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Quinn, Davie, Jane, Misty, and half of Delta team were already at the restaurant when Thea showed up with the triplets and the other half of Delta team. Quinn introduced Thea to the chef, Graham Bardot. They made quick small talk, then got down to business.

Thea sat at the table with all the people she now remembered. Everyone was ecstatic that Thea had her memories back. They were finalizing plans for the bar. Things were moving forward. The triplets and Thea were secretly elated that they could have pups and were trying to get pregnant.

Dishes were served, and everyone shared everything, tasting each creation. Chef Graham straddled the line between fine dining and classic pub fare. Gourmet pizzas, fries cooked in duck fat, gourmet dipping sauces. Signature dishes from the chef.

Thea took comments from everyone. She and Quinn discussed everything, and they talked to Chef Graham afterward. Overall, he seemed a perfect fit for the ambiance Thea wanted for the bar. Quinn, Thea, and Chef Graham felt good about moving forward together.

"I have a friend, a mixologist, if you're looking for a bartender," Graham said. "Herb Lassiter. He's a genius."

Quinn looked at Thea. "Let's bring him in for an interview," Thea said.

"Graham, could you make the introduction?" Quinn said.

"I'd be delighted."

Thea gave Quinn, Jane, and Davie the go-ahead to get things ready

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for the bar, and they left. Thea pulled Misty aside.

"We need to talk," Thea said.

"That's an understatement," Misty said.

"Let's go for a drive," Thea said. "Get out of the city."

"You want to head to my pack?" Misty said.

"That would be perfect."

One of the Delta team guards drove Misty's car in the lead. Misty, Thea, and the triplets rode in one of their SUVs with three Delta team guards. Several other SUVs with the rest of Delta team followed them.

Thea caught Misty up on everything. The triplets piped in from time to time.

"Wow," Misty said.

"Now for the important stuff," Thea said. "You share a border with Crescent Moon, right?"

"Yes," Misty said.

"What do you know about them? Specifically the Jett's."

"Mostly just what I've told you in the past. My father would know more than me."

"Are your grandparents still alive?" Thea said.

"Yes."

"I need to know everything there is to know about the Jett's."

"Because you're afraid Alpha Jett will want to avenge his daughter?" Misty said.

"No. He couldn't care less about his daughter," Thea said. "You know how we're offering refuge to people being abused?"

"Of course," Misty said.

"This has to stay between us," Thea said.

"Of course."

Thea leaned in, put her mouth against Misty's ear, and whispered so only she could hear.

"Three of the refugees from Crescent Moon are oracles. They were kept locked up in the Alpha's chambers—completely isolated. They weren't told about us or the plan. They dreamt about it. That's how they knew how, where, and when to escape." Thea leaned back. "Didn't mean to make that so dramatic. Just, you never know who can overhear."

Misty nodded, thinking. "Alpha Jett is going to want them back," Misty said.

"It's only a matter of time before Crescent Moon figures out their people joined our pack. He could use what I did to Molly as a reason to go to war, but he'd be coming to get the girls back."

"He doesn't have the numbers to take on New Dawn," Misty said.

"Or the power," Conri said.

"What do you mean?" Misty said.

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"He doesn't have the numbers to take on New Dawn," Misty said.

"Or the power," Conri said.

"What do you mean?" Misty said.

"Something else that stays between us," Thea said.

"Of course."

Thea leaned in again. "When I shifted last week, I didn't just get my wolf and lose my memory."

"You were gifted by the goddess," Misty whispered just as softly.

Thea pulled back and looked into Misty's eyes. "How'd you know?"

"Little things here and there," Misty said. "When I started doing research on late shifters, there was an account of a late shifter that was . . . also that way. Not much else was known about her because she disappeared. No one ever heard from her again."

"She was stolen," Thea said.

"Probably. Made me think of all the people after you," Misty said.

"Why didn't you say anything?"

"I figured you'd tell me when you were ready," Misty said. "Don't worry. I didn't tell anyone."

"I didn't believe it," Thea said. "When he put me under house arrest, Alpha Ulric said he believed I was, and that's why people were after me. I didn't believe it. I thought he was crazy. Then I didn't get my wolf. Goddess, I've been such a mess these past few months."

"You've looked just as poised as ever," Misty said.

"Thank you. I haven't felt it." Thea shook her head. "I can whine later. The point is I think I know something about Alpha Jett."

"Because of—"

"Yeah."

"Do you want to talk to my dad and grandparents?"

"And anyone else who knows anything about the Jett history," Thea said.

"This is especially important because he might try to come after you and your pack to get to us," Alaric said. "They know New Dawn and Blood Moon are friendly, and you share a border. Blood Moon is the most convenient target."

"We'll be alert," Misty said.

"If you need reinforcements, we'll have your back," Kai said.

"I'm sure my father will appreciate that," Misty said.

"Misty," Thea said. "I think you should consider a security detail until we get this handled."

"Do you really think that's necessary?" Misty said.

"They know we're close," Thea said. "Maybe you should come stay at New Dawn. Like you said, they're unlikely to attack us directly. You'd be safe within our borders."



Misty looked at the triplets.

"She has a good point," Alaric said.

"You saved Thea's life with your blood and your pack's blood," Conri said. "Let us protect yours."

Misty nodded.

"Let me call my father and let him know we're on our way."

 Samantha Doyle  Author

*Thanks again for all your kind words and support!*

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