

Chapter 0188

Thea was in Lizzy's room in no time. Lizzy was guzzling from a water bottle while looking through her wardrobe trying to figure out what to wear.

"Lizzy, I need to learn about sex."

Lizzy choked on the water and sprayed it everywhere.

"Um, haven't you been having it for a while now?"

"I need to be better at it," Thea said.

"You seemed pretty good at it at the Mating Ceremony," Lizzy said.

"They did most of the work that night."

"Not when you had all three of them at once! You worked Alaric and Kai like a pro. A pro who really liked what she was doing."

"I like them," Thea said. "But I'm no pro."

"Are the triplets making you feel inadequate? I'm going to have a talk with them."

"No. Not at all. It's just," Thea paused. "I know I'm naive. There have to be things I'm missing, things I could do to make it better."

“I cannot believe how lucky those Alphas are,” Lizzy said.

“How do I learn?”

Lizzy sighed. “There are studies on the subject—from Tantra to modern sex therapists. I’ll get you some materials to look through, and you can get a feel for what may interest you. I’ll get you some toys too.”

“Toys?”

“You’ll see. Don’t worry.”

“Thank you, Lizzy.”

“You’re welcome, Luna.” Lizzy went back to looking through her wardrobe.

“What do you look for in a hookup?” Thea said.

“Depends on my mood,” Lizzy said. “Sometimes something fast, or rough, sometimes I want to take my time.”

“But it’s someone different every time?”

“I’ve never had a repeat.”

“And you like that?”

“I want to find my mate. I know nothing I do now will

compare to that. But until I find him, this is what I'm comfortable with."

Thea nodded.

"Why do you ask?"

"I'm so inexperienced," Thea said. "I wonder if I should have experimented before I was with the triplets."

"That doesn't sound like you. What's going on with you?"

"I'm messed up from the amnesia. I was constantly doubting everything, feeling inadequate, but I could tell myself I wouldn't feel that way if I had my memories back. Now that I do, those feelings are still with me."

"Well, it's only been a few hours since you got your memories back," Lizzy said. "Maybe you need time."

"There's been so much drama these last few months," Thea said. "Not shifting, nearly dying, taking forever to recover from that, then getting my wolf but losing myself. Not to mention Xavier."

Lizzy's face softened, and she looked Thea in the eyes. "Have you dealt with him assaulting you?"

“At the time, I didn’t think I needed to.”

“Now?”

“I don’t know,” Thea said. “If he didn’t try to rape me, I wouldn’t have found out about all the abuse that’s going on everywhere, so I’m glad it happened.”

“You can be glad for the end result but still need to process the trauma it caused you.” Lizzy looked at Thea. She was silent, chewing her lip. “Talk to me, boo.”

“Now that time has passed, and I’ve gotten distance from it—I mean, I completely forgot about it with the amnesia,” Thea said. “I see it differently now. I blamed myself at the time.”

“It wasn’t your fault,” Lizzy said.

“I know,” Thea said. “I thought I needed to be stronger. Now I realize that it wouldn’t matter how much I trained or how strong I was. Trying to stop someone from raping you is different from a fight. I can duck out of the way if someone tries to punch me. Fighting is straightforward. Someone is trying to hurt you or kill you. I’m used to it. I see a fist coming at me, I have automatic responses. Put the assailant down.”

 +15 BONUS

“You’re good at that.”

Thea nodded. “When all the guy is trying to do is take your clothes off and touch you in places you don’t want, suddenly you don’t think the same. It’s not a straightforward attack. It’s not like he’s trying to kill you, or even hurt you. Not the obvious way like if he punched you or if a rogue wolf was chasing you with teeth bared. The body knows how to respond to those kinds of attacks.”

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“But not with rape?” Lizzy said.

“It’s not like it starts out with full-blown rape,” Thea said. “It could start out as an unwanted, unsolicited sexual advance. The body doesn’t feel an injury from seeing a guy’s junk. It’s feeling disgust, shame, guilt, dirty, confusion. Like, is this happening? Then he’s touching you, and there’s still not an injury yet. There’s a lag time before you realize you’re in danger.”

Lizzy nodded.

“Then you’re not hitting him like you’re trained to in a fight because you’re busy trying to get his hands off you. You’re on defense the whole time. The reactions are different. It’s like all the training I did wasn’t applicable. Even now, I wonder if I could use lethal force to stop someone who wasn’t technically trying to kill me. It doesn’t feel the same. I hate these blurred lines.”

Thea was silent for a moment.

“Then there’s the fact that it all led to Xavier’s excruciating death.”

“You’re a hero for that,” Lizzy said.

“I don’t feel like one,” Thea said.

“You are, though.”

“Maybe I’m second-guessing everything now because my choices can lead to people getting hurt or dying.”

“Xavier was a rare case.”

“It’s not just Xavier. Now that I have my memories back, I’m worried about what consequences there will be from rescuing all those people. I didn’t anticipate certain things.” Thea thought about the three girls. “Their old packs aren’t strong enough to take us on directly. They may go after our allies to get to us. In saving these people, I put others in danger.”

“You know, I’ve never envied you,” Lizzy said. “A lot of higher ranked girls in other packs have, but they have no idea the responsibilities I’ve seen you take on. They never saw beyond your status and accomplishments to the responsibility of leadership. The reason you have the veneration of your pack is because of how well you take care of it. I know I couldn’t do what you do.”

“I don’t even know what I’m supposed to do

anymore. I spent my life thinking I would be Beta. A simple job. Now I'm expected to be Luna, and I have this gift? Who am I? What is my role? What am I supposed to do? How do I do it?"

"You're Thea. You're the future Luna of New Dawn. You're supposed to take care of your mates. Lead and care for your pack. Protect it. Use your gift to make the world a better place."

"That almost sounds simple."

"I think it's always been simple to you. You take care of what you love. What's yours. This pack is yours. The triplets are yours. The goddess gift is yours. You've never stopped to think about what needs to be done. You just do what needs to be done."

Thea nodded. "You should wear the red mini dress," Thea said. "It catches the eye."

Lizzy smiled and took it off its hanger. She changed into it.

"How do I look?"

"Super hot."

"Are you feeling better?" Lizzy said.

"A little," Thea said. "Thanks for letting me unload

on you, Lizzy.”

“Of course.”

“Have fun tonight,” Thea said.

“I will. Shouldn’t take long to scratch the itch in this dress.”

“No, not long at all.”

“Plus, I’m on a high from that last marking you did earlier. That one was powerful.”

“I added some magic. Hey, let me know if you feel anything when you go off pack lands. I think every pack member has a forcefield around them now. I don’t know what it does, though.”

“I will. Are you okay? Do you want to come with me? Get out of here for a bit?”

“There’s no way the triplets would let me. I just marked them.”

“Right. You have hot, wild sex to get to.”

“So do you.” Thea winked.

They laughed.

Thea left and headed back to her own room.

+15 BONUS

“Mates?” Thea thought.

“Yes, my love?”

“Yes, darling?”

“Yes, babe?”

“Mmm. I love hearing you guys in my head,” she thought. “If you’re not busy, maybe you could come fill me with your seed.”

The triplets burst into their room a moment later.



Samantha Doyle Author

“ More in a little bit! ”

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