

## Chapter 19

On the way home, Axton stops at McDonald's and we order some burgers for lunch, yet while waiting in the drive-thru, sirens sound in the distance before police cars race past the restaurant heading towards Axton's territory. I peek at Axton.

"Wonder what's going on?"

"No idea, but they'll mind link if it is anything important," he assures me and I nod my head. The window opens, and the girl smiles at Axton, holding out a paper bag to him.

Grabbing the food, Axton hands me the paper bag and pulls out of the drive-thru and onto the road to head home. Yet as he drives, I notice the car slowing down, and he then pulls over.

"Ah, why are we stopping?" I ask, stuffing a fry in my mouth. Axton growls, making me jump, and one of the boys makes a noise. Leaning across the seat, I put Bane's binky back in his mouth and turn to face the front.

Glancing at Axton, I see his eyes are glazed over and he is stuck in a mind link. His hands grip the steering wheel tightly and his knuckles press beneath his skin, making the skin look on the verge of splitting. I wait for the mind link to drop. He clenches his jaw and his eyes return to normal, and I hear him curse.

"Is everything alright?" Axton says nothing.

"Axton?"

"Everything is fine. I just need to go somewhere once I drop you and the boy's home," he tells me.

"So, something is wrong?" he glances at me but doesn't add any more on the subject when his phone starts ringing through the Bluetooth. He declines the call only for the number to ring again, flashing across the dash.

Officer Ben Carlton. Axton growls, hitting decline. Yet when it pops up again, I answer it. “Just take it!” I tell him, knowing it has to be important if he keeps calling, but pulls back onto the road and continues driving.

“Hello, Alpha?”

“Yes, Ben. I have heard already. I am dropping my mate off at home first. Tell them to wait!”

The officer clears his throat. “I have already sent them in.”

“Did Eli not ring you?”

“He did, but I had already sent them in. We’ve had so many reports come in and we linked them here.”

“And did you find them?”

“Yes, Alpha. You need to come in. Alpha Osiris is on his way with Alpha Thomas.”

“Excuse me? Tell them to wait; they are not to enter before Marco gets there. They trampled evidence last time!”

“Derrick is also headed in.”

“How does he know about it?”

“Thomas told him, Alpha, he was at the station when the call came in.”

“It’s fine, Axton, just go do whatever it is,” I tell him.

“How bad is it?” Axton asks.

“You need to come in.” Axton curses and shakes his head.

As we come toward the turnoff onto his territory, he turns the opposite way and mutters under his breath.

“I’ll be there in a minute!” he hangs up the call and I look at him for answers.

Coming around the next bend, I see the police cars all lined up out the front of one of Tieriny’s restaurants. Leaning forward in my seat, Axton’s entire demeanor has changed. Gone is the playfulness, and the Alpha has returned.

“I just need to go take a look at something,”

“Is it a robbery?”

“I’m not entirely sure, but wait in the car. Whatever it is, isn't good!” Axton tells me, pulling over between two cop cars. He climbs out, and I glance at the boys in the back of the car, wondering if Tieriny is ok. However, watching from the car, I grow increasingly nervous when I see one of the older officers talking to Axton, who keeps glancing at the doors to the restaurant.

He glances back at me in the car before quickly averting his gaze back to the officer when another comes staggering out the doors. Axton looks at him, but he rushes to the curb, throwing up in the gutter. Axton looks at him again and drops his head before disappearing inside the restaurant.

Waiting in the car, the boys start to grow antsy, and Axton has been inside for ten minutes when I see Alpha Osiris pull up. One of the officers tries to stop him from entering. He barges past, walking into the building followed by Alpha Thomas. Curiosity is killing me, and I notice ambulances pull up, but none enter and no one comes out.

“Axton said to wait here, Elena.” Lexa worries and I look at the boys.

“I just want to know what is going on, or if it will take too long, I will tell him I’ll head home,” I tell Lexa, opening the car door. However, the moment I do, one of the officers’ spots me and waves his hands at me.

“Back in the car, Luna!”

“What’s going on?” I ask, ignoring his Luna comment. The officer looks back at the doors to the restaurant and sighs.

“Just wait for Alpha to return,” he says, and I shake my head, suddenly feeling sick, and I close the door.

“Luna! Wait in the car.”

“Alpha, now wait with my boys!” I growl, and the officer looks at one of the senior officers, who nods to him. He walks over to me and I open the door.

“Sit with them for a second,” I tell him, and he nods.

“Yes, Luna.” Once again, I ignore his comment and head for the doors to search for Axton. Pushing the doors open, I step inside and am instantly smashed by the scent of blood and decaying flesh.

I gag, covering my mouth and nose, and look around the foyer before spotting officers through the glass double doors to my left. Walking over to them, I yank one open when Axton is suddenly in front of me, pushing me back out of them.