

Chapter 7

I stared at the woman in front of me, the woman who is in charge of what I do during my punishment. She just looked back at me. I knew that I would have to be smart about my response here. This woman lives in the packhouse, so she likely feels like family towards the twins. I'm not entirely sure how the boys treat her with the rank she is, but I can't risk telling her the truth about what happened and being punished for it because she thinks I'm lying. There was no way for me to be honest about this in any way...not if I wanted to keep my family in this pack. I had to come up with something fast to respond with.

"I uh, I was headed down here to meet with you and managed to get lost," I lied to the woman in front of me, watching how she reacted to my answers to see if she believed me. "I've never really been one to come into the packhouse...I think I've only ever been in here maybe once or twice since moving. It's like a maze in here. And I just got lost. I somehow managed to stumble into a storage closet and ran into a shelf that had a bunch of paint...nally, I asked around to find the right way here."

I couldn't tell by her body language if she believed me or not, but she didn't say otherwise. She nodded at me and stared at me for a few minutes, as if she was scrutinizing me. I just watched while she looked at me. I just waited for her to respond to me. Finally, the woman stood up from her seat and started to walk towards the door. I didn't get up, not sure if I should follow her or not. She left the room and went somewhere I wasn't sure. I just looked around confused trying to figure out if I should follow her or not. She hadn't said anything to me about getting up, so I just stayed in my seat. After a few minutes of being in my seat in the room alone, the head Omega came back. She was holding a stack of clothes in her arms, which left me even more confused. Then, she handed them towards me to grab.

"Uh, what's this?" I asked the woman standing in front of me. "I wasn't sure if I should follow you or not..."

She smiled down at me and sat the clothes in my arms without me reaching for them, "Well, you are about to be walking around the packhouse doing work, so we can't have you covered in paint like this. Take these clothes and put them on. I'm not sure if they will fit or anything cause they are from a lost and found bin, but it'd be better than what you're currently dealing with. We definitely don't need people asking about you covered in paint, and we don't need you to accidentally get paint on anything either."

"Umm, thank you, ma'am," I replied while standing holding the clothes in my arms. "Thank you so much...where can I change into these at?"

"You can stay here to change. I'll leave for a little while to find someone that can help you out with the job today. Since you've never really been in the packhouse and already got lost once today, I don't want you to get lost again. I'll be right back," she replied to me before leaving the room once more.

I then put part of the clothes down so I could look at them. Flipping out the shirt that she gave me, I saw that it was a guys button down shirt. The shirt looked colorful with some tropical flowers on it, like one of those Hawaiian shirts you would see a dad wear. It was relatively big, but would fit okay for the time being. People would most likely just assume that I am a little girl that doesn't know how to dress right. I slowly undressed my own clothes, being careful not to get more paint on me or anywhere else in the room. Then, I pulled the shirt on top of myself without unbuttoning it any. The second item of clothing I was given was a pair of black biker shorts. I pulled those on quickly and pulled on my own shoes despite the paint still on them. Doing work around the packhouse and being on my feet for I don't know how long would be torture in shoes that don't fit right. After I finished getting dressed, I went to the door and opened it so the head Omega would know I was ready. Then, I sat back down on the chair by the desk and waited.

Soon after I sat back down, the woman came back in the room. She was being followed by a boy probably about twelve or thirteen years old. I was confused why he was here and not at school, like kids our age should be, but I stood up to greet him anyway. He seemed very social and positive as he grabbed my hand to say hello to me. I just awkwardly smiled as he held onto my hand tighter than I expected him to.

"Alright, alright, Shaun. Leave the girl alone," the head Omega said to the boy as she gently grabbed my hand away from his. "You two need to get to work. My plan for the day is for you to just show her around the packhouse. She will be suspended from school for a little while, so she will be required to come here in the morning and work. If you show her around the packhouse where she won't get lost again, then she can do her punishment a lot better."

"Yes, ma'am!" Shaun said to her with a smirk.

He then looked to me and motioned for me to follow him out of the room. I did so, following behind him down the hall to the main door. He said he wasn't going to show me around the bottom door since that's just Omega guest rooms and offices and such. We then headed up the stairs to the main door. As we were walking up the stairs, some of the still wet paint on my shoes caused my foot to slip. I almost fell down the stairs we had just walked up. Before I could fall though, I felt someone's hand grasp my forearm. Shaun was looking down at me smiling at me as he held onto me to keep me from falling.

"Well, that was a close one!" Shaun said to me as he continued to hold on. "You shouldn't be walking around in shoes that cause you to be this clumsy. Why are they covered in blue and green paint?"

"Oh, just because I was lost earlier and decided to dip my shoes in some paint for style," I said sarcastically to the boy as I pulled my arm free of his grip and held tighter onto the rail to keep my balance. "Now, let's get back to my fantastic punishment!"

He tilted his head at me a bit, kind of like a curious dog, before laughing, "Oh! I like you! You're a funny girl! And you don't seem like the type to get in trouble like this, so what happened to cause this type of a punishment?"

"Umm, maybe I can tell you that one day. But for now, just show me around the place, please?"

He nodded while still chuckling and smirking at me. Then, we went on our way to the main door so I could learn about the packhouse's layout. I just followed behind him while he walked me around and explained what each of the rooms were. Then, we started to walk up the stairs to the second door. I started to feel faint as we got close to the closet I had been pushed in before, but tried to keep it hidden from the boy. He just kept walking me around everywhere. That was until we got to the next door where the twin's bedrooms were. I then had to stop myself from turning around and heading back down the stairs. I pushed my body back up against the wall in fear. I could hear Shaun asking me if everything was okay. I could feel him holding onto my arms as I tried to struggle in his grip to cover my head. I was crying uncontrollably as I tried to control my emotions that I didn't expect to be dealing with at this moment. I've been bullied for so long by the boys, I didn't expect to feel trauma from what happened today. Maybe because I am now having to be so close to them with this punishment, but I wasn't sure how to deal with it. I just curled into a ball on the door against the wall, Shaun trying to help me gather my emotions.

All of a sudden, I heard four voices full of anger towards the boy holding onto me. Ezra, Elliot, Samuel, and Jackson were all standing in the hallway glaring at Shaun. They were yelling at him asking what he was doing to me. I tried to block out all of their voices, but the boys standing in the hallway that close to me was harder for me to deal with than I expected. I felt myself being pulled into darkness as I saw Shaun's shadow defensively stand in front of my body on the door.