

## Rejected Protector Chapter 36 - Tips

I have been at the academy for a month now. We are getting ready to take a break and visit our families before the holiday break. I talk to my parents and my friends regularly. Ben has been taking on a lot of the Beta duties. We check in weekly. I am really happy to hear how well he is doing. I wish he could have attended the academy with me, but I would never think of separating him and his mate.

My last conversation with Ben was a little awkward. He was feeling me in on the mate ball my parents held last week. A lot of our unmated found their mates, which is always a good thing. Rose did not have any luck. She was sad but has thrown herself into warrior training. She wants to make sure she is prepared for any challenge and Ben said she needs the distraction she gets from training hard. Ben did not want to tell me that Shana found her true mate at the ball. I truly am happy for her and glad that it worked out for her. She is a nice person who got caught up in my drama. Ben told me that Shana's mate had a hard time accepting her when he heard about her almost becoming my chosen mate. He thought that she hadn't waited on him. My parents and friends talked to him and let him know that Shana was not the guilty person. She trusted that her future alpha to make the best decision for everyone. After Shana's mate heard that it was all my plan and that I chose her and convinced her to go along, he was willing to give her a chance. Since he is a warrior of a different pack, Shana transferred to her mate's pack.

I ended my conversation with Ben, telling him I will see him over the weekend. I have to prepare for a meeting with my unit. I really like our unit. We all have a very good work ethic. We are leading in almost every area of the training. Over this past month, we have participated in several competitions that focused on building teams and alliances, strategic planning, critical thinking/problem solving, intellect, physical strength, and logical reasoning. A good alpha needs all of these skills and more to lead a pack both in peaceful times and during war.

Gamma True has been impressed with our unit's level of dedication. We are meeting and planning while other teams are playing and socializing. Don't get me wrong, our unit is not all work all of the time. We party as well, but we like to plan ahead and be prepared for every challenge. Gamma True said that he is impressed with how we approached the structure of our team. We share leadership and rotate the leader bi-weekly. We usually decide things democratically, with the leader for that period directing the flow of the work.

Everyone gets a chance to present their ideas. We have also workout our strengths. My strength is my ability to plan strategically. I know that is surprising considering the horrible plan that got me sent to the academy in the first place, but it's true. Our dedication and ability to work together help us to win almost every challenge.

During our first week here, the units participated in the common war game where teams try to collect the flags of the other teams. We collected almost every flag. The other teams relied on brute force, but we came up with an organized plan. We sent 2 out to gather flags while the rest of us defended our flag. We picked the fastest and the strongest to go after the flags. Alpha Bruton is the strongest and Beta Casion is the fastest.

When we started the competition and the other team saw us sending just two wolves out, they laugh and thought we would definitely come in last. What they did not realize is that two wolves made a lot less noise than a group/ It was easier for our team to sneak up on the one person left behind and get the flag before they knew anyone was there. When they were caught sneaking in by the defending, Alpha Bruton would engage them while Beta Casion quickly grabbed the flag. This works perfectly every time. In the end, we kept our flag, since we had 4 people guarding it, and gather the most flags. We didn't get all of them, but that's only because a couple of teams beat us to one or two.

We have a new competition we need to complete on Monday when we return from our weekend visit with family. This time, we have to look at a potential threat of war and come up with a peaceful solution or a war strategy. We were all given a printout of the issue. All of the units will be problem-solving the same issues. The issue we will be discussing is a potential overthrow of our king. There is a rogue wolf building an army to overthrow the king. He does not agree with the rules of the kingdom, mainly the law that supernaturals need to stay hidden in plain sight. He feels that supernaturals are gods compared to humans and we should not be hiding. The rogue believes that the supernaturals should come out of hiding and take our place as gods living amongst them. Little do most of the people here know, this is almost based on reality. There is some power-crazy group out there now trying to take advantage of The Protector not revealing herself yet to steal power for themselves. Everyone thinks the protector was just born because they did not feel the power shift when the past protector died. Everyone felt the power when Seleste turned 18 and came into her power. The rebels are consolidating their power right now to strike before the Protector matures.

Little do they know, she is already on the job. I hope that we can provide the Royals and Protector team with some useful strategies.

We all six of us meet in the common area of our unit. Alpha Justin is the leader for this meeting. We had all agreed that this meeting would not last long so we all can get packed and make our travel arrangements. Most of our unit have to fly out. I am the only one from our unit that lives within driving distance.

“Has everyone had an opportunity to read over the project details?” Justin asked

We all stated that we have read it.

“Does anyone have any idea?.”

“I think we can rule out peaceful talks, “ I say.

“Why?” Beta Casion asked.

“I think this person is fixated on power. He or she has spent years building an army and followers. They are not likely to stand down without gaining some kind of power. I don’t know that we have anything to offer them for peace negotiations. I mean, they already have land and money.”

“I agree.” Beta Jona says. “The person that would start a rebellion to overcome a king, wants ultimate power. He or she uses the promise of power to get others to follow them. They are not likely to settle for anything less than total power or death.”

“So we can all agree that peace talks are off the table?” Justin asked.

We all answered in the affirmative.

“Since peace is out, how do we go about planning for war?”

“Having a medium-large pack,” Alpha Burton said, “my first thought would be building alliances and getting the majority of the packs in the kingdom fully involved. I know that we are all obligated to send a small number of warriors to fight with the Royal army, but as the printout said that the rebels target the small packs first and try to destroy the kingdom from the inside out, we need to strengthen the smaller packs and work together as a kingdom.”

"I think Alpha Burton makes a very good point. There are strengths in numbers. Even the larger pack such as mine would need help against an army of 1000 or more rogues. So I like the idea of building alliances." I said.

Everyone talked for a minute or two about the advantage of working together and strengthening the packs. Beta Jona suggested cross-training of alliance packs because some of us have different fighting skills. He mentioned that my Gamma had trained in several different fighting styles. I agree with him and tell them that my gamma is currently training with other packs as we speak.

"So how do we go about building the alliances in a way that we benefit the kingdom as a whole and not just make certain packs stronger to become a threat of their own later?" Justin asked

"Maybe we can build alliances based on regions/zones. That way, the packs will be close enough to respond in emergency cases. Since my pack is 12 hours away from Burton pack, It would not make sense for my unit to be his emergency backup, but we could still make an alliance to train with each other and send warriors to assist if there is an advance notice or send aid after the fighting ends." I say.

"That's exactly what I was thinking," Alpha Burton said. "We can have levels of alliance that can be laid out as part of our agreement. The packs will support each other within their region or zone, but still, connect with packs outside of their region/zone for trade and aid if needed."

"That sounds good to me." Alpha Justin says, "So over our weekend break, it's come up with a plan for how we divide the kingdom in regions for our purpose of building partnerships and how we would lay out the alliance agreement. We also need to think about how we handle the packs that do not want to join an alliance and what happens if that pack gets attacked. Do we leave them to fend for themselves since they did not join an alliance?"

We all agreed to have ideas ready to discuss either Sunday night or before training Monday morning.

"If no one has anything else to add, we can close this meeting and get ourselves ready to go home," Justin says.

We were all excited about getting to go home, even if it is for the weekend. Most classes don't get this bonus break, but since our class has done so well, we are out ahead in the training schedule, so we have room for an extra

break. Although we have only been away from home for a month, It seems like it has been a lot longer.

I think I am finally ready to face my pack. I don't think I was ready to face them before now. I think the fact that I have proven myself to be a good leader and continue to make my dad proud, I am ready to face everyone so they can see that I've grown up and matured. My parents and friends are excited to see me. Being the future alpha, I have not been away from my pack for an extended length of time. While I miss my pack. I am glad for the opportunity to learn to be a better alpha for my pack.

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I've been at Blood Moon Pack for nearly a month and training has been very intense. I have mastered every element and discovered I can also control darkness or shadows. Alpha Blake has been training me in the element of darkness. Most wolves avoid using darkness because they equate it with evil. The elements themselves are not good or evil, it is the intent to which they are used that is good or evil. Darkness is pure power and can be seductive if you are already power corrupted. For me, walking in the shadow world is just like every other element. All of them can be offensive or defensive. I've learned how to operate in both for all elements. I can build a wall or shield with all of the elements. I've learned to expand my shields to cover several wolves at one time. Last week, I was able to manipulate more than one element at a time. I can use one as a defense and attack with the other. I have learned so much in three weeks. I can't wait to go to the Mystic Coven and learn from them.

This is my last week of training with Alpha Blake. We will focus on me maintaining control of the elements for longer periods of time without using up all of my energy. I am able to pull energy from the ground or if I am touching the element I am using. This keeps me from burning myself out, but I won't always be near the element I am using, so I have to learn to focus my energy.

Lacey has been a great help with getting me to meditate. I'm meeting her this morning before training to meditate and get myself Centered. Lacey said she learned to meditate after her situation with her mate. I helped her stay connected with her wolf until Tamaska was able to heal them on the soul level. I thought I was meditating before meeting Lacey, but all I was doing was deep thinking. Lacey taught me how to control my breathing and truly connect with the world around me on a spirit level. It is hard to describe if you

have never had a pure meditative moment. I think the ancient Native Americans did meditation the best. Lacey taught me that it is not about controlling or forcing yourself to breathe, its about being in that moment when you simply breath and focus on the breath and how the body moves and flows with each inhale and exhale. The other things she taught me was the proper posture. You need to keep your spine straight. The means no leaning over. When you bend over while meditating, you block the flow of energy. Your spin needs to be straight, so the energy can flow through and around you. Since working with Lacey to improve my meditating, my energy flow has been much better, and I am able to see my inner spark with less work. Alpha Blake has also noticed a difference in me calling the elements to the front.

I meet Lacey at the training ground. We have and hour before the rest of the team gets here to train. Since I have gotten better at removing all distractions, I don't need as long to get to a deep meditative state.

"Good morning Seleste. Are you ready to get started? We have just about an hour of moon glow before dawn takes over."

"I'm ready, let's get started."

We sit in an area that is full on direct moon glow. Lacey instructs me to close my eyes and focus on each breath as I inhale and exhale. In and out, in and out. I follow the breadth in and out. I can hear our heart rates slowing down and syncing. I can feel the energy of the moon flowing through me. The more I let the air and energy flow through me, the more I recharge. As I inhale, I see pure energy flowing through my body. Each breadth pulls more energy in and I release all negative flow. I can see every cell in my body being energized. I see the spark within me shining brightly. I acknowledge and speak to my elements and let the energy flow to them. They like it when I feed them energy while meditating. I have a stronger relationship with my elements now. They don't mind sharing their magic with me because they know that I will share my energy with them and that we will all get to feel the renewal power of the moon.

Before I know it, our hour is up and the rest of the team is present. We begin training by stretching and going for a jog around the perimeter of the pack. We do this every morning to get our core temperature up and our bl00d flowing. After our run, the warrior break off to do some hand to hand combat training or tracking exercise. They have learned how to use all of their senses when

tracking something or someone. Last week, the Beta took me away and hide me deep in the wood with scent blockers. My warriors had to find me without relying on following my scent. It took them several hours, but in less than a full day, they found me. Well, that was the fifth time doing the exercise, but I was still very proud of them. They were not able to find me at all the first two times and it took almost 3 days on the third try and 2 days on the fourth try. Although our time at this pack is coming to an end, we will keep using this exercise as part of our training. If I ever get kidnapped, I am confident, my time will find me quickly.

Today, the warrior will do hand to hand combat and then they will train against me and the other elementals on the team to learn how to counter and elemental attack. Warrior Peace is really good in this area. He gets more practice since his mate is an elemental as well. I wouldn't be surprised if he starts showing an affinity to water.

'Ok, Seleste, well the warriors are off doing their thing, lets focus on you controlling and maintain two elements at the same time, both in the offensive.' Alpha Blake says.

"Ok, I think I'll try fire and wind."

I call forth a wall of fire and ask the wind to start spinning. I enjoy creating tornadoes. That power is so destructive but controlled. I bring the wind to the fire and pull the fire into the tunnel of wind. I create arms of wind and fire and aim it at different targets. I hit bullseye every time. Next, I separate the wind and fire. I send the wind at one target and the fire at a different target. That was my first time doing that. Everyone was so excited. I guess it is not common. I have learned to share my thought with my elements and let them know what I want to do. They merge with me and follow my thoughts to accomplish what we want to accomplish. My elements and I have a mutually cooperative relationship. They are a part of me and Tamaska. I am able to shape the elements into weapons to use. I shaped the fire into a fiery arrow. I want to practice making hundreds of bullets out of the fire to hit several targets at one time, but I don't want to hurt anyone, so I will practice that later. My fire assures me that we can do it and not hurt anyone because our intension is not to hurt. The bullets will dissipate before they hit a live being. That is so cool.

Alpha Blake told me that I am one of very few people who can wield the elements in my animal form. Most elementals can only do so in human form. I told him about how Tamaska and I both connect with the elements during meditation. I suggested that meditation be added to the training for new



elementals when they start manifesting. If they can connect with their elements on a soul and spirit level, they will be more powerful and more entuned with the element itself. I also talked with Alpha Blake about what my shadow element told me about not being evil. Alpha Blake is going to let me meet and talk with all of the current manifesting elementals tonight so that I can help them embrace their shadow element. My Shadow told me that everyone has the ability to walk in the shadows, but he only picks those who are pure at heart to actually manifest true power. Shadows have the ability to give or take life with just a thought, so its important that the intent of the wielder is clear and pure. Alpha Blake said that he has never heard that and most elementals shy away from darkness as an element. I reminded Alpha Blake, that they do not like being called darkness. They prefer Shadow element. They walk in the shadows, not in darkness.

The warriors join us and we begin to through our elements at them. I link everyone and tell them that I am about to throw fiery bullets at them, but don't worry if they get past the shields, they will not penetrate their skin. I let my fire know what I what and we get ready. We all get in battle formation. I have the wind as a shield around my team and let them know I'm about to drop the shield and fire at the other team. I lower the shield, even though I don't have to lower it to send fire. I do it because I want to see how the bullets fly. I send a wave of bullets flying at the warriors who are spread out in formation. I was able to target over 50 warriors at one time. My fire let me know that we can target more in a real battle situation. The others are in awe of what I just did.

"Wow, Seleste. I have never seen anything like that before." Gamma Francis says. "I've seen the elements in concentrated form before, bu what you just did was awesome. How is it that no one was actually hurt?"

"I let my fire know a head of time that It was not my intention to cause harm, just to train and they agreed not to harm anyone."

"So it is true that you communicate with the elements?" Yvette asked.

"Yes I do. They are a part of Tamaska and I. We both connected with them. They are able to read our intentions and thoughts. They respond and manifest our intentions. They give me power and when I meditate, I make sure they are restored and filled with energy. "

"This is fascinating." Gamma Francis says. "I can't wait to meditate with you. I what to build a stronger connection with my element."



‘Meet Lacey and I in the morning, an hour before training and we will all meditate together. Lacey will teach you all how to go deep within yourselves the way she did with me. In less than a week, I am so much better and more focus. I also do not burn all of my energy when using my elemental power now.’

“Ok, everyone, that was a good training. Warriors, you have greatly improved in all areas and I think you are ready. For the last few days left at our pack, we will focus on counter acting elemental attacks. When we get to Mystic Coven, I will train you all on how to sense when someone ports near you so you can defend against that. Let’s go get breakfast. Seleste, I will assemble the group you need to speak with after breakfast.” Alpha Blake says.

We all leave the training grounds and go to lunch. Everyone seems a lot more excited and energetic today.

“I shared some of our energy with our team Lettie. I want them to get used to working with use and sharing our energy. I randomly share a little with them at a time. In real world situations, we can share energy with them that we pull from the natural elements to keep us all going.”

“That’s so cool. I’m glad we can do that. We don’t have to worry about our team giving out in the middle of a battle. As long as we can still go, we can keep our team going without them even knowing.”

Tamaska and I agreed not to tell them about this for now. Although I trust my team, I don’t want others knowing about this, that would make me an even bigger target.

After breakfast, I met with the shadow walkers, as my element wants me to call them. They were surprised when I explained the true nature of the element and them being chosen by the element because of their pure heart. They all agreed to meet me early the next morning to meditate and connect with their element. Alpha Blake and the ranked wolves will be there as well. Lacey is excited that she gets to contribute so much to this pack and to the protector team. The warriors were also invited to participate. Warrior Peace is excited because he can feel the spark of an element flowing in him.

We finish out the week just as Alpha Blake said, working on counter acting the elemental attacks. We start every morning meditating and connecting with our elements. The first day was focused on getting them to reach that deep state of being able to be one with themselves, their wolves and their element. After

that, we taught them how to let the energy from the natural elements flow through them and through the elements. Many of them can already use their elemental power in wolf form. Mostly they younger ones because it has not been ingrained in them that they can't do it yet. I do believe with time, most of them will be able to use their power in wolf form as well as human form. Its just a matter of their wolves connecting with the elements and accepting them as a part of themselves. Tamaska has been helping some of the wolves do this. Its something about them being dominant and not wanting to share their human with the element on that level. Tamaska is helping them see the elements as an extinction of them and not an invader. All and all, it has been a good month and we are not preparing to go to Mystic Coven tomorrow.

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Talia, Rose, Mona and I talk weekly. Rose and Mona love hearing about the adventures Talia and I are having. Talia was impressed by Alpha Blake. She talks about him a lot. If she was not already mated to my twin cousins, I would think she had a crush on Alpha Blake. The twins and Talia became fast friends with Alpha Blake and his beta.

Talia and Alpha Blake have gone under cover together in the Caribbean Islands. Talia had a chance to put her island heritage to work and her being a student of languages has also helped them. Talia and Alpha Blake gathered a lot of information going to different supernatural hang out spots. While the twins did more recon and security.

Talia also got the opportunity to perform a couple times, which has been a dream of hers. She used to want to be a famous singer and performer. The council got her a reoccurring singing spot at one of the popular clubs. From what Talia told us, she may have an opportunity to tour after this assignment is over. She is gathering a real following. Her touring would help keep her cover and make it easier for the team to get into certain areas. They can go in as her stage crew.

Both parts of our mission have been successful. The twins have discovered the leaders of the unrest and Talia has been able to gather a lot of intel during her performances and hanging out with her fans. Especially when she travels outside of the country. Many of the rebels meet at the different clubs. They feel free to talk in front of Talia because they know she is from America, and they assume that she does not understand the languages they are using to

communicate. Talia has never let it slip that she understands what they are saying.

I recently introduced Lacey to my friends. Since Lacey will be traveling with me most of the time, I wanted her to build a relationship with my friends. When I travel back to my home pack, I plan to take her with me. I knew that she would fit right in with our group. She has that personality that blends with just about any type of personality. I knew Talia and Rose would love that she also a warrior. Mona likes that she is also girly although she is a warrior first.

My friends also got to know Yvette and Gamma Francis over these last 3 or so weeks. Yvette is excited about visiting my home pack soon to meet Warrior Peace's family and get the chance to go shopping with Mona. I will definitely leave the shopping to them I think I have shopped enough to carry me for the next couple years.

Last night, we did a conference call to cheer Rose up. They had the mate ball over the weekend. Many of our pack members and warriors found their mates, but Rose did not have any luck. She did not meet her mate. Talia is pushing for her to meet Alpha Blake's beta. He has not met his mate and was not able to go to the mate ball due to being on another mission for the council. Talia thinks he would be a good match.

I want her to meet Alpha Carter, but I won't say anything because Tamaska has already called me out on trying to match mate when I thought Lacey could have been Alpha Clark's mate. I will admit that Rose would make a great Luna for this pack. She would be the perfect compliment to Alpha Clark's leadership style. He appreciates strong warriors no matter what sex they are. Tamaska told me that Alpha Clark has a mate out there that he will meet soon, so I'll keep my opinion about him being perfect for Rose to myself. I'm surprised Tamaska hasn't said anything yet, but since I'll keep my thoughts to myself and correcting myself, she's letting me off the hook.

On another note, Rose told me that Shana found her mate at the mate ball. I'm surprised, but happy for her. I'll admit that for a moment, I was a little upset that she gets to be happy right now, but I realized that's not fair. She really did not do anything to me. I can't blame her for the decision my ex mate made. I told the girls how I was feeling, and they told me it was only natural to still have a little residue of anger, but I was also right in realizing that I can't blame Shana for Trevor's actions.

Mona mention that there was a little drama with Shana and her mate. Her mate almost did not accept her after he heard about what happened with Trevor. Fortunately, it was explained to the mate, who happens to be a warrior, that Shana was the innocent one in that situation. They explained that Trevor pursued her and convinced her that what he was doing was good for the pack. In the end, her mate accepted her, and she moved to his pack with him. Things definitely worked out for the best for Shana at least. I'm trying not to be bitter about it all.

"You know we have no reason to be bitter Lettie. We have a second chance mate out there and when you are ready, the moon goddess we let us meet him. Right now we are healing, but our happy ending is not that far away."

"Thanks for the reminder T. sometimes I get a little caught up in my feelings. Thank you for reminding me of the big picture."

"Any time Lettie. That's what I am here for. I just want you to heal and forgive so we can move forward with our lives. The goddess has so much more in store for us and our friends."

My wolf keeps my grounded. Right now, I have enough going on in my life that I don't really have time to worry about a mate. We need to focus on helping Rose find her mate. I'm thinking about asking Councilman Bari to talk to my alpha about letting Rose travel with the team for a little while. I think her getting away from her everyday life will be good for her, plus, she will have a chance to meet different wolves from other packs. There is a pack within an hour of Mystic Coven. They interact with the vampires regularly increasing the chance of Rose interacting with different wolves. There is also a pack near the bears den we will be traveling to after leaving the coven.

"Alpha Clark, do you think it will be an issue to add one more to our group going to the coven?"

"No, it wouldn't be a problem at all. Why do you ask? Has Tamaska been given another mission?"

"No, I'm thinking about asking for one of my circle to travel with me for a short while. I need to get her mind off things."

"Is everything ok with your friend?"

"Yes, she is mostly good. Just a little depressed about being the only person in our group that has not found their mate."

"You still don't have a mate yet."

"But don't forget, that I had a mate. He just decided to go against the moon goddess and reject me."

"You seem so put together, it's hard to imagine that you were rejected just a month ago. I still can't understand how a young alpha could think that doing something of the that nature would be the right thing to do."

Alpha Clark just shakes his head. Something like what Trevor did is unheard of, especially by an alpha.

"I know. I still have a hard time believing that it was real. It still feels like a dream to me. So I can't say I know how Rose is feeling right now, but I want to get her mind off things and let her get away from the pack. Plus, her traveling with me will give her a chance to meet others."

"Your heart definitely is in the right place. You would have made an excellent Luna for your pack, but maybe the coven isn't the best place for her to get away to. I mean, there is no danger, but their culture is different from ours."

"I didn't think of it like that, plus, Alpha Connor probably would not agree to it. My family had a hard time letting me spend time there. Relationships with the vampires is still a little shaky, but we are all supernaturals, so we should have some form of alliance. I don't understand how we as supernaturals have petty prejudices like the humans. It is ridiculous. We are all different and unique, even within our shifter groups. I mean look at the differences in the wolves, we have different ranks, colors and abilities, yet we are all one species."

Alpha Clark sighs. "I wish everyone else could see it the way that you do. At least we are all agreeing to work together for the common good of all supernaturals. The threat we face now is a threat to us all."

Alpha Clark and I end our conversation and I go to my room to think and pack. We have a lot to do to prepare for the next wave of my training. Alpha Clark is a good wolf. I really hope he finds his mate soon. I know T said it will be soon, but I really want to see him happy. He needs his Luna. I think I'll call Rose and let her know that I want her to come visit me soon. Most likely at the bear den. That would be perfect since I will be going home for Christmas after that stop.

Since the bears will be teaching me about electronics and setting up all of my security measures and counter measures, I will not be there for a full month. That would be the perfect time for Rose to join me.

Rose was excited when I told her about my plans to ask Alpha Connor to allow her to come train with me at the bear den. It will be a win-win situation for us and the pack. Rose will learn and have a chance to purchase the newest tech and surveillance equipment for the pack. She will also get a firsthand experience in setting up operations and security counter measures from the best of the best, while also being able to train with my elite team. Both, Rose and I know that Alpha Connor will jump at the opportunity to have someone from the pack trained by the bears. This is a rare opportunity for a wolf pack outside of the royal pack.

I told Lacey, Gamma Francis and Yvette about my plans for my friend Rose. They are both excited to meet her. Gamma Francis will not be going to the coven with us. She will be running the pack while Alpha Clark and Beta James are traveling. Gamma Francis and Rose will get along greatly, they are both badass warriors who are still very much girly.

Now that I have Rose kind of sorted out, I wonder if we can help Gamma Francis find her mate. Then all the people I love the most will be matched.

“Seriously Lettie, you need to stop trying to mate match everyone. The goddess has that under control, but if it makes you feel better, Gamma Francis’ mate will find her real soon right here at her pack. Possibly while we are away. All I will say is that he will be of gamma blood as well. Her pups will be pure blooded like us.”

“Wait, are you telling me that Gamma Francis is related to us?”

“Yes, she is. Like the twins, she is a distant relative, but she still has Fenroe blood in her. She doesn’t know it, but her wolf does. That’s one of the reasons we bonded with her so quickly. You can tell her if you want. It’s really not a secret. The story of her bloodline just got lost a couple generations ago.”

I linked Gamma Francis, Yvette, Alpha Clark and Beta James and asked them to meet me. I know this is not like telling someone they are a royal, but I’m so excited to tell Francis that her and I are related. The others are just along for the ride.

“You are so dramatic Lettie” Tamaska links.

“Ok Seleste, we are all here. What is this all about?” Alpha Clark asks.

“Well, I just heard some news from Tamaska and I couldn’t hold it. I just wanted to share it.” I say jumping up and down.

“Well this must be something exciting the way you are acting right now.” Beta James says.

“I just found out that one of you is related to me and a distant descendent of Fenroe, which means, that person has the bl00d of an original flowing through their veins.” I say dramatically.

I can see Tamaska rolling her eyes at me and shaking her heads. She loves me anyway. She knows I like to add a little spice to everyone’s life. Tamaska, just goes to her favorite sp0t in my mind and put her head on her paws waiting for me to finish.

“Ok, who is it. I’m assuming its out of James and Francis since you said one person. If it had been me or my brother, you would have said two of us.” Yvette said.

“Oh, so you caught that?” I said with a smile.

I can tell everyone is ready for me to spill the beans.

“Ok, Francis, I knew I liked you when I first met you. Tamaska just told me that we bonded so quickly because we are cousins. Tamaska said that the story of the bl00dline got lost from your family a couple of generations ago, but you are definitely a cousin.”

“Wow.” Francis says with tears in her eyes. “This is so amazing. I always wanted to know more about my family. My great grandmother left her old pack and moved to this one with her mate. Something happened with her family and she cut all ties with them. I think her dad did not approve of her mating with my great grandfather. From what I can remember, my great-grandfather was a warrior who moved up to gamma. He wasn’t born a gamma like my grandmother. All I know is that we were cut off from them and my grand mother never talked about them or anything remotely connected to them. I don’t even know what pack they were from.”

“Well, there are a couple packs we are connected to, including the Royal pack. Not many people know this, but the Royal Gamma is our cousin as well.



There are three different branches of the family. My father is a direct descendent, while my mom's family is a distant relative. Not a direct blood tie but connected somehow. When we finish my training, if it is ok with you, we can contact the royal pack and do a DNA test to see which branch you came from and possibly reconnect with the rest of the family. I do want you to meet my dad, our cousin Mona and the twins. The twins are from my mother's side, but they are still family."

"Seleste, you don't know how much this means to me. I was the last one left from my family. It feels good to know that I have other relatives out there. Both of my parents were only children, born to only children. So it was just me here. No siblings are cousins. Thank you Seleste for giving me a family again."

"You are welcome Francis. I am so excited to have another cousin. Come to think of it, you and Mona are almost exactly alike in personality." I said with a smile. "We have to call Mona and tell her. I know you all have already met but wait till she hears that you are family."

Everyone congratulated Gamma Francis on finding her family. They knew how much this meant to her. I am so glad that Tamaska let me know. She has to be careful sometimes about the information she releases and when she does it, but I'm so glad the goddess allowed her to tell me about Francis.

Francis and I spent the rest of the day, up until dinner talking to my dad and Mona. They are so excited about meeting her during the holidays. Francis has agreed to go with me to the pack for Christmas to meet the family there. My dad will contact our family at the Royal pack, so we can arrange a time to travel there after the holidays when it will be less noticeable. Its like we are giving Francis the give of family for Christmas. This has made Tamaska stand taller and smile more. I know she gains strength when those we have a bond with are happy.

## Rejected Protector Chapter 39 - Tips

The weekend home was refreshing. I had a chance to reconnect with my friends and spend time with my parents. I spent part of my day with my dad and Beta Vereen going over pack business and sharing with them the projects we have been working on at the academy. I shared my teams plan for the upcoming project and both my dad and Beta Vareen were impressed by my team's ability to look at the big picture. They were impressed that we had a plan to strengthen the smaller packs. They agreed that the smaller packs

were usually targeted first when an attack was planned against the kingdom. The rebels would take over the smaller packs and force them to fight in their army. The smaller packs are put on the frontlines of the enemy's army and are the first to die. We definitely don't want that to happen to any of our alliances. Dad told me that he was proud of me for thinking of the kingdom and not just focusing on our pack.

Dad and I talked about my future. He asked me about thinking about the type of person I will choose for the Luna of this pack. Now that my fated mate is not an option, I have to take a lot of things into consideration. Dad warned me that a lot of shewolves would try to seduce me just for the power of being the luna of our pack, but I need to be careful and choose wisely. Dad also warned me about having casual relations with shewolves, because they could take it wrong and think we are in a relationship, when I'm just being casual. I let my dad know, that at this point, neither I nor Convel are interested in having any sort of relationship. We are still healing and coming to terms with the fact that my stupidity lost Seleste and that we will one day have to see her happy with someone else. Don't get me wrong, I am happy that she will not have to go through life suffering for my actions, but now that I am aware of what I did, I wish she could live happy with me. I know that will never happen. There is no mate bond between us anymore. All I can hope for is that we become friends again.

I spent a little quality time with my mom before meeting up with Ben and hanging out with my friends. I miss having the one-on-one time with my mom. I'll admit I am a momma's boy. I can truly talk to my mom about anything. Mom knows when to listen and when to offer advice.

"Son, I know you haven't heard this from me in a long time, but I am proud of the man you are becoming."

"Thanks mom. I didn't think I would hear those words from you ever again. I'm sorry for disappointing you mom. I hope that I can continue to make you proud of me in the future."

"Baby boy, everyone makes mistakes. It's all a part of our growing process. If we don't make mistakes, we never learn life's lessons. While your mistake was large, the lessons you are learning is worth it. I wouldn't want you to repeat that mistake, but I am grateful for the lessons you have learned and the level of maturity I now see in you. My grandmother used to say that great growth comes from great loss. I think you have learned that the hard way."

"You are so right mom. I have moments when it is hard for me to believe all of this is real and I really lost my mate forever and condemned Convel to live half a life without his true mate. He said he will never accept anyone else."

"Baby, I know that is hard and you and Convel are living with the pain. My advice is first forgive yourself. You did the wrong thing for what you thought was the right reason. Now, I'm not excusing your decision, but I am saying that you are entitled to make mistakes in life. The important thing is that you learned from it. I know your dad spoke with you about a luna and some other things."

"Not you to mom, please don't do the talk with me to. My heart wouldn't be able to take it."

"Oh hush, I was not going to have that talk with you. I'm personally not ready to take of you being that grown up yet. What I am saying is that I want you to take your time. There is no rush for you to have a luna. The pack is doing fine right now. Besides, I believe the goddess still has a plan for you. I believe that everything has happened for a reason. Don't lose faith my son."

"Thanks mom. You always know exactly what I need to hear. Love you mom. I'm going to go hang out with Ben and the circle for a while. I'll see you and dad later."

I hug my mom then go meet up with Ben after talking to my dad.

"Ben, man thank you for rescuing me. When you called earlier, my dad was trying to have the talk with me."

"Isn't he a little late for that. I mean you are a full grown wolf now."

"I know. He told me and I quote, 'you shouldn't have casual relations with random shewolves' UGH! I do not want to talk about sex with my dad."

Ben laughs at my expression. "As awkward as that was Trev. Your dad does have a point. You being an alpha will get you all sort of attention from the females and could lead to drama you don't want or need."

"Trust me Ben. I know and like I told dad, at this point, I don't want to be involved with anyone. I'm focused on building me back up and becoming the

male and alpha I was meant to be before I can think about being with anyone, I have to have myself together so that I have something to offer them besides a title."

"Wow. Trev. I am so proud of you. You are sounding like my best friend again."

It felt good to hear Ben say that. Ben is not one to give false praise. He really means what he says.

The rest of my weekend was spent with my friends. Of course we all met up at the diner for lunch. We had an amazing time. All of the tension that was there over the past year was gone. Rose and Mona were open with me again, which was awesome. We had a moment when they were talking about the mate ball when everyone looked at me as they were talking about who all found a mate. I let them know that Ben had already told me about Shana and that I am genuinely happy for her. The relationship between her and I was never meant to be and was only on the surface. She is a nice person and deserves to be happy with her mate. After that, the conversation flowed freely again. Rose was still a little bummed that she did not meet her mate, but she was excited that she will be meeting up with Seleste in about a month or more. My dad agreed to let her meet Seleste and train with the bears. That will be a great opportunity for her and our pack. With her on target to being our head warrior, she will be able to move our pack into the next generation of security. Rose has always been a wiz with electronics and other gadgets so she is perfect for this. I hope that the moon goddess will let her find her mate while she is traveling with Seleste. Rose is tough and fierce, but she has a heart of gold.

On the last day, I had breakfast with my family and friends. It was bittersweet. As much as I love my family and friends, I am excited to be getting back to the academy. Its funny how that worked out. What started out as a punishment has ended up being the best thing that could have happened to me. I'm beginning to see this all as part of the goddess' plan. Maybe Seleste and I both needed to go through what we did to become the leaders we were meant to become. If I had accepted her, neither one of us would have been pushed to grow as we did. Well, at least, I wouldn't have. I would have never seen life outside of my little bubble. In a way, I am grateful for my brief moment of stupidity.

"I don't know if it was brief or a lifetime of stupidity." Convel links.

“Shut it mutt.”

That’s the other good thing, well maybe not so much, but Convel is back to himself now. He continues to be the most irritating companion I have ever had.

“Hey, I heard that dumb dumb.”

“You were supposed to hear it.”

Convel huffs at me, rolls his eyes and closes our link. Good, now I can have a moment of quiet. I like to spend time in quiet reflection. It helps me to refocus myself. Convel told me that I need to start meditating. He said Tamaska reached out to him and told him that there are some major events coming our way and we will need to have our stuff together and be stronger than ever. She told Convel that he and I need to strengthen our connection and one way to do that is to meditate. So far, I’m not that good at it, but I am able to sit and reflect in a way that allows Convel and I to commune together. I will ask the Royal Gamma about teaching us true meditation techniques.

## Rejected Protector Chapter 40 - Tips

I didn’t have long to reflect today. Everyone is due back and my unit, and I will meet up in less than an hour to go over our plan. We have to present a full plan for the assembly tomorrow. The Gamma gave us today to put the final touches on our plan, so we can do a full presentation tomorrow. We are going to be presenting it in a war room type setting. They way we would if we were planning a war or defense at our packs.

It’s time to meet with my unit, so I get up from my quiet spot in my room and head out to the common area to meet with everyone. As we all trickle in, I can tell that the visit home was good for everyone. We all look well rested and ready to remain on top of the leaderboard.

This week, Beta Casion will lead the unit. He calls our meeting to order.

“Ok Alphas and Betas, we’ve had a couple of days to relax and put our thoughts together. Are we ready to put the final touches on our presentation?”

We all said that we were ready. Everyone pulled out our tablets and ready to get down to business.

"I uploaded a current map of the kingdom, then broke it down into regions. I'll display the satellite image and the topographical images. I figure since we are planning to strengthen the smaller packs and securing the perimeter of the kingdom, we need to know the lay of the land." Beta Jona stated,

"That's an awesome idea, Jona. I wish I had thought of that," I said.

Jona connected his tablet to the projector so we all could view the maps as we discuss our plan.

"First, I will display the map with the regions."

Jona pulls up the map and projected it on the big screen for us all to see.

"So this is how I broke the regions down. I kept it simply with North, South, East, West and Central. Since the Royal Pack is literally in the center of the kingdom, it and the surrounding packs can be the central region."

"I like the way you did this breakdown. I don't think we need to change anything. Looks like all the packs in the regions are only a few hours away from each other. The packs can all respond to distress calls within a couple hours or a day at the most." Beta Casion said.

We all agreed to the breakdown that Beta Jona developed. There is even room for a little overlapping of the regions. All the packs on the borders are the larger packs and can respond to calls for help from the other region if needed.

The next thing we need to do is set up a plan for offering relief to packs if they are attacked. This is my area.

"I thought about our plan for offering relief to the packs. As I look at the map and breakdown of the packs, there are at least one or two peaceful packs in every region. These packs are heavily defended, but rarely take part in wars. I propose we engage them as our stage for getting relief to the impacted packs. They can offer medical aid, temporary shelter and comfort to the pack. That way, they are contributing to the efforts without going against their stance on peace. The other packs would also be more likely to assist and protect these packs because of the important role they will play in helping us all get back to normal after a battle or after a war. All the packs in the region will need to provide some supplies to be kept and stored with these packs to make sure that we don't overtax them."

I pause for a moment to let everyone take in my ideas for the alliance with all the wolf packs. Now I just have to show them the benefit of reaching out to the other supernaturals. We are all in this together.

“The other part of building the alliance includes reaching out to the other spices and shifters, since we know the rebels are recruiting from the other groups and are trying to seize. Ultimate power over all supernaturals. For this, we will start with royals of all the spices and then connect with the other shifters in our regions. We can serve as ambassadors to the shifters in our regions, since we represent most of the regions. I know for the Central region, there are a couple of bear dens and dragon clans. The high priestess for the witches is also centrally located near the Royal Pack and already has an alliance with the king. The Vampire Royals are in the Western Region and the Grand Wizard is in the Northern Region. I think if we put together a team composed of a couple of representatives from the packs within the region to reach out to the supernaturals in the region. Many packs already have alliances or at least a working relationship with the shifters near their packs, so that should make the process easier if we use representatives they are already familiar with or already have a connection with.”

I finish my spill and sit back down, waiting for feedback. Looks like everyone likes my idea for including the peaceful packs and giving them a major role in the alliance.

Alpha Burton is up next. He and Alpha Brennan will discuss our training plan and our defensive structure. They asked Beta Casion to display the topography map to show the terrain of the different regions. There is a lot to consider as the kingdom has a widely diverse topography. We have mountains, valleys, and different bodies of water to consider, not to mention the plains and flatlands out west.

“So here is what I am thinking. In order for us to have a highly defensible kingdom, we need to make sure that all units are trained to a higher standard. From talking with you all, I see that we all have different styles of training. My suggestion is to form an elite team of trainers from all the packs, to go to the largest pack in the region and train all the packs.” Alpha Burton says.

“Each pack can send their top warriors or trainers to the regional training and they can go back and train the rest of the pack on the techniques learned. We should also have a more stringent training for the Elite warriors from every pack. We can rotate warriors in for the trainings so that no pack is left



defenseless while the training is occurring and the packs will be able to get the specialized training faster and get updates as the warriors rotate.”

“Yes. We will leave it up to the alphas to determine which warriors to send to the training first, but we will make a mandate that all wolves in the packs be trained on the basics, including the women and pups.” Alpha Brennan adds.

“The reason I added the mandate part is that, although all of our packs are forward thinking and have female warriors, there are still some packs that do not allow the females to become warriors. For us to truly be able to defend our packs and kingdom, we need all available wolves to be able to at least protect themselves.”

“I agree completely.” I said. “It’s sad that we have to mandate that any wolf learn to protect themselves, but it is the society we live in and some wolves hate change.”

“Now, as far as defending the perimeter of the kingdom,” Alpha Brennan says, “Let’s use the land to our advantage where we can and use wolf power and electronics in the open areas. I have a close friend that is part of the Viper’s Den of bears. He and I have discussed how we can use electronics to set traps and an alarm systems so that no one could sneak up on us. We also discussed how we can combine magic and electronics to ensure that we are keeping out the right people and that none of our allies get hurt by the traps we set.”

“How is that possible?” Alpha Justin asked.

“The witches and wizards can spell the traps to recognize ill intent. Anyone crossing the traps intending to harm anyone will set off the traps. That’s the simple way to explain it. The witches and wizards could explain the more intricate parts of how it works.” Alpha Brenna says.

“So how do you propose we use the land as a defense?” Alpha Justin asked. I can tell that he is really getting in to this part of it. His pack is near the mountains.

“That’s a good question, Alpha Justin. I’m glad you asked. We all know the terrain around our own packs and how to defend them. Correct?”

We all answered yes.

“What we don’t know is how to survive in order parts of the kingdom, so let’s play that up to our benefit. Let’s make the rough areas rougher with traps and snares. For instance, there are areas in the mountains that are hard to get to and hard to keep a patrol routine for them, so I suggest we again use magic and make those areas look easily accessible until the enemy gets lost in there. We will have cameras and alarms, so we will be able to monitor their movement once they enter the illusions. For the swamp areas down south, we do the same thing. We make the swamp areas look like either dry land or clear water. Once they get trapped there, the wild animals there will take care of them, and our allies will handle the survivors. We will have cameras in strategic places all over the kingdom with an alarm system that will be monitored at the Royal pack and all the largest packs in the regions since that is where the trainings will take place.”

“I like your ideas.” I say, “but how are we going to pay for all the equipment we will need to make this successful and how will the equipment be maintained.”

“That’s my area.” Alpha Justin says. “We will need to pool our resources. Currently, every pack pays a tax to the Royal Pack. Part of that tax is for war efforts, so some of the funds are already there. We will need to raise additional funds. We can do this by asking the packs to pay a small percentage more on their yearly taxes. It is actually time for an increase in taxes, anyway. Since we have been at peace for so long, we have not had to raise taxes in over 40 years. This would be the right time to ask for an increase since war is imminent.”

“Okay, that takes care of the financial part, but what about the maintenance?” I ask.

“For that part, we use man or male power for. We will have an elite team of supernaturals from the different regions that will be assigned solely to the monitoring and maintaining the equipment regularly. There will also be magical individuals assigned to each team, so they can make sure the snares and illusions are still working properly. They will also be able to tell if anything has been tampered with magically.”

“I think we have an amazing plan.” Beta Casion said. “Now let’s plan out how we will present this to the assembly.”

"I think we should lay it out for the assembly the same way we laid it out for the team. We each present out parts using the projector with graphics." Alpha Burton says. "So let's spend the rest of our meeting putting together a visual presentation to take to the assembly. Beta Jona, since you are our computer whiz, we will let you take the lead in putting the final touches on the visual aid."

We finish putting the final touches on our presentation and spend the rest of the day relaxing and having fun in our unit. I took a walk around in the evening just to get some fresh air. I was surprised to see that most units were inside. I guess everyone is taking this assignment seriously. I wonder how many wolves have realized that this could be an actual situation that is happening now. I know I have the advantage of knowing about the unrest going on now because of the missions that some of my friends are currently on and the training Seleste is undergoing right now. My father is still being briefed on everything and he discusses it with me during our regular calls.

After my walk, I decide to make it an early night. Tomorrow could turn out to be a long day. We will have over 40 future alphas and betas all in one room. Although we will be presenting as a group and going one at a time, there will be a lot of discussions, especially when there are differences of opinions. Ranked wolves, especially alphas, have strong opinions.

Bright and early the next morning, my unit met in the common area to travel to the meeting spot together. All units will sit together around the table. All the equipment we will need will be set up and waiting for us.

We enter what appears to be a large war room. There are large screens and other types of projection equipment. I see large maps similar to what we have for our presentation. We walk up to this large table. It's a big rectangle with a glass covering. I can tell that the middle of the table is a screen, so we will be able to see what is projected in the middle of the table and the wall of screens.

We find our area and sit down as all the other units come in and do the same. At the head of the table is the Alpha King, The Royal Beta and Gamma and a couple more ranked wolves from the Royal pack. I think they are part of the king's council. They will be the ones who will judge our presentations.

We elected to go to the middle of the groups. Just to get a feel for what others are doing. Not that we will change anything about our presentation, we just want to see how the project was interpreted by the others.

The first two units both started with peace talks. The first group decided they would send a peace convoy of about ten elite warriors with a negotiator to try to broker a peaceful resolution. They had a list of concessions they would be willing to make, including giving the rebel a parcel of land with buildings for him and his following to live and form their own pack that would be recognized as a pack within the kingdom. This will give them legitimacy. This was a good idea, but they were not able to fully answer questions about what they would do if the rebel became hostile during the peace talks and what security plan they had in place for safely getting them out of the rebel territory. One of units made the point that you can't expect the rebels to follow the rules of engagement. They are rebels because they do not want to submit themselves to governing rules.

Their plan for defense was more of going straight to war. They proposed having the Royal pack recruit warriors from all packs in the kingdom to build a super army. They had a plan for the special wolves in the kingdom and the roles they would play. There are some packs that can use magic or manipulate the elements. There are also packs that can use telekinesis. We did not point them out in our plan. That actually is a good idea to use their special talents in specific ways. That will give us an advantage.

The second group's presentation was similar to the first, with the exception of them having a small army surrounding the rebel hideout while the peace representatives meet with rebels. The representatives would keep an open link with a member of the army so that the leaders outside will know if things take a turn for the worst. They would be ready to go in and bring the team out. The second team also sent a team ahead to scout the area before the peace team entered the area. They wanted to get the lay of the land, know the rotation of the guards and the number of combatants in the rebel camp. Their defense plan was like ours in that they proposed building an alliance with the other packs in the kingdom to form a strong border defense. They also did not consider aligning with the other species.

My group went third. Alpha Burton was our spokesperson. We were the first group to skip peace talks. Alpha Burton explained our rationale about foregoing peace talks. We decided that this rebel wants world dominion, he or she will not settle for bits and pieces of power. They have gathered their followers by offering them power when they come into power. If the leader accepts a compromise, they will lose most of their followers.

Our plans break down our defense in three different areas: forming alliances within the kingdom and with other shifters and species; setting up surveillance

and traps and training are warriors and pack members. After Alpha Burton gave the introduction, we each got up and presented our areas using the visual aid we created. We were able to point out the areas we would set traps in and describe how they would work in that area and also show how we divided the regions. We were also able to use the maps to show the peaceful packs and how they are centrally located to get relief to all areas in less than 24 hours.

Finally, Alpha Justin presented the plan for funding our plan and our long-term maintenance plan. So far, we were the only unit that considered how we would gather, store, distribute and maintain our resources without putting all the responsibility on the Royal pack. Our plan literally involves all packs, at least the ones who will remain aligned with the Royal pack. We acknowledged that there may be some alphas who align with the rebels, and we will treat them like an enemy. We also addressed the packs that may want to remain neutral. At some point, they will have to make a decision. Even if they choose not to actively fight, they can work with the other packs that will offer relief. If they remained neutral through it all and get attacked by the rebels, we are under no obligation to help them.

Since we explained everything and used visual aids, we did not get a lot of questions. There were a couple who felt that we probably should have still added peace talks even though we did not feel they would be successful. We ended the discussion by saying that we did not feel that using resources and possibly placing our warriors' lives in danger was worth it when we could use those same resources and efforts to strengthen our packs and training our warriors. We pointed out that some packs needed more training than others, since this would be the first time the shewolves in those packs would be officially trained.

The last two unit presentations were a combination of token peace talks and war strategy. The last two acknowledged the benefit of aligning with the other shifters and species, but admitted that they did not think of it when putting their plan together. There were no new ideas added after our presentation, just variations of the prior presentations. You could tell that everyone put a lot of time into studying war tactics and planning.

After the last presentation, the Alpha King let us know that he and his committee would convene to discuss our presentations and give us feedback after we have a late lunch. We will meet back in this room around 6pm and have a working dinner while they go over our presentations with us and let us know which team will take the leader's spot.

We have 4 hours to eat lunch and do our own thing until we meet back up again. The king said that we're eat dinner there, so we don't have to worry about dinner tonight. I'm so hyped right now. I tell the others that I'm too wired to head back to the unit for now. They all feel the same way, so we all shift and go for a unit run to get some of this energy out. Today was one of the rare days that we did not have physical training before meeting. Some of the other units are out for runs as well.

After about an hour or so of running, we all head back in, take showers, and go to the cafeteria for a late lunch. Since they knew the academy would be in session until late, the kitchen staff put food out a little later for us. I was so glad to see all the hot protein dishes on the buffet for us. We had beef in almost every way imaginable. I kept it simple and got a steak with mashed potatoes. I need to replenish all the calories I just ran out.

After eating, we chill with some of the other units. A couple of the alphas in the other units are from packs close to my own. It is nice that way they put us in units with packs from other areas instead of putting us with the ones we live near and probably already interact with. We all had to get to know each other and build working and living relationships with. Our unit was the start of learning how to build alliance. We all are from different regions in the kingdom and have different perspectives. We make it work for us. We cater to our individual strengths.

We head back into the war room and reconvene. The Alpha King and his team are all standing now as we remain seated. The Alpha King addresses all of us about the presentations.

"Good even young alphas and young betas."

We all return the king's greeting.

"I was well pleased with all the presentations. I can tell that a lot of time and thought went into this. You all did excellent. With that being said, one team stood out as having the most comprehensive plan. Alpha Burton, can you and your team stand up, please?"

We all stood up and faced the front.

"You all had the most comprehensive plan I have heard in a long time. You all considered all angles and explained the choices you made and why you rule out other choices. That is exactly what needs to be done in a real-world

situation. We were very impressed with your attention to details. Including your plan for raising taxes to cover the cost of a major war. You were correct in your analysis of how taxes are used and the fact that we have not had to raise taxes in over 40 years since we have had a long-lasting peace.”

We all said thank you and took our seats.

“Now, I have to let you all in on something. What I am about to say does not leave this academy. I am only sharing this with you now because you will in a sense be the leaders that this will impact.”

The king pauses for a moment to let us all gather our thoughts.

“The activity you just completed is based on reality. There is currently some unrest in the supernatural world. There is a lone wolf who is gathering an army of rogues from all species to overthrow the current leadership and royals. The supernatural council has been working with hunters and trackers from all the packs to keep an eye on things. The activities have escalated in the last month. Can any of you guess why that is?” The king asked,

“because we all felt the power shift of the future protector. I believe they are trying to gain power before the protector comes of age and gains full power. Maybe they think they can find the baby and possibly get rid of it before they come of age.” One of the alpha on another unit says.

“That is correct, but what no one outside of us and the council knows is that the shift we felt was the protector coming into its power. The protector is already of age and is currently training to take their rightful place. The protector team has been working with the vampires and the bears to get a well-rounded training. We will not disclose the protector’s identity until they are ready to come forward.”

Everyone is shocked at this revelation. I notice that a couple of us did not show surprise. I guess the other are part of the packs that are training the protector now.

“Because of the latest intel we recently received, we will be changing a few things at the academy. You all will now become part of the war efforts. As many of you have noted, we are past the point of a peaceful resolution, so we have to now prepare for a major war. We will implement most of the plans submitted by Alpha Burton’s unit. The members of this unit will be team leaders in several areas. Alpha Justin will be lead over finances and



resources; Alpha Brennan and Beta Jona will be a lead for defense; Alpha Burton and Beta Casion will be the lead for the training. Alpha Trevor, we have a special project for you. We will discuss it with you later. For the rest of you alphas and betas, see my beta and gamma for your team assignments. You all will go on specific missions and rotating from the active field to the classroom. You all will work as full-time alphas and beta under the council. You will still be under the academy and still get your breaks as scheduled. The only difference now is that the project you will work on will be real."

The king finishes speaking and everyone gets up and goes to the where the beta and gamma have set up a table. My unit stay sitting at our table since we already know what we will do somewhat. We wait until everyone has gotten assigned to a team, then the leader from my unit met briefly with their team members just to get to know them. I bounce from team to team just saying hi. Since I don't know what my special mission will be,

After everyone finishes meeting in their groups, and we finish eating our dinner, the Alpha King dismisses us but asks me to stay behind.

"Young alpha Trevor, I guess you are wondering what your mission will be." Alpha King says.

"Yes sir, I am." I answer

"Since you are already aware of the identity of the protector, you will be the liaison to her team. You will travel to meet up with her after the holiday officially, but I know you will see her over the holidays at your pack. You and her can plan when you will meet up with her team and the intervals you will meet until things progress again. In the meantime, you will be floating between the times and assisting them as we move forward. You will work closely with my gamma. Do you think you can handle that?"

"Yes sir. I can. I am ready to do whatever I can for the kingdom."

"Good, keep that attitude and you will go far in this kingdom and build stronger alliances for your pack. That's all I have for you tonight. My gamma will get with you tomorrow and you all can go from there."

"Thank you, sir. Good night."

We exit the war room and head to our own spaces. My unit is waiting for me. They are curious about my special mission. I tell them that I will assist

the gamma and floating between the units. I also tell them that I will be assigned as a liaison to the protector team once the protector is revealed. I am not allowed to give any information about knowing her identity or that I will meet with her directly. My team is excited about us once again taking the lead.