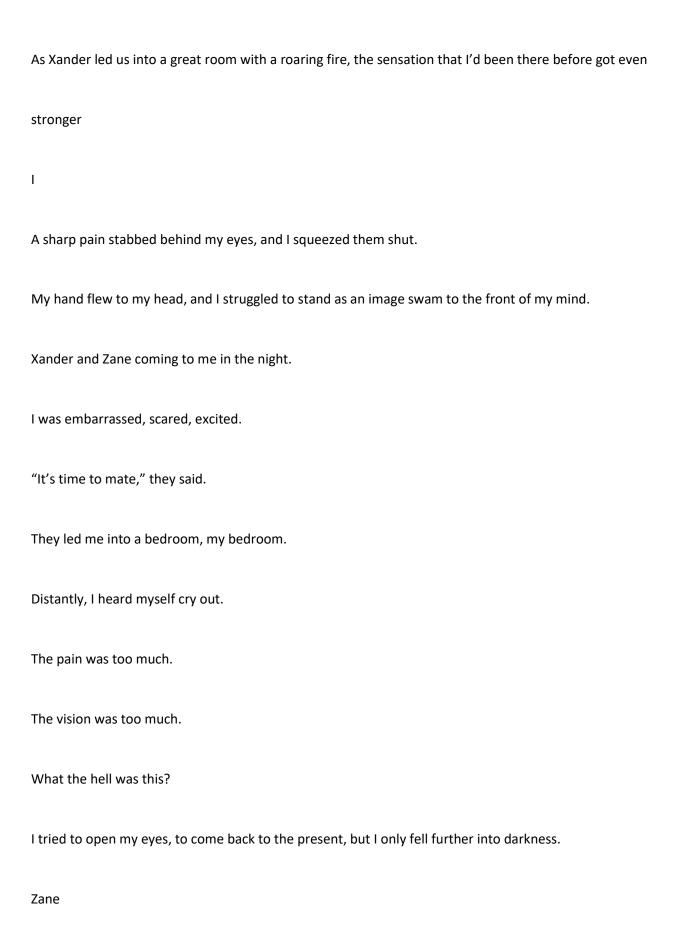
His Beta 106
Chapter 106
Katie
We pulled up to the huge, sprawling mansion, and my palms started sweating.
A slow, creeping sensation crawled along the back of my neck.
Was it fear? Anxiety?
Mason pulled out my luggage while I got Stella in her stroller, and we made our way inside behind
Xander and Zane.
The place was massive but cozy, with high ceilings, floor-to-ceiling windows, and rich, dark wood
everywhere
I glanced at Mason. His face scrunched up as his eyes darted around the room.
"So this is how the other half lives," I could imagine him thinking.
But none of this surprised me.
In fact, it all felt eerily familiar.
The feeling I'd had earlier. it was deja vu.



Mason laid Katie down on the leather couch slowly.
She'd passed out but now seemed to be sleeping it off.
Xander and I stood watch while Mason stroked her hair.
Seeing Katie walking through the house and even now, sleeping there soundly, seemed soright. So
normal. Like this wasn't her first time here.
"You feel it too, don't you?" I asked Xander silently.
Xander nodded. "She's meant to be here."
I sensed that, too, but it was impossible to explain why.
Blade paced around inside me, turning my stomach inside out.
He wanted to know that Katie was okay. He wanted to protect her.
Xander was clutching at his chest as he looked down at her, and I knew Hunter was restless, too.
"Does this happen a lot?" Xander asked Mason.

Mason shook his head. "No. But she's been through a lot today."

"Does she need anything?" I asked. "We can get her some tea or-" "I've got it," Mason growled. Stella stirred in her stroller, and a sudden pang of guilt overtook me. What were we doing standing here, consumed with whether or not this woman we barely knew was okay, when our pups were here? It had been days since we'd seen them, and we'd missed them every second. I knew Lanie and Isaac were safe with Gabriela, but Xander and I couldn't help but worry. They were so young, and they'd already lost so much. I heard footsteps, and Xander and I ripped ourselves away from watching Katie. Gabriela swept into the room holding Lanie, and Mindy was right behind her holding Isaac. "How are they?" Xander asked as soon as he laid eyes on the twins "They're doing just..." Gabriela trailed off as her eyes traveled over our shoulders to Mason and Katie. Gabriela's mouth dropped open in a horrified gasp, and all the color drained from her face. She looked like she'd seen a ghost. When she spoke, her voice shook.

"What the hell are you doing here?"