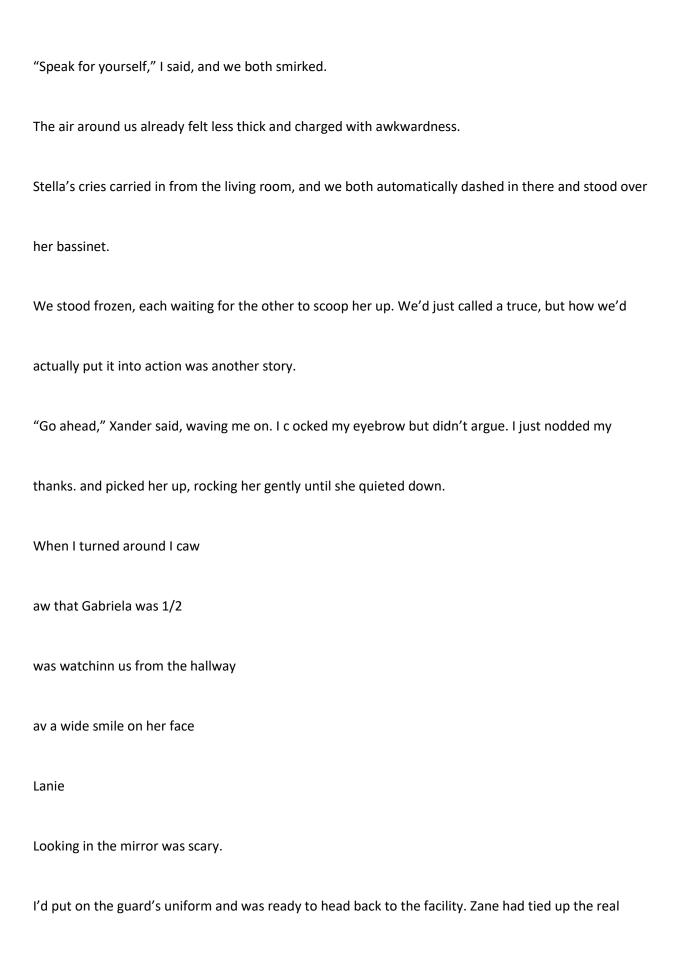


I placed a hand on my chest and rubbed absentmindedly.
"I know you're worried about Alaina and Isaac," Xander said, drawing my attention back to him. Had it
been that obvious? "I am, too. But Zane will bring them home. He's the only person I'd trust with my life
and
the lives of my pups.
I nodded. Was he actually trying to comfort me? The act of it felt kind of awkward, but I appreciated that
he'd changed the subject and at least attempted to relate to me instead of arguing with me.
"Xander" I started, then took in a deep breath. "What would you say to a truce?"
I extended my hand out for him to shake it.
He looked at my hand suspiciously, and it took everything in me not to pull it back and say "Psych."
"We know where we stand, the rest is basically up to Lanie," I said.
Xander took my hand and shook it briefly before dropping it. "Sure," he mumbled 1 guess we do need
to
get our heads out of our as ses."



guard and dosed him up with more sleeping powder to make sure he didn't wake up before I was out of
there with
the twins.
My heart was pounding and I couldn't get my breathing under control. Surely they would know
immediately that I was a fraud and didn't belong there.
me.
I pulled an ID out of my pocket. "You are Sergeant Philips," I said into the mirror to convince myself.
My voice startled me. Becauseit wasn't my voice.
I gave myself a shake, then walked out to join Zane in the living room. His nose wrinkled at the sight of
"Go ds, I'll never get used to this," he said.
I shrugged. "Well, hopefully I never have to do it again. Your nose wrinkleddo I still smell like me?"
He shook his head. "No, you smell and sound and look like him. It's creepy, to say the least. But no
one-
human or wolf-should be able to tell any difference."

"Good." I nodded. "What's our plan? We need to move quick to be sure this doesn't wear off."
"Okay, so I'll follow you back through the woods to the facility and keep watch," Zane said. "If anything
goes wrong, just get out of there as fast as you can and be waiting right outside for you."
I
"Got it," I said. "I just pray if anything goes wrong, it's after I have the twins."
Zane pursed his lips. "Let's not even think about that. Everything is going to go to plan. In and out, easy
peasy."
I turned my eyes to the sky and prayed to the Goddess that he hadn't just jinxed us.