## Chapter 210

Thea, the triplets, and Alpha Ulric stepped out of their SUV in front of Moonlit's pack house. Garret and Alpha Knight were waiting outside for them. Side by side, Garret looked like a smaller, younger version of his father.

"This is unexpected," Alpha Knight called out.

They walked toward each other and met in the middle.

"We thought this was a conversation best had face to face," Alpha Ulric said. "Can we go somewhere private?"

"Follow me," Alpha Knight said. He had bags under his eyes, his shoulders sagged, and his light brown hair wasn't as kempt as it usually was. Garret wasn't in better shape.

A few minutes later, they were sitting in Alpha Knight's office.

"What do you need to talk about?" Alpha Knight said.

Alpha Ulric turned his head and looked at Thea. She looked Alpha Knight in his golden-brown eyes.

"Alpha Knight, sir," Thea said. "Xavier is alive."

Alpha Knight looked confused.

"When he died, he had trace amounts of vampire blood in his system,"
Thea said. "No one knew. I guess he used to take vampire blood to get
high in the city. It took three days, but he turned. He dug his way out of
his grave and came to me this afternoon."

- "Did he hurt anyone?" Alpha Knight said.
- "No," Thea said. "He hasn't fed. He won't feed. He has control over the Need."
- "How is that possible?" Garret said. His golden-brown eyes, same as his father's, wandered the room as if looking for answers.
- "His guilt and desire not to hurt anyone are stronger than his Need to feed," Thea said. "He asked me to kill him. Begged me. I won't do it. He already died for his crimes, and the fates have given him a second chance—another life for a different person. I believe he will do good in this life. He already has an aversion to hurting anyone. He just needs to believe that he can live a good life. I want to rehabilitate him."
- "I don't know what to say," Alpha Knight said. "After what he did to you, how can you—"
- "He's not that person anymore," Thea said.
- "Can we see him?" Garret said.
- "He may need time before he's ready," Thea said. "He begged me not to tell you. I told him that wasn't an option. He said he can't face you yet. His shame and guilt are overpowering. He didn't want to walk through Moonlit because he didn't want any of his victims to relive their pain. He told me he asked me to kill him because his father shouldn't have to kill his son twice. He feels deep remorse for everything he's put you through. He doesn't want to put you through more."

Alpha Knight nodded. Thea could tell he was holding back tears.

"That being said, we wouldn't stop you from seeing him if you happened to come by," Thea said. "If you were able to see the new Xavier for what

he could be, if you were able to love him still, forgive him, and make him believe it, I can't think of anything more powerful."

Garret and Alpha Knight stared at Thea in awe.

"You probably need time and space to digest everything," Thea said, scooting to the edge of her seat.

The triplets and Alpha Ulric copied her, and they all stood.

Alpha Knight and Garret also stood.

"Thank you," Alpha Knight said. "I'm at a loss for words, but thank you."

\*\*\*

At pack dinner, Alaric announced to the pack that Alessia Moon officially became New Dawn's new pack member coordinator. He thanked her for all her hard work and had her stand while the pack clapped and howled for her.

"Lizzy," Thea mind linked her.

"Yeah?" Lizzy mind linked her back.

"Girls' Night with Alessia, Misty, Cassidy, Tessa, you, and me. I need you to plan it. How about this weekend?"

"Of course. Wild and crazy or sophisticated and calm?"

"Fun, Lizzy. Wild, crazy fun."

"Consider it done."

Next, the triplets took the newest group of refugees and asked if they

wanted to join the pack. They rejected their old packs, and the triplets said the words to accept them into New Dawn.

The pack celebrated the newcomers.

Finally, they addressed what the whole pack felt earlier.

"You're all probably wondering what it was we all experienced this afternoon," Kai said. "It's our collective secret here in New Dawn that our future Luna is goddess gifted. As you know, Thea shifted, and we were able to complete the mating process."

People in the crowd howled and banged on the table.

The triplets smiled with pride. The crowd showed no sign of stopping. Thea stood up and lifted Kai's shirt up and off him. She kissed his mark. Then she took off Conri's shirt, kissed his mark, then did the same with Alaric. She faced the crowd and pointed to the marks.

"I did that!" Thea shouted.

The crowd went wild.

Eventually, they quieted. Alaric, Conri, and Thea sat down, and Kai continued.

"During the last marking," Kai announced. "Thea's magic put up a force field around our pack lands and each of us individually. We weren't sure what it would do, but today we saw that vampires can't cross into our land unless they're invited. It may work on any supernatural being, or maybe just vampires. We'll have to wait and see. But we all felt someone try to cross today, right?"

Nods and murmurs of agreement.

"And we felt it when we brought the vampire onto our land. Yes, there's a vampire here. He's in the dungeon. You're all safe. As far as the individual force fields around each of us—if you notice anything, please let us know. We are itching to know what it does too. Thank you."

Kai sat down.

Alpha Ulric started eating, and then the rest of the pack dug in.

Alaric pulled Thea onto his lap.

"I found a vacant cottage," he said softly into her ear. "I'm having it prepared for our use."

"When will it be ready?" Thea said.

"By Friday."

"I can't wait. Thank you," Thea said. "You're the best."

After dinner, Liam stopped the triplets and Thea on their way up to their room.

"Alphas, Luna," Liam said. "We located a hospital with coma patients, a paralyzed patient, a burn unit, and a few other patients that may be worth checking out with your gift."

"When is the best time to go?" Thea said. "Are we sneaking in, or are we going during visiting hours? What's our story for being there?"

"Garrin and Maverick are taking care of that," Liam said. "They suggested you skip school tomorrow, and we spend the day at the hospital. We assume you'll need guinea pigs to try things on."

