## **Chapter 71**

Maxine			

It's been three weeks since my fist shift since then Charles has been training me in my dragon form it's been hard to say the lease.

The first week wasn't so bad he was super easy on me we did small steps where he had me pushing myself in the air but again not actually flying just learning my balance also how to use my wings and not knock myself out with them.

Second week was a lot harder by the time we were done I was completely exhausted. Laura would scold him for working me so hard.

This week I will say has been by far the hardest. He had me actually try and fly I was so excited to try but boy did I fail horribly.

"Max, you have to think of yourself moving forward," I hear Charles voice.

He had shifted to help me I could see how he moved himself forward how he used his body to change direction.

How ever when I attempted the same it resulted in a crash and burn type deal.

"Ugh!!! Why can't I do this!"

I just laid there on the ground body spread all out with my head flat on the ground I felt defeated. Not to mention I was missing Dexter terribly every now and then I would feel his pain it only made me want to go to him even more knowing he was been hurt. It also made it hard to focus on what Charles was trying to teach me.

"Max dear," I hear Laura's voice I slide my head to the side so I could see her.

She walks over to me placing her hand on my head she began to rub my head in slow soft strokes.

"You're trying to hard my dear just let it happen natural don't try to force it,"

I lean my head more towards her I loved how her motherly touch would always sooth me.

"Thanks Laura,"

"Any time my dear, you know Dexter wasn't so great at first either he would spend hours practicing him and Jon,"

"He had trouble flying?" I was shocked to hear that.

"Yes, all newly shifted dragons do it's like learning to walk as a baby,"

"Oh!"

"Now get back up and try again," She pats my head then steps back.

Getting to my feet I walk back over to Charles.

"Ready to try again?" He asked me.

"Yes, I am," I say with my head hanging low.

He takes his snout and nudges me under my jaw picking my head high.

"Head up my daughter,"

Hearing him call me his daughter made my heart swell.

Stepped back he pushed off the ground.

"Come Max just follow don't over think let your body move on its own."

I can do this I tell myself. I take a deep breath pushing as hard as I can leaving the ground.

Let it happen I kept repeating to myself Letting out the breath I was holding I looked to Charles I began to move my body slowly towards him.

"Yes Max! that's it," I heard him call to me.

I was actually doing It was flying now it wasn't the prettiest flying I was unsteady wobbling all over I looked drunk as a skunk but I was actually flying.

"Alright Max let's just work on steadying yourself out then we will work on others movements," Charles tells me.

We spent what felt like hours just making laps letting myself get use to the feeling and learning how to be level while flying straight.

My landing was by all means not graceful When my feet hit the ground my body was so exhausted from flying my legs gave out and I landed with a flop.

"Ugh," I groaned out

"Well, that was very interesting landing,"

Laura's laughter filled the air.

Charles suddenly hovers over us with a snarl.

"Max shift quickly!" He yells through the link.

"Charles what's wrong?" Laura asked him while she holds a blanket and clothes for me.

"Just do as I say!"

I shift back getting to my feet Laura wraps a blanket around me. I quickly slip on the sweat pants and T-shirt she had in case we had to run didn't want to drop the blanket then be completely naked and running for my life.

"Stay under me hide behind my leg,"

"Charles what's going on!" Laura tries again.

"Someone here," he growls outs.

"What!" my voice was shaky.

I felt my heart start to thump in my chest god what if Drake found us.

I felt Laura grab my hand as we stepped closer to Charles leg.

Hearing a hard deep growl come from Charles. He suddenly takes a sharp breath.

"It's Jon," he says to us.

"What!" I said stepping out from behind him to look. I see Jon walking to us.

"Jon!" I called as I ran to him.

"Max Don't!" Laura calls to me she tried grabbing my arm.

When I reached him, I could see he was hurt. He was walking with a limp dried blood all over his face and clothes he held his side as he walked.

"Oh god Jon! what happen to you?"

"Max," He stopped dropping to his knees

"Jon what on earth?" Laura says as she reached us taking in Jon state.

"It's a long story but I had to get to you guys,"

"Where's Dexter?" I asked him.

"He's still at the palace He's locked up in the dungeon,"

"What!" I could feel my tears building.

"Elder Davidson captured us along with Drake. They know you guys are in hiding but they don't know where they have been torturing us to give you up but we haven't Brenda help me get out she wasn't able to get Dexter out with me,"

Just hearing that name made me freeze instantly.

"Brenda?!" I looked at him in confusion.

"Why don't we get Jon to the cabin get him clean up and treat his wound then we can all sit down and talk about this,"

Laura quickly chimed in.

Charles appeared next us he walks to Jon helping him up he then assisted him back to the cabin.

"Laura why would an elder be helping Drake?" I asked her while we walked to the cabin.

"I'm not sure but it can't be good,"

"And Brenda I don't understand,"

She reaches out places her arm around my shoulders giving me a squeeze.

"We will figure it out Jon will explain it all to us but first let's get him taken care of he's in bad shape,"

I nod my head agreeing with her but my mind was going a million different directions.

My mind went to Dexter Jon said he was being tortured how bad was he is that why I would feel pain some times what were they doing to him that he wasn't able to get out with Jon.

I felt a tear roll is way down my cheek.