

Chapter 50 Stunned

Jayce's P.O.V.

Colt is pacing in my head and he is giving me a headache, not that I can blame him. After all, today for the first time in almost a year we will be seeing our Mate again and I am just as restless as he is.

Tonight we are all dressed up as per request of the King, this Harvest Moon the invitation stated "Black Tie" as dress code and the mention of a special announcement.

The invitations were sent out three months ago and the rumor mill has been running over time. Most of the rumors concern the King and vary from finding his Mate to a pregnancy, a few concern Alpha Daniel and a pregnancy and a few concern me and my Brothers.

Mom had laughed every time a rumor came within the Palace walls, especially if it concerned me or my Brothers and I am glad that after tonight the rumors will stop. Not that it will stop Mom from teasing the hell out of us or Dad joining her every chance he gets.

Jax thought he could tease her the first time the rumor of her being pregnant hit the Palace, but she bounced it right back at him as she turned to Dad asking him if he had tattled. Jason chocked on his coffee and Jax and I had just stared at her, while Justin had laughed his ass off.

Dad told her that he hadn't tattled, making the four of us gasp and when Justin had asked her how she was feeling they had burst out in laughter, telling us that she got us again. "With a Mom like that I know where our Mate gets it from." Colt chuckles in my head.

Grant and Brennon keep us informed about Hunter, but they think it is out of Brotherly love that we want to know what she is up to. They don't have much to tell us as they don't see her twenty-four seven, but we know that her studies are going great and they both expect her to graduate without a hitch.

We know she still spends time with Micha, but the information about those encounters come from other sources and they make us furious every single time. We have gotten confirmation from Grant and Brennon on her dates to the theatre and her dinners.

Sometimes Victor or Matt will talk about their visits with Hunter, but they never give us much information and I have a feeling that Victor does it to annoy the hell out of Jax.

Victor has changed after finding his Mate and I am happy for him and Matt, I actually got to know Matt better. I now understand why Hunter is friends with the guy and I am glad she has him in her life, together with Emma and Ella.

Matt told us that Hunter would call him her Gamma and the girls her Betas and he had to explain that one to us. Every time Macy or Suzy would show up at the Palace in search of me or Jax, Hunter would call them in and they would plan to make them suffer.

Our jaws had dropped at his words and Victor had chuckled, because he didn't mean physically. Turns out our Little Mate doesn't like girls that are after status instead of their fated Mate and they would make sure that Suzy and Macy were aware of that.

The first few times they would tell Matt about their studies, which for some reason always contained some story about how bad of a choice a chosen Mate could be and he even shared one of those stories with us.

I can tell you that I am glad I never gave up looking for my fated Mate, the hell the Alpha in that story went through can cause you nightmares. But the stories apparently didn't bother Suzy or Macy, so they had to come up with some new tactics.

Emma and Ella always found the right things during their studies to talk about as Matt would make sure he knew which places would be best for the girls to be at. Like me and my Brothers Matt knows his way around the Palace and there for he knew how to make sure that Suzy and Macy were confronted by Hunter.

A smile appears on my face as I think of Hunter annoying the hell out of those two girls and I wish I could have been there to see and hear it. However none of us ever knew that Suzy or Macy had been at the Palace and we owed it all to Hunter and her friends.

Jax and I had thanked Matt for helping Hunter and I made sure that I thanked Emma and Ella when I ran into them a few weeks later. They had told me it had been their pleasure and that they enjoyed finding the most horrifying stories about chosen Mates.

My Brothers and I had a good laugh when I told them and I know I want to hear those stories from Hunter. I just hope they won't give me nightmares, because just hearing Matt, Emma and Ella talk about it gave me the creeps.

Someone clearing their throat pulls me from my thoughts and I see that everyone is here, except for Mom and Hunter. I sit down on the couch next to Jax when I hear Mom's voice through our mind-link, "Remember to behave yourselves. I will kick your ass if you don't."

I can tell she linked all of us and I know that she won't hesitate to carry out her threat. Jax had jokingly asked her if she thought she could beat us and she had looked him straight in the eyes before she said, "Don't forget that I am a Doctor. I know exactly what will hurt the most." Those words and the look on her face had told us that we were screwed if we messed up.

Mom walks in while she is talking with Hunter and I see a strange look on Dad's face, but I forget what I wanted to ask the moment I see Hunter. She is wearing an emerald green floor-length sleeveless dress with a small train, the top has a plunging neckline which is covered with a see-through fabric.

From the waist down it flares out and is covered with little sparkling stones all over the dress. She looks gorgeous as she is standing next to Mom, but my heart skips a beat as soon as she takes the first step down the steps into the living-room.

There is a split on the right side of the dress, almost all the way up to her hip and it shows us that she is wearing high-heeled pumps in the same color as her dress. "Mate looks absolutely stunning." Colt is drooling as he looks at her.

"Princess, how did you get in here?" Dad asks and I see a mischievous smirk on Hunter's face. I don't understand either, because I have been in the living-room ever since Mom went to her room to get ready for dinner and I have not seen her come in.

"Dad, there are certain things I will not tell you. How am I supposed to sneak out if I tell you how I got in?" She asks and I start laughing at the expression on Dad's face. Justin chuckles before he says, "And you always said we were a handful."

I laugh ever harder at the look on Dad's face, Jason has gotten up and reaches out his hand to help Hunter down the last steps. She places her hand in his and thanks him as she makes it to the bottom.

"Princess, you look amazing. I hope you brought a shawl to cover your back." I hear Pops say as he walks in to the room and as Hunter turns around we all see what he was talking about.

She hugs him and whispers, "I am sorry, Pops. I know it is not your story to tell." He pulls her tighter to him and for the first time in months I see him smile again. It had broken him when she had moved out and ignored him.

For a little while I even thought he might move out, but Mom had pulled him out of what ever hole he was in. Pops needed to hear those words from Hunter and I am happy she has made her peace with him. If you ask me, he loves her even more than the four of us.

"Pops, the dress was designed this way. Besides it is not that cold outside, so I don't need a shawl." She says as she walks over to an armchair and sits down next to Justin.

I see a bandage on her wrist when she sits down and Colt is going frantic in my head, he is whining at the fact that our Mate is hurt. Jax notices the same as I do and asks her what happened.

"Oh, it's nothing, Jax." She says and I see him flinch as she calls him by his name. "It is a tattoo and no one has seen it yet. I wanted my family to be the first to see it."