## Chapter 0074

"Hello gentlemen, ladies. I'm Nickolas, one of the Elite Warrior trainers. I work closely with the Alpha King's personal warriors. I have heard great things about all of you." He looks at each of us in turn. "I wanted to watch each of you spar in human form before we started with the wolf versus human portion to get an idea of how all of you move as humans yourselves. Delta Kyle says you all train daily as a group. Are you all pretty comfortable being paired up at random?"

"Yes." We all say in unison, then laugh a bit. Warrior Nickolas just smiles.

"Alright then, let's see you and you together." He pointed to Sam and Mateo.

They were pretty evenly matched. Mateo has more muscle than Sam, but Sam's lean build is quicker. They both have advantages and disadvantages which they are quick to try and exploit from each other.

We play a pinning game several times a week. One of us is 'it' and has to fight off the rest for a certain time limit. We change the length of time to keep us on our toes so we don't get complacent. The goal is to be the first to pin your opponent in a way that they can't release themselves, without causing them to lose consciousness. It's a great tactic for when you want to keep someone alive for questioning. It's fun because we get to work as a team against the person who is 'it' and that single person is fighting against six others at once. We have all agreed that it's not considered an official win for the person who is 'it' unless they have four or more submissions. And the group only gets a win if each person submits the person who is 'it' in the time period.

Mateo and Sam face off and waste no time fighting for dominance. Mateo leans down and tries to get Sam on the ground by taking out his legs, since he is weaker at grappling. Sam stands his ground and grabs Mateo by the waist from the back to steady himself and lands a few good punches to the kidneys, sending Mateo down to a knee. Mateo uses the downward motion to twist and pull Sam under him, essentially cushioning his fall. They go on for a few more minutes, until Warrior Nickolas calls them to a stop.

"I'm impressed, you both have a few things to work on, but your strength and speed is great. Who's next? How about you two?" He points to Kota and Sierra.

"Thank the goddess! I thought he was going to pair me with you since we are both girls. I don't know if I could handle you today." She laughed at me and I rolled my eyes, noticing Warrior Nickolas watching our exchange curiously.

"What am I? Chopped liver?" Kota tries and fails to look offended.

"You know what I meant, She's in rare form right now and super pissed at all of you. I don't want to be on the receiving end of anything she's dishing out today." The rest of the guys laugh. I just stare at all of them confused. I don't get to dwell on it for very long though. Warrior Nickolas starts their fight pretty quickly.

He only let their fight go on for a few minutes as well. He really was just assessing our basic talents. It was fun watching him analyze. I wish I could hear the play-by-play going on in his head on all the corrections and what we were doing that really did impress him.

"Alright, you two." He pointed to Oliver and I.

"It was nice knowing you man." Kota pats him on the shoulder.

"Shut up, you pansy."

We took our stance and I waited for Oliver to make the first move. He's been getting faster with his reaction



time since we all started training together. I try to take the time to read my opponent, study their stance and look for any initial weaknesses I can use early on. I'm not one for dragging out a fight if I can help it. I want a quick finish, which is something Oliver likes to push with me. He tries to wear me out, by keeping me moving and staying just out of reach for a full takedown with his long ass arms. I have to catch him off guard to get him to submit. We haven't trained together all weekend and Oliver is the most adaptable of all the guys. He seems to read me the same way I read him. We almost move in sync, like the twins do.

