

Chapter 0182

Thea and the triplets shifted back to their wolves and ran through the woods to where they left their clothes. They shifted back, got dressed, then made their way to the Alpha's office.

Thea saw her father leaning against the arm of a sofa. She hurried to him and threw her arms around him.

"I missed you, Dad," she said.

He returned her hug. "You remember me?"

She nodded and breathed in his scent. He tightened his hold on her and lifted her up.

"I missed you too, sweetie," he said. "I'm proud of you, Thea. So proud."

He released her, and she went to sit down. As she walked by him to get to her seat, Alaric pulled Thea onto his lap. His hands wrapped around her torso to keep her in place.

"Ric, we're in the Alpha's office. It's not respectful," Thea whispered.

"I need you with me," Alaric said, nuzzling his face against her. "I know I'm acting like Con, but your

mark is pulling me to you. It hurts when we're not touching," he thought to her.

Thea looked at Alpha Ulric, who was smiling.

"Torn on which Alpha to yield to?" Alpha Ulric teased.

Thea took that as permission to sit on Alaric's lap. She settled in and leaned into him.

"I like that you need me," Thea thought to Alaric. "Sometimes it seems like you don't."

"I've always needed you," Alaric thought to her. "I always will."

Alpha Ulric smiled as he watched the two of them. Kai and Conri both took one of her hands.

"Thank you for making my most serious son happy," Alpha Ulric mind linked Thea. "He never shows emotion, always puts duty before himself. You're the balance in his life. I'm overjoyed to see how happy you all are."

Thea smiled at him.

"You have your memories back?" Alpha Ulric said out loud.

"Yes. It just happened. We were eating peaches, and the smell brought it all back. Like a wall broke."

“That’s great news. I see you’re fully mated now,” Alpha Ulric said. His eyes went from mark to mark, approving. “I’m sure you know what I want to know.”

“I added Earth energy during the last marking with Alaric,” Thea said. “My own magic built up inside me, and I pushed that out to the pack as well. I’m not sure exactly what it was, but it felt like a forcefield went up around the pack lands and around each individual pack member.”

“What will the forcefield do?” Alpha Ulric said.

“I don’t know,” Thea said. “We should experiment to see what it does, but it felt like it would act like a tripwire. If someone comes onto our land, the whole pack will feel it. It may block other magic. I don’t know what kind, though. Could be it keeps vampires out, or it could block witch magic, I don’t know. Actually, I don’t know how we would test those things.”

“Perhaps we don’t need to put up motion-activated cameras or infrared. Let’s keep a running list of all the things we need to test and practice with your gift. If we don’t know how to do something right now, we’ll circle back around to it.”

She nodded.

 +15 BONUS

“If you can make shields like this without meaning to, you may be able to do it on purpose and decide what they do,” Alpha Ulric said.



“Good point. My wolf has been telling me there’s a lot to learn.”

“I can imagine,” Alpha Ulric said. He looked at Beta Walter. Beta Walter turned to the triplets and Thea.

“I’ve been getting caught up on everything that’s happened while I was away,” Beta Walter said. “The rescue operation, Alpha meeting, the three girls who are gifted. What are your thoughts on that?”

“Crescent Moon’s Alpha, Alpha Jett, is going to want the girls back,” Thea said. “It’s just a matter of time before he figures out where they are.”

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Chapter 0183

“He doesn’t have the numbers to go to war, but he could strike out at us in other ways,” Beta Walter said.

“Hurting our pack members when they leave pack lands, kidnapping them and requesting a trade. Or he could go after our allies, any of which he is a match for.”

“We already warned our allies, and we’ll assist any ally they come after,” Alaric said.

“Which ally are they most likely to attack?” Beta Walter said. Thea could tell he already knew. He was asking to get Thea and the triplets involved in their leadership duties. It was time for them to start taking on the responsibilities.

“Blood Moon,” Kai said. “They share a border, and they know we’re close to Misty. They could take her and try to trade her for the oracles.”

“Of course, we wouldn’t trade. We’d go in and take over their pack,” Alpha Ulric said.

“If that’s where it’s heading, shouldn’t we just go in and challenge him for his pack?” Thea said. “Be proactive before he hurts our allies?”

“It’s aggressive. It doesn’t look good unless we have a clear cut reason,” Beta Walter said.

“About that,” Thea said.

“Yes, Thea?” Beta Walter said.

“Alpha Ulric hasn’t told you I got into an altercation with the daughters of Alpha Jones and Alpha Jett yesterday?”

Alaric squeezed Thea. Her father looked at her questioningly.

“What kind of altercation? How badly did you hurt them?”

“Uh,” Thea said. “I think you can see for yourself.”

Thea’s father looked at Alpha Ulric.

“No one has sent you videos?” Alpha Ulric said.

“I was on a plane yesterday, and I’ve been settling in today. I haven’t looked at my phone.”

“Look at your phone. I’ll send you some videos to watch in case no one else has,” Alpha Ulric said, forwarding the videos to Beta Walter.

Beta Walter pushed play on one of them.

“That’s a direct challenge,” Beta Walter said as he listened to Lumia and Molly try to convince Conri and Alaric to ditch Thea and choose them. “It’s a reason to go to war. We could use it as our reason. Packs have gone to war for less.”

“Both Alphas denounced their daughters’ actions,” Alpha Ulric said. “Keep watching.”

“Did your Alpha command make the shifted wolves sprout fur?” Beta Walter said after a moment.

“Did it?” Thea said. “I was focused on the girls.”

“It did,” Alpha Ulric said.

“That’s quite an Alpha tone,” Beta Walter said. “When people watch this video, they’re going to know you’re powerful.”

“Most of the school recorded it. I’m sure everyone in the school boundaries has seen one of the videos,” Kai said.

“If they didn’t know who you were, they will now,” Conri said.

“It’s traveled outside school boundaries by now,” Beta Walter said. “This is the type of thing that grabs attention.”

“I made protecting me more difficult again, didn’t I?”
Thea said.

“Maybe not. This might be a deterrent for some,”
Alpha Ulric said.

“As for it being a reason to go to war, it’s weak since
they denounced their daughters,” Beta Walter said.

“We wait it out. Let them make the first move,” Alpha
Ulric said.

“Patrols are alert? Contingencies in place?” Beta
Walter said.

“We were already preparing for retaliation from the
rescue op and oracle situation.”

Beta Walter nodded, thinking.

“Sir,” Thea started.

“Yes, Thea?” Alpha Ulric said.

“Before we get into anything else,” Thea said. “I have
something to tell you all.”

“Go ahead,” Alpha Ulric said.

“I remember the first shift when Zoe forced herself in
and kicked me out,” Thea said. “I went to the moon
goddess.”

+15 BONUS

Everyone sat up and leaned forward.



Samantha Doyle Author

"Also, I can't believe I just crossed into 'one-derland.' The 100s for chapter numbers. Triple digits. It feels a little surreal."

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Comments

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