

Rejected Protector Chapter 18 - Tips

It's the morning of my birthday. This year, it's a little bittersweet. We are having the big birthday party to celebrate all ten of us born within days of each other. It has been a tradition for us to have a pack wide party every year since we were all 1 year old. I used to look forward to this party every year. It is like a holiday for our pack. It is a celebration of the next generation of leaders for the pack, a sort of celebration of continuity. There has always been some sort of celebration for every generation since the pack began. So why is it bittersweet? Because I know this year will be different. Trevor will take this opportunity to pay me back for the offense he imagined. I really don't know what Trevor's issue is anymore. This goes beyond our training match. It seems like he actually hates me and does not want me in this pack anymore. Honestly, I am ready to move on to a pack that will appreciate the blessing having me in their pack brings. A real big part of me wants to leave and see how well the pack does without my protection, but any even bigger part of me loves my pack members, so I will not let them suffer needlessly. I'll just have to find a way to block Trevor's attack, just like I've blocked all of his other attacks.

As I'm lying in my bed planning my counter moves, my mom and dad come to my room singing happy birthday. My mom is holding a Red Velvet mini cake in her hands. Yes! Red Velvet is my favorite.

"Happy birthday, Sweet Pea." My dad says.

"Thanks, mom and dad," I say with a smile

My mom hands me the cake and sits on the edge of my bed.

"Mona called. She said she had been trying to call you this morning but got your voicemail. She also tried to link you, but you have everyone blocked."

"Yes, mom. I forgot to charge my phone last night and this morning, I just need time to think."

"Did something happen at the club last night Sweet Pea?" My dad asks.

"Well, dad, Trevor was at the club last night with Shana. I let Jazzy and the others talk me into reciting a poem. I recited the one I just wrote a couple of days ago."

I handed my parents the notebook with the poem in it. They both take a moment to read it.

“This is very good Sweet Pea. Let me guess. Trevor heard it and got offended assuming that it was all about him.”

‘Yes dad, that is exactly what happened.’

“Did he do something that I need to be aware of? I told you, if that pup hurts you again, I’m going to deal with him my way.”

“No, dad. He didn’t really do anything but piss me and Tasmaska off. He stormed out of the club in a rage, dragging Shana behind him. So I’m sure, she now knows that I was his mate. When I got home, he was waiting in the driveway for me.”

“That pup was in front of my house with his foolishness. You should have linked me. I would have come out and dealt with him.”

It was alright daddy. I dealt with him. He wanted to have a big confrontation. I told him that it wasn’t all about him and he needed to get over himself. He tried to keep talking and I just walked off and left him standing there. He tried to command me to stay and listen. I just looked at him and kept walking to the house. I left him standing there shocked and mad.”

“That’s my girl.”

“I’m so proud of you baby. That’s why you are my favorite daughter. You are so smart and mature. A true leader.”

“Mom, I’m your only daughter,” I say with a big smile.

“And don’t you forget it.” My mom says hugging me.

“Mom, did Mona say what she wanted?”

“Oh yea, I almost forgot. Mona said get up and get dressed. She and Talia will be here to get you for your birthday breakfast at the dinner. She said don’t try to back out of it. They did not invite Trevor because today is your day. So get up and get dressed, You have about 20 minutes.”

I jump up and run into the shower. In exactly 20 minutes, I am dressed and downstairs waiting for Mona and Talia. I think that was the fastest I have ever

gotten dressed. I didn't even put on makeup. My naturally curly hair is in a wash-and-go type style. Yup, it is exactly like it sounds. I washed it, towel-dried it, put some product in it, finger-combed it and here I am. Less than a minute after I made it downstairs, Mona and Talia were ringing the doorbell.

"Good morning, Auntie and Uncle." Mona says, "Lettie are you ready to go?"

Talia also greets my parents.

"Yes, lest go. I'm hungry this morning. I'm ready for some Red Velvet pancakes."

"You just had a red velvet mini cake, isn't that overk!!!?" My mom asks.

"You can never have too much red velvet. Bye, mom and dad. I'll see you all later."

Mona and Talia say bye to my parents, and we load up in Talia's car. Mona and Talia talk excitedly about the party. We discuss how we are doing our hair and makeup. We already went shopping together for our dresses. Talia talks about the possibility of meeting our mates. I just smile and don't really say anything. I can tell Mona is uncomfortable talking about her excitement. I link Mona and let her know that she does not have to keep her excitement down because Trevor rejected me. I will be happy for all of our friends finding their mates. They all deserve to be happy. Mona responds that I also deserve to be happy. I reassure her that after everything settles down, I will get a second chance to a happily ever after as well. Until that time, I'll be living my life and watching the people I love to live a happy life. She sends me a h.ug through the link. I am so fortunate to have friends and family like my circle.

We arrive at the dinner first and go get a table. We're there for a couple of minutes before Eli comes in. He walks up and greets everyone. I haven't seen him for a couple of days, so we chat a little. In the middle of our conversation, I notice Mona sniffing the air and looking around. I recognize that look. Mona's mate must be near. I stop talking and start looking around the diner. There are not that many people here and they are all spread out. I look at the door and Ben is standing there looking directly at Mona with the biggest smile I have ever seen him have. He rushes over to Mona and gives her the biggest h.ug. The whole diner hears them both yell "Mate." I am so happy for my cousin. Ben is a great guy. They will be very happy together. I look at Rose and she is smiling just as big as the rest of us. I know she is feeling how I am right now. Ben and Mona are made for each other. They are both smart, analytical, and

driven. Mona is also loving and social. She will lighten Ben up a little and Ben will keep Mona focused when she goes in diva mode.

I move over and let Ben sit next to Mona. Not that I had a choice. The two of them are so caught up in each other, they didn't notice where they were sitting anyway.

"Congratulation Ben and Mona. I am so happy for you two. See Mona, you didn't even have to wait for your birthday." I say with a smile. I am genuinely happy for them. Rose and Talia share their excitement about the mated couple. At least now we know Mona will be staying with the pack. Shewolves, unless they are rank, usually transfer to their mate's pack. The best part of Mona and Ben being mates is that we are already all friends. This is perfect.

Nathan comes in and asks Eli what all the excitement is about. Eli gives him the good news about Ben and Mona. He is also happy for the pair. Nathan lets us know that Sam and Drew will be here in a little while. Sam and Drew are skilled trackers. They left Thursday morning to go on a tracking mission for the council. They were looking for a possibly rogue leader who has been stirring up trouble in the kingdom. Other trackers have tried to find him, but he kept slipping away.

Sam and Drew are the most skilled trackers and hunters we have in the kingdom. They are also distant relatives of mine. They are on my mother's side. I think their great grandfather and my great grandfather were cousins. They are also distant relatives of Fenroe. Yes, if you are thinking that my mother is also a descendent of Fenroe, you are correct. That's what makes me a pure-blood descendent. My father is a direct descendent. Fenroe was his great (I don't know how many greats) grandfather. Fenroe was a great uncle or cousin to my mother's ancestor. Because Sam and Drew are from the bloodline of an Original, they have unmatched skills and some special abilities that makes them the best. No one outside of our family and the council or aware of their abilities or connection to an original. I don't know why I felt the need to think about my family tree, but I have a feeling that something good is about to happen for them. The fact that they are returning home after two days means they either caught the target or the trail went cold. My bet is on them.

Mona and Ben have finally come up for air. We decided not to order yet and wait for the twins to get here. Since there went on a mission, we did not get to celebrate with them on their birthday. While waiting for them to get here, we decided to talk about the party and what we all are planning to do now that we

are 18 or almost 18. Ben and Mona are going to be the Beta couple, so their future is pretty mapped out. Talia is going to training for the Elite 12. I am so proud of her. I would love to see her there with me. Rose is thinking about going to college. She will decide where she is going if or after she meets her mate. After about 10 minutes, we all notice Talia lose focus and start sniffing the air.

“Do you smell that?” Talia asks me.

“No, what does it smell like?”

“It smells like fresh cut cedar and Sandalwood. It smells so good, I just want to lose myself in it.”

“Sounds like you are smelling you mate Talia. That is awesome. Two of my friends in one day. This is the best birthday ever.”

The door to the diner opens and in walks Sam and Drew. Maybe one of them is Talia’s mate. That would be so awesome. Both Sam and Drew run straight to Talia. We are all shocked by the word they both say when they get to Talia; “Ours”. Yes, they said that Talia is both of their mates. After the shock wears off. Talia seems ecstatic about having the twins as her mates. I’m happy that five of my closest friends found their mates in our group. It would have been 7 of us if Trevor wasn’t an a.ss, but I am not going to ruin the moment thinking about him.

Nathan moves over so Sam and Drew can sit with Talia between the two of them. We all congratulate them. Nathan tells them about Ben and Mona. They are also happy for them. Us none mated members sit on one side of the table and watch the happy couples on the other side. I look at Rose and I know she is wishing for her mate. I link her and let her know that everything will be ok. She will meet him soon. She smiles and tells me the same. I try hard not to drop my smile at that moment. So it’s down to Nathan, Eli, and Rose to find their mates. I hope Rose’s mate is a member of our pack, so she does not have to be separated from her twin. If he is from another pack, I hope he is a warrior, so he can come to our pack since Rose is a beta-ranked wolf. I know I need to stop planning everyone else life when mine is up in the air. My second chance mate is probably from a different pack. With the way things work with our family, he will be a high-ranking wolf with blood ties to an Original.

“Ok, now that everyone is here, Let’s eat. I am starving. There are some red velvet pancakes with my name all over them.”

We all order and spend the next hour eating laughing and talking. The girls all agreed to meet at my house to get ready for the party. Ben insisted on coming with Mona. The twins want to come also, but they have to debrief with the alpha and the council representative, so they may be in meetings for the rest of the day. They will meet us at our table. Everyone is so excited about the party and being able to show off their new mates.

I just hope that everything goes as smoothly for the rest of my friends. I know it will. It is very rare for a werewolf to reject their mate. Their mate is the other half of their soul. A wolf is lost without his mate and often does not survive a rejection. If I was not a descendent of an Original, things would have been a lot worse for me. Thank the goddess I have options.

We all leave the dinner and go to our homes. Ben takes Mona with him. Talia drops me back off and goes home to tell her parents about the twins. The twins head to the packhouse for their meeting. Nathan and Eli hang out together. Rose leaves with Ben and Mona.

“Talia, I am so happy for you. Sam and Drew are just what you need, I never thought one wolf would be enough for you. You have always been stronger than everyone else in the group.”

“So, true,” Talia says with a laugh. “My grandmother told me before she died that my mating would be different than others. Now I know what she meant. So are you going to tell me what’s going on with you? I noticed that your smile is not meeting your eyes and you have been very distant lately. This is not like you Lettie,”

“I am going through something right now, but I’m not ready to talk about it yet. I and Tamaska are processing it together. Once I get my head right, I will tell you and the others about it. Just know that I am ok and everything is going to work out. Don’t worry about me. Just think, you are going to be marked and mated by two very handsome and powerful wolves.”

Talia looks at me with shock on her face.

“OMG. I didn’t think about that part of being mates. What am I going to do? I’ve never even k!ssed a male before, now I’ll be expected to mate with two of them. I don’t think I can do that.” Talia says panicking.

“Calm down Talia. Sam and Drew love you. You were made for them. They will take good care of you. The moon goddess would not have joined you together if it was not meant to be.”

Talia takes a deep calming breath. “You are right Lettie. I’m going to go let my parents know the news before it spreads through the pack. Remember Lettie, I am here if and when you want to talk about it.”

“I know. See you in a couple of hours for hair and makeup.”

Talia drives off. I go inside and tell my mom about the two new couples. My dad is at the packhouse in the meeting with the twins. Although they didn’t say anything, I’m pretty sure their mission was a success or they wouldn’t be meeting with everyone in a closed door. That also means that I may get called to go on a mission soon since I am now 18. That would be just what I need, something else to focus on. My day is suddenly looking up.