

Xander thought, sounding surprised and a little ticked off. 'What's up with the attitude lately?" Lanie shot a narrow-eyed glance at her grandfather. She turned her attention back to the other side of the room. "Greyson, take a walk around the room to grab me a water, would you?" The dragon shifter looked up, a faint look of surprise on his face, but he nodded and did so. He took the long way around, a route that made no sense...unless Lanie was compelling him. "Never mind," Zane thought to Xander. "Obviously, I wouldn't have any idea what it's like to be able to compel someone, since I'm just a Beta." "You two, work your shi t out at home. This feels wrong," I insisted through the link. "Pay attention to what's going on in here. I have a bad feeling that it could go wrong at any minute. We have to be ready to get Lanie the f uck out of here." I could see Xander and Zane sharing a look, but only Xander nodded in my direction. Zane was staring at the dragon shifter with an intent expression I couldn't get a read on his feelings, but I also couldn't

tell if it

was because he was shielding, or I was too focused on Lanie's conversation with Greyson.
She took the bottle of water he handed her and looked at it. "Open it for me"
This definitely didn't sound like our Luna Cold
Fierce She didn't even say "please" It was clear she was giving him a command, not a request, and it
was f ucking weird to watch him simply obey
Greyson opened the bottle, casting a glance over his shoulder at Charlotte, who'd left the other side of
the
room to join us. I could tell something wasn't sitting right with Greyson, but he must not have been
feeling too
1/2
She didn't say "thank-you" and every alarm bell started ringing in my head. She was compelling him
She had to be.
"It's too hard to tell if she's compelling him or he's just compliant. Being nice and polite, Xander
complained in our heads.

"He is being nice. He's like that. He enjoys service," Zane told us both through the link. "It could be possible he's just doing what she asks because of that. It doesn't mean that she's forcing him to do it. "No. It's more than being polite. I feel it. Can't you?" I thought to them both. There was a heavy sensation in the air. Kind of an electrical hum or buzz. It tingled on the back of my neck and made the hairs rise. Bumps pric kled on my arms. F uck, even my c ock was kind of getting hard from it, even though I wasn't at all aroused. Xander and Zane were shifting their weight from foot to foot. Restless. It was happening to them, too. "Stop her," I demanded of Malachi, who just shrugged. "If you won't, I will." ı When I took a step forward, the Ancient raised a hand and crooked his fingers at me. F uck. I was stuck in place, unable to move. I tried to call out to Lanie, but I was as m uffled as if he'd stuffed a gag in my mouth.

"You need to let your Luna find her own way, Malachi murmured. "You can fight me. Perhaps even get

Xander and Zane looked as stuck as was.

free, though it will cause you agonies you won't soon recover from. But more than that"
Lanie looked over at the three of us. Her eyes were blazing with a light unlike any I'd ever seen from
her before.
"She will not forgive your interference," Malachi finished.
I stopped fighting him.
All I could do was watch the woman I loved doing something I couldn't believe she was capable of.
"Greyson Tell me what dragons love more than treasure." Lanie's voice was calm and commanding.
"Fire, Greyson said in a strange monotone.
Dragons love fire."