## Chapter 0165

"I'm sure you're all wondering why I've called this meeting," Alpha Ulric said. "There are several reasons. Chief among them is the possibility of building and maintaining alliances. I'm sure many of you have heard about the massacres back east. Entire packs desolated overnight. As of yet, no one knows who or what is doing it. Yes, we're on the other side of the country, but that doesn't mean they won't make their way out here. I think it's important that we start a discussion about this."

"Here, here," many of the Alphas said, raising their glasses.

Alpha Ulric nodded, taking note of the people who showed interest. Thea took note of their feelings and intentions.

"Next item. It has come to light that the packs which use slaves have been mistreating them—physical abuse, sexual abuse, denying food and basic necessities of life, and much more. We've all turned a blind eye in the past, assuming they treated their slaves humanely. Now that we know differently, we feel it's our responsibility to do something. We have

offered to take in anyone who leaves their pack due to abuse. Is there anyone else willing to take a stand with us?"

Alpha Sharpe and Alpha Knight immediately raised their hands.

"We're with you," they said together.

Alpha Darwin from Syzygy and Alpha Lexington from Crater also raised their hands. "We're with you," they said.

"I don't believe we should get involved in another pack's business," Alpha Chaste from Chaste Moon said.

"Normally, I would agree with you," Alpha Ulric said.

"But someone from another pack tried to rape my daughter-in-law and future Luna under an Alpha tone command."

Gasps from everyone at the table. They all looked to Thea, who sat tall with her shoulders back, face revealing nothing. Not even when she felt Alpha Jones get hard as he fantasized about getting Thea in bed under an Alpha command.

"Watch the information you give away," Thea said to Alpha Ulric in mind link. "Alpha Jones is a Trojan horse."

"We discovered many people in power are hurting others outside their own packs," Alpha Ulric said out loud. "So you see, they made it our business. I'm willing to bet if you went through every member of your packs and gave them an Alpha command to tell the truth, you would find that quite a few of them have been raped and forced to be silent under Alpha command. It's not just she-wolves that are being abused."

Alpha Ulric let the men talk amongst themselves while they took in the information.

"What packs are doing this? What Alphas and Alphasto-be are doing this?" Alpha Reese from New Moon said.

"At least Cold Moon, Eclipse, Far Side, Storm Moon, Mead Moon, and Crescent Moon. I suspect there may be more," Alpha Ulric said.

More murmurs and talking.

Thea felt that Alpha James was drunk enough she could try something. She felt into him, found the dead zones in his brain, and sent her magic into him. He didn't look any different. A little glassy-eyed, but not suspicious. She kept going. She felt around and

healed whatever she found that wasn't right.

"My eldest son was one of the Alphas-to-be that abused his power," Alpha Knight spoke up when the discussions started to die down. "When his crimes were uncovered, I removed his canines and tied him to a silver pole. He died this afternoon."

## Gasps.

"My next son is a better fit to take over Moonlit pack. We won't tolerate leaders abusing the powerless."

"We've been allies for a long time," Alpha Reese of New Moon said. "I've respected you, your pack, and your values for a long time. You've helped my pack when we needed it. I won't break faith now. You have my support."

"Same here," Alpha Lee of Harvest Moon said.

"I'm in," Alpha Adams of Moonrise said. He could see the tide was turning in New Dawn's favor, and he didn't want to be on the losing team.

"My pack will join with you," Alpha Collins from Blue Moon pack said. He turned to Alpha James, who was sitting next to him. He hadn't spoken in a while. " What about you?"

"Huh? Uh, I don't know," Alpha James said. He



decided he needed to save face. "Is this all some kind of power play? Parading us through your massive pack house, showing that you have ten times the numbers any of us have individually. I think it's time for me to go." He stood up clumsily and knocked over his wine glass. His security detail rushed over and assisted him out the door, where two Delta members escorted them out of the pack house.

"Did you finish?" Alpha Ulric mind linked Thea.

"Yes," Thea mind linked him. "I think it's going to take some time for his thoughts to clear up. He's been living his life a certain way for a long time. Plus, he's drunk. Let it percolate."

