

Chapter 0557

We head inside and I move towards the stairs and an arm wraps around my waist.

"Where do you think you're going?" Dakota growls in my ear.

"Upstairs." I point over my shoulder.

"Not that way, Smalls. This way." He throws me over his shoulder and walks to the back of the staircase and we meet up with Cam and Oliver at the elevator.

"I thought you said you weren't ready to go up there." I try to look at them, but Dakota isn't putting me down for anything.

"We said we were waiting for our mate, or I guess mates. Now it's the only place any of us are going to sleep."

"But..."

"Don't worry Bitty. We just want to sleep tonight, apparently a lot has happened and we haven't slept for almost a month."

"Sleeping is all that is happening tonight." Cam finished Oliver's thought.

"You are all doing the twin thing now." I grumble propping my elbow on Dakota's back. "Well, I guess it's a triplet thing now. I wonder why you weren't triplets to begin with. You

have all always looked very similar.”

“I think one of us needed the Gamma instinct or none of us would have been good enough to keep you close.” Cam caresses my face the same way Dakota did earlier. I love the way that they are all touchy feely, but it’s also very overwhelming. I have not had this much physical contact with anyone, ever, outside of training. Even when Jena and I basically lived attached at the hip. 1

I can already feel how attached to them I am. There’s no way I could separate from all of them for any length of time. The mate bond is so immediate. I wonder if it works the same for mates who didn’t know each other before. Like with Jena and Mateo. She resisted him, but I thought that was more due to her experience with Mike, but maybe she was resisting being with a stranger. I have at least known all of these guys my whole life.

We make it up to the Alpha suite and Dakota lets me down in front of him and turns me around to face the entryway. It’s just like I remember. The soft chairs positioned in front of a fireplace and the floor to ceiling bookshelves. The fireplace isn’t lit this time, but it is just as beautiful as I remember it.

Dakota sets me down as we move to the right towards the bedroom and bathroom. “You can shower first, I think mom moved all your things up here before we went into the tornado. If we have been gone a month, I can imagine all of

our stuff is up here. She likes to reorganize when she worries." He walks me through the bathroom and opens the massive closet to reveal exactly what he predicted. Women's clothes lined one whole side of the closet and mens clothes lined the other.

"I knew she like you more than any of us." Cam laughs. "There's three of us and she has us sharing one side of the closet."

"We can move stuff. I really don't need this much space." I look at him worried.

"Stop, Love. I was kidding. Thanks to your magic and whatever else is going on we all wear the same size and will probably dress alike, just to mess with people even more. I see a lot of long sleeves in our future until we can match the tattoos Oliver has." He leans down to kiss me on the forehead. "Shower and get ready for bed. I'm beat." 1

I jump in to wash off the dirt and grime from whatever day that was. I was actually worried about taking too long, but I couldn't help it. All of the different jets just hit sore muscles I didn't know I had. I will say it was a little nerve wracking getting in and out though, since there isn't an actual door on the bathroom. It has a doorway so it's not completely open, but there is definitely zero room for privacy. I have to keep reminding myself that these guys are my mates. They are going to see me naked eventually and I can't be timid with three extremely hot mates.

I wrap myself in a towel and head back into the closet. I grab my own underwear and shorts, there's no need to give them false hopes, but I do grab one of the new t-shirts that's meant for all of them and doesn't have anyone's scent on it yet and throw that over my head. I have to sneak past the shower with Dakota's very defined butt on display along with his chiseled back muscles flexing as he rinses off the front of his body.

"If you stand there staring any longer, I'm going to think you want me to pull you in here." He laughs as I let out a little squeak and run into the other room and straight into Oliver.

"It's okay to look Bitty, we're yours to look at, but remember we can feel your desire now too, even if it is muted."

"I was wondering about that." Cam comes over from the entryway carrying a tray with glasses and a plate of something. "Normally new mates are attacking each other, especially after they have marked. The mating part is kind of the natural next step."

"Maybe it's different for us. Well I guess everything has been different for us. But we technically missed the full moon after marking. Isn't that like an Alpha ritual or right of passage?" I ask.

"Yeah, I forgot about that." Dakota comes in toweling his hair. "But we are going to go at your pace. We don't have a reason to rush this and your desire is muted. I can feel you,

but it's like from a distance. There's got to be a reason for that."

I know I just ate, but the sandwich Cam made hit the spot as I waited for him to finish his shower. There is no shame in their game as all three of them sport boxer briefs and nothing else to sleep in. At least the last time we were like this they all had t-shirts on. Oh boy.

"You are mine right now." Dakota grabs me. "Those two hogged you the last time."

"That's okay, she'll end up over here eventually." Oliver challenges.

"No way."

"Wanna bet? She flops around like a fish. She'll sprawl across Cam for a bit and end up next to me by morning. Same would happen if she started over here."

"So what you're saying is by letting Cam sleep in the middle we are both getting screwed." The three of them let out deep laughter and I can't help but smile at the idea that they are mine and for right now, no one is trying to take them away.

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I wake up before everyone, as usual and try to move as little as possible as I extract myself from all the limbs holding me down. Oliver wasn't wrong though. I started the night in Dakota's arms and somehow ended up on the other side of Cam, tucked under his arm, while Oliver had my hips pulled back to him with our legs tangled. It's quit the extraction, but for once none of them wake up when I try to move. I don't know if it's because we have marked each other and I have basically committed to staying in the pack so their minds are at ease or if it's because we are up in the Alpha suite and I technically don't have to leave to do anything. There's a kitchen up here that I know is fully stocked. The fireplace with the reading nook in the entryway, the full massive bathroom and closet and my guys are all up here. We could hide away for a while and pretend the sh*tshow isn't still going on outside. And for just a little bit longer that's exactly what I want.

I head to the kitchen to make coffee and as I head back through the entry landing I notice a very familiar book on one of the tables next to the reading chairs. It's the grimoire that Elena gave me, and new pages are marked.

I sit in the chair and get comfortable. I love that she doesn't hover, but knows that I need the guidance and the time to just go through things at my own pace and ask questions

when I need to. I have no idea how long I have been sitting here and so engrossed in this new spell that I don't hear Cam walk into the room. I jump as he kisses me on the cheek.

"Oh damn!! You scared the sh*t out of me!"

"I'll have to remember that you can be completely distracted by a book and your reading room to the point of not being able to use your cheater enhanced abilities against us." He chuckles under his breath and sits in the other chair with a coffee in hand. Oh wow, I was so distracted that he made it by me, to the kitchen and back and I had no idea. "Don't look so shocked Tiny, this is our safe space. No one comes up here unless it's absolutely necessary, you can let your guard down."

"Unless you really don't want to be attacked by us," Another kiss on the cheek. "Then I would keep a little of your guard up." Dakota sits on the arm of my chair. "We need to get a couple more chairs in here." He looks around the space.

"We can just move to the living room..." I start.

"No, you like this space, Bitty. The living room has the TV and a bunch of other distractions. You like the simplicity of this space, so we want to be here... with you." Oliver kisses my other cheek, but stays standing. 1

"So what's on the list of assignments today?" Cam asks over his cup.

“The grimoire was here when I woke up. Not sure if it was here last night, but I don’t think so. There were a couple new spells marked for me to learn. I wish there was some type of description of what the spell is for or what it is supposed to do, though. Especially when they look super complicated like this.” I turn it towards Oliver and he makes a face.

“I don’t remember that one from before and I flipped through the whole book. Maybe I missed something?” He says it like a question, but we all know he most definitely did not miss anything. He doesn’t miss anything. “Well, let’s treat it like information to know, but we won’t do anything with it until we understand what it’s for. At least Elena and Gentry are both here right now and Elena is going to be here permanently, so that will be helpful. You can train regularly on your magic and we can learn what the hell we are doing with these elements now that we all have them.”

I nod. “We should go check in with everyone. I want to know how all of our warriors are and get a rundown of any other damage to the pack grounds that we might need to handle before the Rogue King comes our way, since we know he’s coming, and anything we can put in place now to protect us.” They nod to me.

“I also have one request.” Cam looks at me like he’s going to say something I don’t like and I clench my jaw, bracing for it. “I don’t want you to go down to see Mike.” I inhaled

sharply, that was going to be my next stop after they woke up. I want to confront him. I need to confront him. "Hear me out, Love. We didn't kill him, because we need him to lure the Rogue King and this witch Adrielle out, but I talked to Mateo and other than the ramrod from Jena, he's taken every single punishment with a smugness, that tells us he's up to something. I trust Mateo's judgment. I trust Brett and Kyle on this, something is off. It's like he's waiting, biding his time and you are the only thing he has wanted. Until we can figure out his endgame, will you promise not to go down to the cells? Not even to use the gym. Being in the house is too close for my wolf, and I am barely holding onto control of him."

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