

Tattooed 221

Chapter 221

“DAD!” Alec roared as he busted the office door open. I was surprised to see my dad sitting in his office. “Dad?” I asked, confused. “Kristen.” Dad got up and gave me a hug. His face was red with anger and I knew they were just arguing. “This is a private meeting, Alec.” Alpha Marc said firmly. “No. I am done allowing you to shut me out. I am done with standing by as you continue to make questionable decisions in regards to this pack and to my mate. I don’t know what you have got yourself into but this ends here.” Alec slammed his fist down on Alpha Marc’s desk. “What is he talking about?” Dad let me go and walked over to he was facing both Alec and Marc. It was a triangle of testosterone.

“Penny and Emmy were able to find out over the f ucking internet that that mechanical shop was being sold and was just an empty building. That whole attack was worthless! Not only did we not avenge Kristen but we lost the upper hand! Now he knows we are coming for him!” “All of my intel told me that building was operational and one of their biggest assets!” Alpha Marc roared back. “Who the f uck gives you your intel because clearly it is wrong.” Alec spit back. “None of your concern.” Alpha Marc said in a dangerously low tone. “You said the phone was linked to that building and you had been watching him for awhile. Why?” I asked. Alec didn’t move so I was still hidden behind Alec but dad looked at him and waited a reply. “He has never been an ally! I watch all my enemies!” Alpha Marc shrugged off my question. “Where is Gam ma Judd?” I asked quickly. Alpha Marc’s b*dy tensed up before he tried to relax it. It did not go unnoticed by Alec or by my dad. ” Away on assignment.”

“Is he undercover at Alpa Rip’s pack?” Alec just bluntly asked the question. “Why would you ask that?” Alpha Marc got red in the face. Alec didn’t even hesitate to pull out his phone and show them the picture Jasper sent him. “Where did “Jasper.” Alec said after a few moments. “Kristen and I need to have a word with my father. Keep me updated on their progress.” “Got it.” Jasper said a little too chipper before we started walking back to the pack house. Only when we were out of ear shot of the men, did Alec talk to me. “I’m sorry.” “It’s fine.” I said without looking at him. “It’s not.” Alec grabbed my waist and forced me to turn and look at him. “Kristen, I’m sorry.” “Sorry for what?” I asked, shifting my weight, I crossed my arms and looked at him. “Sorry my dad didn’t avenge you. Sorry I lost my temper back there. Sorry we are even in this mess.” Alec just shook his head. “We are in this together. We don’t focus on the past. We are looking at our future and protecting it. Right now, that starts with your dad.” As soon as I said those words, Alec’s eyes shifted to black for a second before going back to his beautiful green. “Come on.” He took my hand as we walked back to Alpha Marc’s office.

Chapter 222

“We found the tunnel.” Jasper mind-linked us all. “What?” Dad asked when everyone stopped talking. “They found a third tunnel.” I filled dad in. “Marc, I think you need to think about stepping down. No, I am going to strongly encourage you to step down before this comes back and takes you down.” Dad looked Alpha Marc in the eyes. “What about you? You stepping down and giving it to your boy?” Alpha

Marc spit. "I am. Sooner than you think." Dad didn't even hesitate as he answered. Looking at Alec, "What is the next steps?" "We need to extract Judd. All information at this point is considered invalid. We need to regroup and decide on a course. We will be following the tunnels today and closing them off. Hopefully by monday, everyone will be able to come home." "Good." Dad nodded in agreement. "Have Penny and Emmy do their thing and see what they find when we come over tomorrow." I said to

dad. "Okay." Dad came over to me and gave me a hug. "Do you need to come home with me?" "No. I'm okay taking out the trash here." I gave him one last hug before he turned around. "I will no longer have contact with you, Marc. I will only be dealing with Alec or only Colt will. My agreement is with him now." Dad didn't even wait to hear what Alpha Marc had to say. He just walked out of the office and out of the packhouse. "You need to think long and hard on what your next move is. I am going to be sealing off the tunnels and I expect the correct answer by this evening." Alec said before he turned. Grabbing my arm, he had me walk in front of him as we left the office. Not even bothering to close the door, we walked back into the

forest. "Alpha!" I heard someone yell for Alec. We hadn't spoke the whole way. I knew he was working out some personal feelings right now and he would talk when he was ready. "Where is it?" Alec asked not containing his anger. One of the warriors grabbed something and a little door opened up. It was a wooden door that covered a whole in the ground. Just like I was told about the others. It was pitch black, leaving everything to the "From my own sources. That man beside Judd, we believe might be Penny's father." Alec told my dad. "Explain yourself!" Dad's face was turning shades of red I haven't seen in a long time. "Yes! I put Judd into an undercover assignment! I knew one day that Rip would be an issue and I wanted to gather all the information on him I could." "How long has he been in there?" Dad asked. "Nine months!" Alpha Marc ran his hands through his hair. "NINE MONTHS?" Alec roared. "You risked your gam ma's life for nine f ucking months? What about his family? What about his mate? His own life? What if they figured him out and are forcing him to tell you the wrong stuff? They would have figured him out months ago and he has been living being tortured every day!" "When was the last time you even spoke to him?" Dad had his hands on the desk and looking down at the ground. "We talk over text. He sends me updates and his code word." Alpha Marc was starting to sound distressed. "They could have broke him and been using that!" Alec punched the wall, creating a fist size whole. "What else are you hiding?" I asked as Alpha Marc opened his mouth to lay into Alec. His eyes went over to me and became slits. "Excuse me? Who are you to question m--"

"Answer the f ucking question dad!" Alec walked back in front of me, blocking me from Alpha Marc. Dad looked over at me and back at them. "I have no idea what your talking about." Alpha Marc mumbled as he turned and looked out the window. "Yes you do and you need to tell us now! It's time for your f ucking secrets to come out. Kristen told you about the tunnels. Why has Rip been working on attacking us for years? Why have you had a spy at his territory?" Alec crossed his arms over his chest as he stood firm in front of his dad.

Chapter 223

“Why did he let it get so bad?” He was asking himself more than me. “As f ucked up as this whole situation is, I don’t believe your dad did it with the intention of it going this far.” “What do you mean?” Alec looked down at me. “Alec, you are a solid man. You know right from wrong, you are strong and loyal. You fight for what is right, not what is easy. You are the way you are because of the man that raised you. I don’t believe this all started with the intention of it getting this far. I think your dad got caught up in something and it snowballed. I think he is embarrassed and ashamed of what he has done but doesn’t know how to get out of it. Does he need to step down? Yes. He is wanting so bad for everything to work out that he is blinded to the real threat.” “I hope you are right. I’m telling you now, if we find out what he is hiding is bad...” Alec shook his head like he was struggling to get the words out. “...I’ll challenge him on the spot.” As much as I didn’t want him to do that, I was starting to think that might be the only way to get him to give up control. He was a spiraling man and that is dangerous. “I understand.” We sat there for a little while longer until the sun was high in the sky. “I should check on my men.” Alec

sighed. “I am going to go get some lunch around for everyone. I’ll mind-link you when I am done.” Alec stood up and held out his hand for me to take. Accepting it, he pulled me in for a k*ss. “That would be a nice gesture.” “I can’t promise anything fancy as I haven’t been in that kitchen but I’ll do my best.” I promised as we walked out into the sunlight. “It doesn’t have to be anything nice. Just enough to keep us going.” Alec let go of my hand as we had to walk in opposite directions.

“Be safe.” I yelled to him. “You too.” As I walked inside the packhouse, I really hadn’t given it any thought as to the fact that Alpha Marc was still inside. I hadn’t even seen Luna Erin today but that wasn’t completely unusual. Still, not wanting to run into him, I just went straight to the kitchen and closed the door. Opening the fridge, I started looking at the different options that were available for me to prepare. It must have just got stalked because it was over flowing with ingredients. In the end, I decided to cook some steaks. I’ll be able to slice them and people can decide if you want to put them over a salad, eat a steak plain or put it on a hamburger bun. Pulling out all the steak. My first step was getting the cast iron pan out and season it with oil and salt. Letting that heat up, I pulled the steaks out of the package and patted them dry. After seasoning both sides, I put some butter in the pan and added a steak. Turning on the oven, I set it to keep warm before pulling out the ingredients to make cole slaw. That was pretty basic. Grabbing a large bowl, I emptied the packages and added the sauce before putting it back in the fridge. Moving to the steak, with tongs, I moved the steak so it was searing on all sides before fl*pping it over. I was going for a medium rare. After a steak was done, I wrapped it in foil and put it in the oven. I kept repeating this process and setting the table with different options for them to chose from. I was almost finished when the door opened. “This smells good.” My heart dropped as I turned around. “Alpha Marc...”

Chapter 224

“Relax. I’m not here to cause trouble.” Alpha Marc waved off my nervous reaction. “Alec... food is ready and your dad just walked into the kitchen.” I said trying to keep my voice steady. “On my way.” Alec responded and I felt his uneasiness. “Food is just about ready. If you want to go sit down, I will bring out the steaks in a minute.” Turning around, I grabbed an oven mitt and pulled them out. However, he didn’t go to the table. Instead, he stood by the door and watched me slice each steak. I left them on the cutting board as I moved them to the table. “Kristen?” I heard Alec yell. “In here!” I answered, completely relieved that he was here. Alec came through the door and did a double take at his dad. “What are you doing in here?” “She didn’t tell you I was here?” Alpha Marc looked at Alec like he didn’t believe him. “Why are you standing in the corner watching her work?” Alec turned and faced his dad. “I’m not causing any trouble. I just was making sure she was safe.”

“After what she has been through, you thought sitting in the corner and watching her work would be comforting to her?” Alec looked at his dad in anger. Jasper and a few other warriors walked through the door. All of them looked between Alec and Alpha Marc before deciding to stand beside Alec. “Let’s all move to the kitchen and eat.” I said trying to break this up. “Great idea. Anything I can help you with?” Jasper asked. Alec and Alpha Marc didn’t break their stare. “No, everything is on the table.” I said as I grabbed Alec’s arm and pulled him away from his dad. Everyone sat down but Alec sat down in the Alpha seat, leaving no room for Alpha Marc. “Okay. I prepared steaks: you can either have it by itself, make a salad or have a steak sandwich. Really whatever you want to do. Please dig in.”

No one spoke as we all grabbed a plate and started making our foods. I had already prepared myself a steak salad so I just picked up my fork and started eating. Alpha Marc grabbed a plate and fix himself a steak sandwich before retiring to his office. I realized it was only then that everyone let out a breath of air in relief. “This is really good.” Jasper said with a mouth full. “Swallow before you talk to me.” I said giving him a disapproving look. “Luna...” There was a younger warrior looking rather uncomfortable. He kept glancing at me and back at his food. He was probably the same age as I was but he was skinny. “Yes?” “Are you... um....” “Just spit it out, dude.” Another warrior rolled his eyes. “Are you okay?” “Yes. I am feeling much better I got my wolf back. Thank you for asking.” I gave him a small smile as we well into a comfortable silence. Alec was in his own little world, staring off into space. His emotions kept changing form anger to acceptance. There was a hint of sorrow but it was quickly replaced by anger. Seeing that everyone was finished, Alec stood up. “Ready?” “Yes, Alpha!” They weren’t in unison but close to it. “Are you coming out with us?” Alec asked as everyone stood up. “No. I’ll clean the kitchen and then go work in our office until you are done.” Sighing, I stood up and started gathering dishes. “We will help carry things to the kitchen.” A warrior said as he took the plates from my hands. “This is much too heavy for you to carry.” Another one said. Soon, all of them were gathering things and taking them to the kitchen. I felt immense pride fill Alec as he watched his men help me out. “Thank you all!” I said as I followed them in. They even went as far as putting the food away and

loading the dishwasher. Since there was so many of them, it only took a few minutes, where it would have taken me an hour to do. As they left, they all bowed to me. One by one, they walked out the door

and went outside to blow some s hit up. "Go to our office and lock the door." Alec whispered before he k*ssed me on the forehead.

Chapter 225

"Okay." I wasn't about to disagree as I turned and went to our office in a hurry. No reason to linger around. For some reason, this just felt like a daunting task. Working out of an office seemed stuffy. As I locked my door, all I saw was paperwork. There was still all the paper on the floor and we still hadn't finished going through the phone. Closing my eyes to the paper on the floor, I just went and sat down at Alec's desk. It was easy enough to back out of the pictures and pull up the next folder. "How is it coming?" I asked, mind-linking Alec. It was about twenty minutes after I felt the third explosion go off. The entire packhouse shook as they blew the explosives. The first time it happened I was actually concerned we were having an earthquake. "Just finishing up. What are you doing?" "Just finished looking through the files. I didn't find anything that would be considered out of the norm." As much as I studied it, nothing seemed suspicious that I would think would be a clue to anything. I'm sure it had meaning but I had no idea what it could be. "I didn't think there would be. Kinda figured they gave it to us to keep us busy. Not even even sure that is all the contents of the phone." Alec sighed as he seemed to lift something heavy. "I would love to get my hands on his computer." Sitting back, I just looked at our messy office. "Has he left you alone?" "Yeah, it's been extremely quiet. Almost too quiet. I don't like it."

"Hopefully things will go back to normal soon." Alec said but we both knew that was a lie. "Yeah and Emmy is going to stop crying at everything." Standing up, I started cleaning up the paper on the floor. Going in a pattern so if we needed to put it bath together we could. "S hit." Alec snorted. "I'll see you in a few. Stay in the office. I'll come get you and we can go up to our room." "What about supper?" "I ordered pizza for everyone." Alec said. "You did enough today."

"Alright." I wasn't going to argue. My shoulders were feeling better but it was more difficult to carry those heavier items Alec didn't respond but he kept the link open. As I finished picking up the pictures, I was able to cl*p them time I was done, I heard the door unlock. "Hey." I said as I finished moving the air chair. "What are you doing?" Alec was covered in sweat and dirt. "Putting the office back together." Shrugging, I turned off the lights and walked out the door that Alec was holding open for me. "F ucking hot down in the tunnels." Alec sighed. "Smells like it." I pinched my nose together and made a face. "Funny." Alec went to put his arm around my but I ducked out of the way. "No, sir! You need a shower!" I laughed as I ran ahead to put some space between us. "You can't run from me in our room." Alec called out in a very seductive tone. "I'll tell you what..." I was leaning against our bedroom door as he closed the gap. "You take a shower first and then I'll show you what else my tongue can do besides being sarcastic..." I looked up at him and winked. "I'll hold you to that." Alec grumbled as he unlocked the door. I had to laugh as he didn't even hesitate walking straight to the bathroom and got in the shower. "When does the pizza arrive?" I asked, leaning my head into the bathroom. "About fifteen minutes." He had just stepped into the water. There wasn't any steam so he must be taking a cold

shower. "We are going to meet the pizza guy at the boarder?" I asked. "No, Jasper is, with another warrior. He will bring it back here."

"What is our next step? I am completely confused on what we should do. I feel like we evacuated everyone for nothing. So I feel like we can't waste it but I don't know what to do."

Chapter 226

"The million dollar question. We are going to shoot around ideas tonight over pizza." Alec sounded worn out. "I don't understand why we can't find anything they own. Even if it is an alias, they will still have to have the money transferred somewhere. There will be a money trail. Same P.O. box or some bank. Has anyone thought about tapping into their phone system?" "What?" Alec looked out of the shower at me. "Well, we do all of our banking over the phone and fax. There is an app so you can scan or take a picture of any check to deposit. I mean, I doubt dad has set a foot in a bank in decades. It wouldn't be like we could follow him but his phone would have all the numbers to where he is calling. We could find out what bank he is using. What buildings he is calling. Everything." "We would have to sneak into his territory for that." Alec said like he was actually thinking about it. "No. You could just hack whatever provider he is using and find out his records that way. Unless you want

to listen into his calls, then yes you would have to go into his territory." "There are only two major phone companies out here." Alec said quietly. "Yes, sir." Alec turned off the water and got out. Wrapping a towel around himself, he walked into the livingroom. So, we could find someone to hack into the phone company and get his information. Then we could search for the phone numbers and find out where they go to." "In theory, yes. If the number is unlisted, then you would run into other issues but yeah. However, if the same company gave survive to the unlisted numbers, you could just look up that number too and figure out who it goes to."

"How do we find the right numbers for their territory?" "They probably have a dozen or so, just like we do. However, it goes off location. If it goes to a cell, we can find that number and ping it's location. However, the physical address will be in their system because that is how they know which power lines are used to hook into." I shrugged as I watched him get dressed. Apparently, I got his mind working so much he forgot about my mouth. "Interesting" Alec seemed deep in his own mind. "You could take it further and look for internet as well as data. If they are only paying for data and using the internet to make their phones work, you can trace that too. You would be able to know which devices " 1/2 phones and don't even realize it." "That is..." There was a knock on the door. "... crazy to even think about." Alec walked over and opened the door. "I got the pizza down stairs." Jasper was standing at the door with his hands in his pockets. He was just wearing gym shorts and that was it. I started walking to the door. "I'm hungry." My stomach rumbled as on que. "You had a long day?" Jasper looked at me and raised an eyebrow. "Just stared at a computer screen all day." I shrugged as Alec closed and locked the door behind us. "I guess my mouth will have to wait." I said in the mind-link. Alec looked at me and

narrowed his eyes. All he got in response was a smile. "That sounds terrible." Jasper said. His voice was laced with sarcasm. "I would have much rather been blowing s hit up all day." "You could have been blowing me..." Alec grumbled in the mind-link.

Chapter 227

"Better hurry up, Alpha! All the meat lovers will be gone!" I really needed to learn the warrior's names. How many times now have I talked to them and had no idea what their names were? There was about twenty different men all sitting around. Their ages ranged from what looked like 18 year olds to 50ish year olds. However, everyone was completely ripped and looked dangerous. "I do love my meat." I said in the mind-link to Alec. He rolled his eyes at me as we went up to the table with all the pizza. Alec handed me a paper plate before he took one. Looking at my options, I chose a meat lovers and a regular beef pizza. Alec took three supreme pizza slices. Following him, we went and sat down on the couch. Most of the guys were gathered around but left the couch open for us three. "What's the plan, Alpha?" A warrior said. "I'm sorry, I don't know everyone's names. Can you please tell me as you talk to I can learn everyone

better?" I felt sh itty for even having to ask. "I'm sorry. I guess we really haven't had a chance to meet. I am Henry." The warrior answered that just asked Alec the plan. He was one of the younger ones. "Let him eat first, Henry." He looked disapprovingly at Henry before looking at me. "Name is Remi." He was mid-range probably. "It's okay. Actually, Kristen and I were just talking. She had an interesting thought." Alec looked at me as I took a bite. "I mean, it was more of a sarcastic remark but sure, let's go with interesting idea." I couldn't help myself. I was met with many snorts and smiles for my cheeky response.

"What was it?" A warrior asked. I looked up to see who it was. "Paul, luna." He answered quickly without me having to ask. "The issue is..." I swallowed what food was in my mouth. "We don't know what buildings he owns. Apparently, that is a difficult thing to figure out. So, I suggested we bugged his phone." "Bugged his phone? That would mean we could have to go into his territory. That is a terrible idea!" Henry sounded appalled. "Let her finish." Alec looked at Henry in annoyance. "However, bugging his phone would allow us to listen to his conversations but not actually find out locations or anything. We need to hack into the telephone company, look up his address and get onto his plan. You can get onto that and look up all the numbers you called per line. It will be the same for a telephone company." "Well, s hit." A warrior to my left sounded shocked. As soon as we met eyes, he quickly said his name. "Peter." he seemed older as his hair was fully gray. "If he has data, we can possibly find locations of them physically being there. We would need someone to has some serious hacking skills. There most likely will be tons of firewalls and different things." I took another bite of my pizza. "Beckham." A few of the younger guys said at once. "Beckham?" Alec asked looking around. "He is a younger kid. Like maybe 13 or 14 years old. He is suppose to be a genius but uses his skills for other aspects in life." Henry said. "Has he been in trouble for hacking?" Alec asked. "Not enough to gain your attention but he has been suspended from school for it. He got on and found all

the test answers.” Henry shrugged. “If he was a genius, why does he need the test answers?” Another younger warrior asked. “He got paid to do it. He hasn’t taken it yet so he didn’t know what questions they were. Only got caught because a teacher walked into the room and saw him.” “If we find a location, we still have a good amount of explosives left. We can move within hours. I have a few mostly strung up that we didn’t use for the tunnels.” The oldest looking Warrior answered. He looked right at Alec when he was speaking.

Chapter 228

“Good.” Alec nodded his head. “I will call Penny and Emmy and have them get with Beckham and start the hacking.” “What’s going on in your mind?” Peter was looking at me with a raised eyebrow. “At what point do we just take a step back and see how things unfold?” I said with a little frustration. “I’m not new to this and battle doesn’t bother me but at what point do we.... just stop.” Alec looked at me with confusion. “What do you mean?” “Rushing into something could make us make mistakes. We already blew up the wrong building. Our next move needs to be calculated, impactful and precise. We know Rip is a threat. What if he is waiting for us to make a mistake? All I’m saying is.... we need to be sure of our next move and make it count. Mistakes is what causes people die.” Immediately, I started to feel ashamed. Maybe that was something I should have said to Alec privately. No one said a word but looked at their pizza and ate in/silence. It was just that I had a bad feeling about doing something quickly and didn’t want to make another mistake. That would make us look incompetent. Feeling rather exposed and unsure, I stood up to leave and retreat back to our room. “Where are you going?” Henry asked, quickly.

“Oh, ummm....” It caught me off guard. “What does it matter? She is the luna and can do whatever she feels, Henry! You need to learn when to keep your mouth shut!” Paul chastised Henry. He put his head down in shame. “Where are you going?” Alec asked, looking at me. “I still have a few questions on what you think is best for a timeline.” Shock filled me as Alec gave me a half smile. It was like he knew exactly why I felt the way I did and called me out on it without giving me away to everyone. “The restroom.” It was the first thing that came to my mind.

“I’ll go give Emmy a call then.” Jasper said as he stood up and followed me out. As soon as we were out of the room, Jasper stopped me. “You didn’t need to use the restroom.” It was a statement, not a question “I do, too!” I said defensively, “Not according to Alec.” Jasper gave me a knowing smile “Fine. No one said a word after I said that last part. Maybe I should have said that privately to Alec.” I was feeling more and more comfortable opening up to Jasper. He was starting to feel like an adopted brother to me. “Kris, you said exactly what needed to be said. Their lives matter as much as the next person. No one wants to f uck up like we just did. Just saying that made each man in there respect you more. They know they aren’t expendable to you.” Jasper gave me a reassuring look. “What, did Alec send you out here so it didn’t look obvious?” “Partly and because I really do need to call Emmy. Just go back in there and be the amazing luna you are.” Jasper pulled out his phone and walked away from me, leaving me in the hallway. After taking a few breaths, I walked back in there. They had resumed talking

about what it meant to break into the telephone company and how to go about it. Alec glanced over at me as I walked back in but kept going on his conversation. It made it less focused on me, which I was glad for. "...it can be done remotely. It's not like we have to go into the wires and create an issue." Alec said. "Is that true, Luna?" Henry asked. "We don't have to sneak onto the telephone company's business and put something onto a wire?" "Have you been watching Oceans 11 or something?" I asked, trying to make a joke of it. "No, we can do everything without leaving here." "Hopefully, Beckham can." Alec said. Which reminded me. "Jasper! Have you got ahold of Emmy?" I mind-linked him quickly.

Chapter 229

"On the phone, why?" "Beckham needs to be on his own IP address. That way it isn't linked to that pack." "Okay, I'll tell her." Jasper said and cut the link. "Luna!" Paul said loudly. "What? Sorry, I was making sure Jasper told Emmy, that Beckham needed a different IP address to do this." I completely spaced off on their conversation. "It's okay. I asked about the information we got. We should get phone numbers or a list of locations that have service. How do we decide which place to hit?" Paul asked a logical question. One, I didn't fully have an answer to. "Which ever one make sense. If it was up to me, I would stake it out and see which one would make the most impact." "We should be acting now! Not waiting!" A warrior in the back stood up and started pacing. I could feel Alec getting mad. "Okay." I said simply. "Explain yourself?" I kept my face passive as he turned to look at me.

"They didn't wait to f uck up your shop! They didn't wait to kidnap you! They took action. We seem like the b itch since we aren't doing anything about it!" His face was getting red. "Your name?" I asked, calmly. "Cain." His hands were on his hips as he was taking deep breaths to calm himself. He seemed to be around late twenties or early thirties. His dirty blonde hair kept annoying him as he waved it out of his eyes constantly. "You realize that they had digging those tunnels for probably the good part to a year. Also, my shop is incredibly public. The shooter and everything... they had been planning this for years. YEARS! This wasn't something they just decided to do over night and had that building been important, we would have made

an impact. Would you like to put your life and your fellow warrior's lives at risk and go knock on his door?" I kept my voice steady and firm as I spoke. Alec had sat back and draped an arm over the couch, behind me. With his ankle resting on his knee, he just watched the interaction. "I just can't sit here and do nothing!" Cain sounded defeated. "Making impulsive decisions based on your emotions will not get you the response or result you are response is the best response. What do you think they are thinking over there? If it was me, I would be by me walking in his front door. Sometimes, no active wondering why they haven't attacked yet." "We moved our pack to another pack expecting them to attack." Another warrior helped me out. "Exactly. They are probably ready for a fight and we will give them one. Just not today. We will strike when they least expect it and in the most painful way possible." I was incredibly sincere about what I was saying. Everyone was quiet for awhile before Cain finally sat down. He still seemed upset or maybe just emotional in general but either way, we didn't hear from him again. "What's the plan for tomorrow?" Henry asked. "We will see what Beckham is able to find tonight."

Kristen and I have to go to Alpha Brian's pack tomorrow anyway and we will see what they have uncovered. Depending on that, we will address it accordingly." Alec said leaning forward. "So... we have a day off?" A younger kid beside Henry asked. "You need to be ready in case something happens but yes, you can relax." Alec put his hand on my knee as if to say it was time to go to bed. "Get some sleep everyone." I said as I stood up. Alec followed me out as everyone said goodnight. "Why hasn't Jasper come back yet?" I asked.

Chapter 230

"No idea." Alec put his hand on my lower back as we walked up the stairs. "I'll mind-link him." "Okay." Thankfully, it only took him a few minutes to respond back to me. "Still on the phone with Emmy. She does have Beckham working on it but it will be awhile I guess." "That's fine." I yawned as we got to our room. "Tired?" "Yes...no." I shrugged. Alec opened the door for us and locked it behind him. "Worried about tomorrow?" Alec walked over and poured us a glass of whiskey as I sat down on the

couch. "My dad possibly dying and my brother getting the role he was born for." What's to worry about? "I would think death would be welcoming to someone in your dad's position." Alec sighed as he sat down beside me. Handing me my drink, I took a sip and leaned against his arm that he draped over. "I'll miss him." "I know but isn't his happiness worth what he has prepared your entire life for?" I looked over at Alec. He shot down the rest of his whiskey and looked at me. "It is but the only family I will have left is Colt. As difficult as your parents are... they are still alive. There is something different about when you lose both of them." "You still have Emmy and Jacob. They are like your siblings and as much as you bicker with Jasper, he seems to be like your brother." "He can be annoying as such." I snorted. Alec leaned forward and set his glass down. "Come on. Let's go to bed." Alec stood up and held out his hand for me. Accepting it, I downed my drink as we walked over to the bed. Taking my shorts, shirt and bra off. I took his shirt he took off and put it

on to wear to bed. Slipping under the covers, Alec pulled me against him. "Sleep. You are safe and loved here." Darkness took over before he was even finished talking. "Are you about ready?" Alec popped his head into the closet. I had showered, curled my hair, put makeup on and was standing in front of all my clothes in a pair of matching bra and underwear set. Alec had put on a nice pair of jeans that hugged his ass nicely with a tighter athletic t-shirt. It was a set up from a basic "I can't decide what to wear." My anxiety was a mile high. My hands shook, my legs refused to stand still and I had to fight off the sweats that kept threatening to mess up my makeup. "Put on a sundress or one of those shirt things that have shorts attached to them." Alec walked in and looked at my closet too. "Here. I like this one on you." "You mean a romper?" Alec pulled down a deep purple flowy romper. The shoulders were capped and the waist was cinched so the bottoms stopped mid-thigh. It had a short V in the front but it honestly made my legs look amazing. After putting it on, I realized I had lost some muscle mass. "I really got to start working out again." "How is your shoulder feeling?" Alec asked as I took the romper off the hanger and started putting it on. The bruises were almost faded but hints of yellow and green were visible. "Feeling pretty normal." Looking at myself in the mirror, I felt like I was looking at a stranger. Six months

ago, if you would have told me I was getting ready to go have dinner with my dad for possibly the last time as he chose to die, I would have told you, you were lying. My hair is longer, my toned muscles were gone and my skin was ghostly white. "You look beautiful." Alec wrapped his hands around me. "I look like I need to work out in the sun for six months to look normal." Rolling my eyes, I grabbed my purse and walked out of the closet. I knew I walked away from him showing me some affection but he wasn't mad. He has been worried about me all morning, even though he has been trying to hide it.