

"You what!?"

"Yeahhh, sorry not sorry," she shrugged.

"You backstabbing son of a b\*\*\*h!" I yanked my chains again.

"You see, I originally did it because I wanted to help Deacon avoid you. We couldn't have you thinking it was some act of fate that you brought you two to the same place; however, it was some act of fate, for Cianna that is,"

"AHHH!!!!" I started to scream at the top of my lungs because I didn't know what else to do.

"The only person you have to be mad is yourself!" Allie shouted. "Had you actually lived a more decent life rather than fvcking\*g with the lives of other people, I'm sure you would have a loving mate right about now, but the fact of the matter is, you don't, and you never will. You're going to die to Heather, but not before I have some fun with you," right as she finished saying that she punched me across the face, immediately cutting the inside of my cheek. Before I could even spit out the blood that pooled in my mouth, she punched me again.

"Allie, may I?" I heard from my sister. I looked up and saw her fist coming right at my face. I felt the crunch of my nose, the moment her fist my contact with it. Lacie broke my nose. "Mom told me to forgive you!" She said and punched me in the gut. "But, I don't think I will," she said and punched me across the face again. "You tried to k!ll me!" she exclaimed and slapped me. "You're supposed to be my older sister!" she punched the other side of my face. "You're supposed to protect me!" she jabbed in the gut again. "We used to be best friends!" she punched me again. I had to admit, she was actually hurting me, not just physically, but emotionally. I could hear the anger, hate, and sorrow in her voice. "How could you do this to me!?" she shouted and pushed me so hard the chair I was sitting on actually fell backward making me hit the back of my head.

"Precious, that's enough," I heard her mate say to her. I had forgotten he was even in the room.

"You're going to die, Heather," Allie said to me while hovering over me. My eye was swelling shut from Lacie's punch, and I knew that my jaw was broken from Allie's punch. "The real question is when? As much as I want to break your neck right now, I'd rather have some fun torturing you first. After everything you've done, it's the least I can do," I gasp as I saw the evil glint in her eyes. "Simba, pump her full of wolfsbane, and leave her here like this,"

"Yes, Luna," I felt a sudden stab in my leg, and then a burning sensation I had ever felt before.

"AHHHH!!!" I screamed as the burning from the wolfsbane as it took over my entire body. I thrashed my head and tried to move my arms and my legs, but I couldn't. The room went dark, and the door closed as they left me here to suffer.