

"I doubt anyone will be sleeping very much tonight anyway." Gabriela said. "You guys get settled in while Rhiannon and I gather a few supplies. We won't be gone long."

Lanie, Xander, Zane, and I walked inside. Zane had grabbed Stella out of the car seat before I could while Xander brought in her bassinet.

I felt a pang of jealousy as they tended to her-I'd been away from her and wanted to hold her and let her know that I'd never wanted to leave her, but I knew if I tried, Xander and Zane would bite my head off, and to be honest, I had no leg to stand on right now.

I'd run out on Stella and Lanie, and now the twins were gone, too. I was lucky Xander hadn't literally bitten my head off yet.

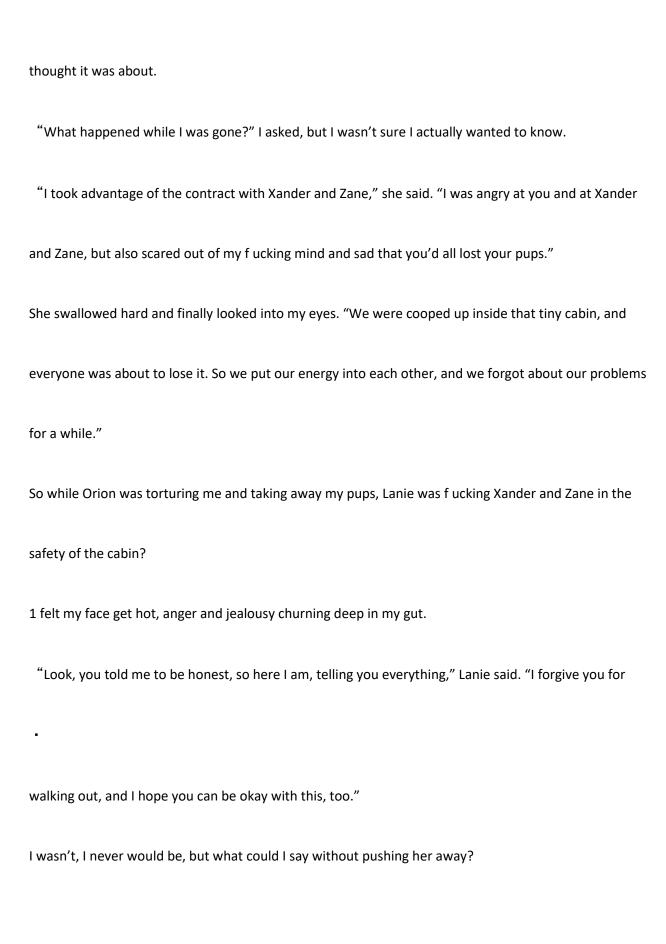
Once inside, Xander set up Stella's bassinet in the living room while Lanie headed straight for her old bedroom. Lanie's place was still small, but we had much more room to breathe than we did in the cabin, and thank the go ds for that

"Mason, can I talk to you for a minute?" Lanie's voice traveled from the back room.

Xander and Zane glanced up at me, then at each other, and I wondered briefly what they were saying about me. But then I decided it didn't f ucking matter. Lane was calling for me, not them. "I'm glad you called me in here," I said as I closed the door behind me. Lanie was sitting on the bed staring off into space while she mindlessly stroked the comforter. I came and sat next to her. "I can't even express how sorry I am," I admitted. "Running away from you and Stella was the s tupidest f ucking thing I've ever done. I don't know what I was thinking" She sniffed and turned away, but I could tell she was crying. My chest tightened. 1/2 "I know it was complicated," she said shakily. "Xander and Zane keeping the twins from you was f ucked on so many levels, but running away from the problem, running away from me....you broke my heart." She turned back to me, her cheeks stained with tears. "I didn't know how to feel, what to do...I didn't recognize myself," she said. "...I have to tell you

My breathing got shallower and a prickle of heat crept up my neck. I hoped this wasn't about what I

something."



I'd missed her, and I wanted her. all I could do was channel that rage into f ucking away the memories of Xander and Zane in her bed.

All I could do was claim her again like she belonged to me and me alone.

I took her chin in my hand. "Sure," I said, and then I kissed her, hard and desperate, pushing her back onto the bed and mounting her, pressing my swelling c ock between her legs.

She cupped it and squeezed slightly. I shivered,

"Mason, please. Will you...?" she asked, her voice whiney with need.

"Can you stay quiet?" I whispered in her ear.

When she spoke, her voice was low and husky with desire.

"Yes. I won't make a sound."