

## Chapter 18

KADE

Everyone was giving me breathing room because I was wound up very tightly. We needed to find her, and we needed to find her now. The ticking of the clock did nothing but crank up my anxiety. Apollo noticed my glare earlier and had already removed both clocks in the room. He was too good of a friend and Beta.

I always prided myself on control. It was required as an Alpha. Gramps and my father both instilled that into me from a very young age. Temper tantrums as a pup were used as teaching moments.

There was a time when I was four that cried and wailed because the wheel on my toy car broke off. That was not an issue at all looking back, but it was devastating as a pup. My father came to me and asked me what was wrong. I showed him the car and held it out for him to fix. My father shook his head and told me that he would not fix it. He shattered my heart into a million pieces with his words.

"I won't fix it, son. But I'll sit with you and help you learn to fix it yourself. You can't rely on other people to fix your problems. A good Alpha learns to slow down and control themselves so that they can find a solution," he had said.

True to his words, he sat with me as we walked through the

problem together, and it helped me come up with the solution. It would not just pop back on because something had gotten lodged, stopping it from reattaching. I took a toothpick and got out the blasted piece that was stopping the wheel from going back on. Then it worked, and I held it up to my father to see. He looked at me with pride shining in his eyes and a bright smile on his face to match.

"See, son? All it took was a little bit of control, and you were able to fix something that you previously couldn't. I'm proud of you, Kade. You'll make the best Alpha this pack has ever had."

Losing control right now would not help find her. It would only hinder our search. I ducked in the kitchen for a moment and pulled open one of the Ziploc bags that had items with her scent on them for anyone who had not been around it yet as well as for the tracking.

I took one of her scarfs out of the bag before zipping it back up and brought the scarf to my nose, inhaling deeply. They needed the scent to familiarize themselves. I needed the scent to control myself. Jasmine and cherry. My perfect drug. Never had I thought about those two scents going together, but they blended perfectly together with her.

'Faye has a deep cherry undertone. When I see her, I'll let her scent me like she wanted. Having a goddess like that wanting to rub herself all over me ... oh! That's probably what she was telling Mate to do when she was blushing so hard.'

he said, growling with the thought of her doing it.

A smirk formed on my lips for the first time since we were teasing one another. Of course, that was what my devious vixen was blushing for. The fact that she was blushing so hard meant that she was considering doing just that. She could do whatever she wanted to me, and I would not even complain.

I went back out to the room a lot more relaxed than I had been. Apollo looked at me curiously before smiling as he noticed the change in my emotions. He was leading our newest team members inside. Lucinda, our pack's resident astral projectionist, and Velma who was the best tracker in our pack were the two women of the hour who would be getting the woman of my lifetime back for me.

I watched our pack flooding into the room, and the fact that our people cramped such a large room relieved me because that meant we had more manpower to find their future Luna with. Elder Morris told us that more people wanted to come but they ran out of space on the jet. It meant that we had two hundred more people. It was certainly reassuring. The team that had been stationed between the two packs had also made it. With everyone we had from our pack, the Omegas here, and the Council's warriors that they brought, there was upwards of five hundred people to find her.

The Council hated what this pack had done and also felt partially responsible for Elle's kidnapping because we had

all underestimated Alpha Andrew. Had they known that she was at risk then they would have either demanded her to be released to go to the Coverstone pack until the tribunal was to happen. They thought that she would be safe leaving her with all of our people and their warriors. The other part to their show of force was the fact that Elle was in danger. Elle was also an incredibly important she-wolf because she was a descendant of the Moon Goddess as well as her destiny. All in all, we all needed her found, so I did not care what their reasoning was. All of those things were accurate.

Once everyone was in, I stepped in front of the crowd with our leadership on either side of me and Gabriel with us as well. He was just as integral to all of this and to Elle.

"Thank you all for coming on such short notice. I'm unsure how much you were told, so let me summarize. I recognized my fated mate at supertime. There was an altercation which got the Council called in. Alpha Andrew of this pack requested a tribunal as a rouse to kidnap your future Luna. This pack, save some people, is a joke, and the Council has detained the guilty parties for various crimes. Unfortunately for us, the Alpha has no idea where the two men are detaining her. This is where Lucinda and Velma come into play, but we must work as quickly as possible to find her because these men are rat bastards who can't be trusted at all."

You could see the concern on each of our pack member's faces. Our pack was a family. Part of that family now

included Elle even though they had not yet met her. However, they would do whatever it took to find her and bring her to safety if at all possible. It would be possible though because I would accept no less.

I gestured for Gabriel to come over to me. It was only right to introduce him. He was confused but came regardless of that. It was easy to see that he was feeling awkward, but I had no doubt that he would be okay.

"This is Gabriel, your future Luna Elle's best friend, newest pack member, and inside man here. Please welcome him to our family," I called out.

Howls of joy welcomed him. He looked completely taken aback by everyone's immediate acceptance of him. None of the Omegas here had any idea what to expect, but they would find that they were part of our family in no time.

Gabriel excused himself and went to the other side of the room as he slowly paced. That immediately filled with unease. That bit of calm from earlier was not felt any longer. Now I felt dread crawling around inside of me, threatening my sanity once again.

"Will you get Velma and Lucinda up-to-speed while I go check on Gabriel?" I asked Apollo.

He just nodded as he looked over to Gabriel as well. I could tell that he was feeling uneasy too. Apollo was already taken with my mate and would treat her just like a sister. He would

protect her at all costs and light her foes on fire. 1

I moved quickly to catch Gabriel as he left the door of the packhouse and drove his fist into a tree three times before his back slid along the tree trunk to the ground. His hands took out some serious frustration on his hair.

My heart felt like it came to a standstill as I knelt in front of him. Goddess, please do not let anything have happened to her. I had no idea what I would do if it had.

"Please tell me she's okay," I whispered.

Gabriel's eyes met mine, and I saw tears pouring from his eyes. He looked broken. I had yet to see him like this, and I was afraid of his answer. He nodded slowly before putting his arms around his knees and closing his eyes.

'They thought she was still unconscious while she was talking to me. I forced her to promise to keep the link open no matter what happened. Then they threw a fuck-ton of wolfsbane on her, and all I could hear were her blood curdling screams and the thoughts going through her mind about the pain,' he linked because I knew he could not bring himself to talk.

I fell backwards on my ass, and my heart clenched at that. I had felt wolfsbane before. It was not much, but I knew how badly even a little bit hurt. It felt like the heat was trying to liquify you. It was excruciating.

"Kade, Lucinda briefly made contact," Apollo said as he

joined us and sat down next to me.

"What did she see?" I asked, wiping away the evidence of my tears. I was not one of those guys who equated tears to weakness. I just hated what caused these.

Apollo cleared his throat, a clear sign that he would rather not say. I figured it was safe to assume that she saw Elle.

"Gabriel heard it while they threw wolfsbane on her, so just speak freely," I said, bumping his shoulder with my own to show him that I would be okay.

"That would explain what the cause had been then. Lucinda said that Elle's body was red and blistered. She had not been certain if Elle would be able to see her or not given the fact that some do and some don't. Elle did though, so she kept their focus on her instead of Lucinda who was extremely impressed by her future Luna's ability to piss the guys off so badly that they let it out that the Alpha had no idea where they had her." Apollo chuckled softly, still fangirling. 1

Both Gabriel and I were thankful to know that Elle had been able to talk and focus through the pain. I could already imagine that Elle enjoyed riling them up. If she had been covered in wolfsbane then that also meant they would not be caught dead touching her. At least she had one thing she did not have to worry about at the moment.

"She must've fallen asleep because the bond is silent. It's



not cut, just silent,” Gabriel informed us as he stood up and dusted himself off.

“That bond is really fucking nifty. How far away can you mindlink from? It could help narrow down our search radius,” I mused.

He frowned with my words before twisting his neck to relieve the tension there. He looked at the sky for a moment while he seemed to be thinking.

“The bond actually doesn’t have a limitation. It could be theoretically all the way across the world and could still be utilized. That part comes through the divine blessing and reinforcement. I don’t know if it would work between realms or not, but I never thought about questioning that part. However, I might be able to pull on it as we search for her like when she was using the pack bond to find Jesse.”

Apollo turned his gaze to me questioningly since Gabriel was lost in thought about it. I did my best to explain to him what Faye explained to Tyre. If Apollo had not already been Team Elle, he would be now. I totally got the fangirling because my mate was indeed badass.

“There was a missing Omega pup that Elle found using the same method with Jesse but in human form. She said that she focused on the pup, what made him special, what he meant to her, and imagined a tether connecting them through that focus. It pulled her the closer that they got to him. Elle and I already have that tether, so it might work the



same way," Gabriel explained, shrugging, unsure of how that sounded.

It sounded like a plan and the best one that we currently had. It was also the only one that we currently had, but it was still the best. That was the part that I would focus on.

We rejoined the group, and Lucinda bounded up to me and said that Elle was sleeping, and the guys were watching a game, so it gave her time to sneak around the place. It looked like it was a fortified house, but she could not get outside, so she was not certain where they were. 1

"Unfortunately, the only window was near where they were sitting, so I didn't want to risk them seeing me in case they were gifted." She turned to Gabriel specifically and explained, "not everyone can see me when I'm in astral form. It's my consciousness or spirit that's there. People who can see me are gifted. Sometimes they know they're gifted, but other times that gift is latent. So, I always have to be very careful since there's no way to tell if someone can or can't. Luna Elle saw me and must have picked up on the fact that they might or might not be able to see me, so she kept them distracted just in case."

Gabriel looked very impressed with her gift and thanked her for explaining how it worked. She blushed with his thanks and welcomed him before heading back to Velma.

"Damn. I've never seen Lucinda blush before. Thompson brought her to the pack a couple of months ago and would

be a great guide for getting settled in the pack," I said, slapping his back and leading us over to Velma and Lucinda.

Gabriel cleared his throat but did not say anything. He was a great guy who deserved happiness. So did Lucinda. They were not mates, but that did not mean they could not get to know each other. Lucinda was a fierce woman that was also a great warrior, so to see her blush was something very new to witness.

"Gabriel, this is Velma who's the best tracker in our pack. Girls, Gabriel's going to be in our group because there's a tether between him and Luna that he would possibly be able to utilize to help guide us as we get closer. It's theoretical at this point, but Luna did successfully use the same method twice. Once was earlier this evening," I explained to them.

Velma's head tilted to the side as she looked at him. After a minute of that, he questioningly raised one eyebrow since she had not said anything further.

"Connor!" Velma called out to him, waving him over.

Connor was another gifted wolf. Like I told Gabriel earlier, we had quite a few of them. Connor's gift was very unique. One could think of his gift like a probability generator. He was able to predict the probability of a strategy working. It made him a master strategist which was why he was on our Missions Council. He typically stayed at the pack instead of coming to visit packs because his expertise made him very useful there. Now, he would be very useful here.

"Connor this is Gabriel. Gabriel this is Connor," Velma introduced, waving between the two of them. There was an interested glint in her eyes from whatever she saw in Gabriel.

Velma then proceeded to repeat to Connor exactly what I had just explained and asked him what he thought about it. She had not explained what Connor's gift was because she knew that Connor enjoyed seeing people's reactions with the outcomes he tabulated through his gift.

"There's a sixty-seven percent chance of it helping if he's in this form and eighty-two percent chance if he's in wolf form," Connor said, rubbing his hand over his chin.

"Why would the form impact it?" he asked Connor curiously.

"Do you really want to know that answer?" he asked. Gabriel nodded, so he lowered his voice as to not be overheard by everyone else in the room. "Your wolf is more connected to the one that gave you such a tether," he explained.

Connor smiled widely and bowed. All of us in the group clapped for him, and Gabriel joined in once the shock wore off. Connor was in his mid-twenties, and for someone who was surrounded by battle plans and weighing worst-case scenarios with best-case scenarios, he was a goofball. We all loved him for it because it helped soften the sharp edges of our reality. Said reality was the safety, security, and prosperity of our pack. It was a pack that would help our entire kind according to the Goddess. I now understood why

she gave me the gift she did.

"My gift helps me to discern the likelihood of certain strategies working out. Alpha likes to call me a probability generator," he explained. ①

"What's the probability that we find her?" I asked against my better judgement.

Connor looked to me for a long moment as if trying to decide what to say. My eyes flashed gold, Tyre trying to push himself into the driver's seat to run off and look for her.

"I'm sorry to have worried you Alpha. I needed Alpha Tyre to push forward for my number to solidify. Let me ask you a very specific question. You need not elaborate. Is there a reason why Alpha Tyre's form would connect to Luna Elle?" Connor asked carefully.

I just nodded because he already figured it out. That was why he needed Tyre to surface. He was someone that we could trust to not say anything. That knowledge could be extremely dangerous for anyone to know. He would need to know fully at some point since he would need all of the variables to look out for. I just wanted it to be a conversation with Elle included.

"It is because of that answer that there is 100% probability that you'll find her. Now, let's take a look at what Velma and I have been working on," he said.

Connor led us over to a large map of the territory. It was a

lot bigger than I anticipated. The pack only took up residence in a small portion of the territory. Unfortunately, there seemed to be a lot of dense woods surrounding everything which most likely have not been upkept or anything. It was a good thing that our wolves would be able to get through it all.

There were three areas circled on the map. They were all three in different locations too. That was not very helpful. My eyes flicked over to Connor whose focus flitted between two of them.

“These three locations have the highest probability of being her location. However, bringing you all over here bumps one of them down very low. These are the two areas we should send our teams out to. However, we should still have other teams scouring the rest of the territory just in case.” His finger drew a line upwards from where we were now. “We should all start together and once we get here then split off. Hopefully, Gabriel will get an inclination of which way to go.”

I was incredibly thankful for my pack and could never lead a better group of people. They came here without reservation to help their future Luna. They did it because she needed them. It was something that she would never forget, and neither would I.

My mouth opened to get everyone’s attention, but it closed immediately when Gabriel fell forward against the table with a growl. His eyes were squeezed shut, and I watched as his

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fists clenched despite the fact that his claws had come out. Crimson dots trickled from his hands onto the floor.

I turned him towards me and gripped his shoulders hard, trying to give him something else to focus on. It seemed to help as his eyes opened. There was so much pain and anguish inside of them that I could not even form the words to ask what was wrong with her now.

"We've got to hurry, Kade. Faye's still completely out because of the wolfsbane, and the assholes are whipping her. She won't be able to heal without Faye," he said, swallowing hard.

Fear, unlike anything I had ever known before, took hold before propelling me into action.



Shana Allen Author

"Here was a small sneak peek into Kade's pack. It is filled by many interesting people. Like/comment/rate to let me know what you think!"

👍 38

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