

3 - 24 Word Travels Fast

"These bulky, intimidating men that follow you around," Allegra said. "They are?"

"They're part of New Dawn's Delta team," Thea said. "They're our most elite warriors."

"They're tasked with keeping you safe?"

"Along with other duties, yes. I have Delta team guards with me twenty-four-seven."

Allegra nodded. "You have three mates?"

"Yes."

"And you're human?" Allegra said. "Your father told us that you didn't shift on your birthday."

"Oh, right. I didn't shift on my birthday, but I did shift recently. My father didn't know until he came back."

Allegra nodded. "And you're saving omegas and slaves from other packs?"

"We're offering refuge to anyone who needs help," Thea said. She finished her Danish.

"Your father told us that there may be disturbances and that we should be careful," Allegra said.

"Yes. It has caused a bit of an uproar."

"What made you want to help those people?"

"Their leaders were abusing them," Thea said. "They kept them weak so they couldn't fight back. They starved them, beat them—" Thea paused. She didn't want Allegra to view them as damaged. "I could offer them another option, so I did."

"And you offered them that option when you were still human?" Allegra said. "Still recovering from your run-in with the witch and roque?" she added.

"Yes. That's when I became aware of it," Thea said. "We aren't finished. More people need help."

The bell chimed, telling them the front door had opened. Thea looked over. Arella, Ophelia, and Cassandra walked into the coffee shop and up to Thea. With a pup in her belly, Thea couldn't help but think about the parents of these girls. Were they alive? Did they know what had happened to their daughters? How would she even go about answering these questions?

"Luna?" Arella said.

"Yes?" Thea said. The coffee shop had big windows that let in the outside light. With the sun shining into Arella's brown eyes, Thea noticed they had a golden sheen, almost like molten gold had been mixed into them. Maybe it was a trick of the light, but it looked like that gold sheen was swirling.

"Can I ask her something?" Arella said, pointing a finger discreetly to Allegra.

Thea looked at Allegra. Allegra nodded.

"Sure," Thea said. "Allegra, this is Arella, Ophelia, and Cassandra. Girls, this is Allegra."

Arella turned to Allegra, and Thea saw Arella's brown hair had the same gold sheen as her eyes.

"Miss Allegra," Arella said. "Can you please teach me how to make protection spells?"

"Word travels fast here," Allegra said to Thea. "Sure, Arella. I can show you. What do you want to protect?"

Arella pulled out a chain with broken teeth positioned every inch.

"Arella, what is this?" Thea said, shocked.

"It's for you to wear," Arella said. She put her hand on Thea's belly. "Here."

"You want me to wear a belly chain made of teeth?" Thea said, trying not to sound or look horrified.

"You want to enchant this belly chain with a protection spell?" Allegra said to Arella.

Arella looked back at Allegra and nodded. "Yes, Miss Allegra," she said.

"Where did you get these teeth?" Thea said.

"Alpha Kai brought them back for me," Arella said like it was perfectly normal.

"Where did Alpha Kai get them?" Thea said. She couldn't stop her eyes from narrowing as she asked the question.

"From the Alpha girls who tried to take your mates from you," Arella said.

"I don't know what to say," Thea said, shocked. "Why did Alpha Kai bring you their teeth?"

"Because there's power in the things you defeat," Allegra said. "Isn't that right, Arella?"

Arella nodded, smiling.

"We can make this into a powerful protection piece," Allegra said, fingering the belly chain.

"Really?" Thea said.

"Oh yes," Allegra said.

"I guess I really do have a lot to learn about magic," Thea said.

"We need to make it right away," Arella said. "She needs it now."

Allegra nodded. "Let's visit the Apothecary I saw on the way here. We'll need some supplies."

Thea introduced Allegra and the girls to Mr. Garrity. He gathered the things Allegra requested, and Thea paid for it.

"Where can we have a small fire and be undisturbed?" Allegra said.

"I know a place in the woods," Thea said.

Thea led them to a secluded clearing in the woods. Allegra

set things up. She explained each item's purpose in the spell and how they worked together.

"The most important thing when working a spell is our intention," Allegra said. "Intention means what you want the spell to do. Like you want this belly chain to protect your Luna's baby, right?"

"Yes," Arella said.

"That's an intention," Allegra said. "So whatever you want it to do, think about that really hard while we do this."

Allegra started a fire. She tossed different herbs into it while chanting an incantation.

"Now, hold the chain above the flame," Allegra said.

Arella did.

Allegra continued throwing herbs into the fire and chanting.

"Now, drop it in the fire," Allegra said.

Arella dropped the chain, extinguishing the fire when it hit the ground.

"Okay, now it's ready," Allegra said. She pulled the chain from the ashes. "Luna, this will shield your baby from anything you experience, any magic that could harm them, anything you encounter."

"So I just wear it, and it acts as a shield from any negative energy?" Thea said.

"Yes. You don't need to worry about your baby as long as you're wearing it," Allegra said.

"Thank you, Miss Allegra," Arella said.

"You're welcome," Allegra said. "I can teach you other things while I'm here."

The girls smiled. Arella turned to Thea.

"You need to wear it." Arella said.

Thea put it on. "Thank you, Arella," Thea said. "Thank you, Allegra."

The girls ran back to the pack house.

"Those girls adore you," Allegra said.

"We saved them from an Alpha that abused them," Thea said.

"I imagine all the people you saved feel similarly."

"Lots of people were involved in saving them. The pack members are the ones taking care of them now, showing them the ropes, and making sure they feel welcome. New Dawn is a great pack. Our people are good."

"I'm getting that," Allegra said.



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I have some things going on this week, so there will probably only be one update each day.

的 72