His Beta 164

Chapter 164

face.

Xander

Lanie screamed.

The huge quard who'd leaped out in front of us spun around to look at her. An evil grin spread across

his

"Who do we have here?" He co cked his head to the side. "The Council will be very pleased that I've

found

you, too," he said in a raspy voice.

"Don't f ucking touch her," I said,

The quard spun around to face me again. "You know it's the weirdest thing," he said. "One second I

was following your scent, and the next p oof, there you are right in front of me. Almost like magic.

Suddenly, movement behind the car caught my eye. Braden and Mason were creeping up slowly,

silently.

What the f uck were they both doing here?

I exchanged an uneasy glance with Zane.

"Take Isaac from my hands. I'm going to attack this m otherf ucker," I willed him to hear me even

though

the silver chains had dampened our strength.

To my surprise, he responded, "Do it now"

I passed Isaac off to Zane in a split-second, but before I could even think about attacking the guard,

Braden and Mason were leaping out from behind the car and tackling the guard to the ground, each

holding

back one of his arms.

e kicked and thrashed wildly.

Hel

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"He's gonna give away our f ucking location making all that noise," Zane said. "We need to get the f u

ck out

of here."

If we killed him, we'd leave behind evidence and give the Council even more of a reason to keep us

locked away. But if we let him go, he'd track us until we were all in the Council's possession.

No, I needed to try something else.

I marched up to the guard.

"Cover his mouth," I instructed, and Braden complied. I stomped as hard as I could on both of the

guard's legs, and he cried out in m uffled pain

Once his legs were still, I reached out and clasped my hand around his throat, holding him with my

gaze.

The guard's eyes suddenly became unfocused.

"You will forget everything you've seen here today," I commanded. He nodded. "If any guards ask if

you've ented in uni will cau no Another nod "Now what will you say if another quard asks if you found

ne?"

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Braden and Mason were watching with intense curiosity.

"I will say no." His voice was eerily robotic. "I didn't see anything."

fraised my fist and punched the guard square in the face. He slumped to the ground.

"S hit." Braden said.

So my compulsion worked. Interesting. I guess that meant I was still Alpha. At least for now.

And then, suddenly, Lanie was running up to me and throwing her arms around me.

I held her tightly for a moment, Stella nestled between us. I closed my eyes and breathed her in. I'd

missed this so much.

Joy.

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She nuzzled her head into my chest. "Thank you," she whispered.

I didn't want to let her go, but I knew we had to move.

When we parted, I caught sight of Mason's face behind me, growing redder by the second.

As Lanie stepped back, he threw his arm over her protectively. Jealous as shole.

"Does someone want to explain what the f uck he's doing here?" Zane asked, nodding toward Braden.

I could've asked the same for Mason. Every guy Lanie's ever been with, all together in one place again.

"Me?" Braden asked. "I'm the reason your as ses aren't still locked up in prison. So I believe the phrase

you're looking for is 'thank you."

"We need to get moving, NOW," I said. "Or else we'll be swarmed with guards."

"Everyone pile in," Braden instructed.

We secured all the babies into car seats and piled into the back. Braden climbed into the driver's seat

and

peeled away,

"Ummm...where are you taking us, Braden?" I asked suspiciously.

"I can't tell you yet," Braden said, shooting me an annoying little grin in the rearview mirror. "That would

ruin the surprise."