His Beta 376

Chapter 376

Xander

Malachi had dismissed the rest of the leadership council and promised to get me and Mason all the information we'd asked for. He'd even had food sent in for us. Big platters of steaks and ribs, along with a couple pitchers of beer. My laptop was practically smoking from all the files being downloaded to it, and my brother had a thick stack of files and papers in front of him to sort through.

We had ourselves a tidy little command center here in the conference room. For the first time since we got to Brightsky, it finally felt like we're doing something important. Making a real contribution. Sure, it was a selfish one for the sake of our Luna, but going over all the security protocols in the enclave was going to help.

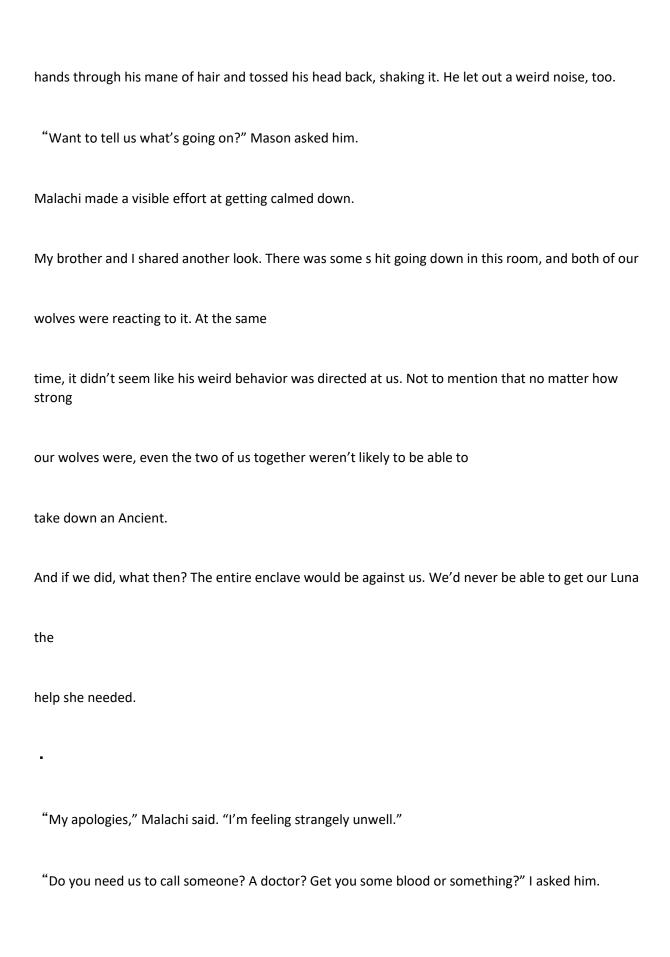
more than just us.

I was happy to feel like me and my brother were getting the chance to work together, too. Sure, we'd had our problems with each other in the past, but we'd also never really had an opportunity to find out if

we could lead side by side.







Malachi rubbed his mouth but then shook his head.
"No. This isn't physical."
For the first time in the past few minutes, he looked at us and seemed to actually see us. "Again, my
apologies. You see, when you are as old as I am, the world feels different. I am tied to it in ways I could
not
begin to explain."
"We aren't idiots," Mason said, but not like he was trying to be a d ick.
From the way Malachi smiled, it seemed like he might be thinking about disagreeing. I held myself back
from saying anything. I just watched him, letting my wolf's senses enhance mine.
Vampires didn't sweat, but I did pick up a kind of bitter scent that smelled like anxiety. No heartbeat or
heavy breathing, but he was pacing and clearly focused on something internal.

"Excuse me," Malachi said and then, like a shot, moving so fast he was a blur, he ran from the room