

Chapter 3

My father snarls and swings back at him. Axton moves quicker though, seeing it coming before hitting him again. His hands grab my father's shirt, ripping him toward him and headbutting him. The resounding crack of their heads clashing makes my teeth ache as my father goes down like a sack of potatoes. Cane erupts with laughter, making me look at him. He lifts his glass and nods.

"Well, I guess your mate doesn't hate you as much as I thought," he chuckles. Osiris groans and looks over at Axton, then shakes his head and lifts his hand, waving his guards over.

"Get him out," he orders, and they grab my father.

"Really, Axton, this better not be in the fucking papers tomorrow!" Osiris snaps.

"If it is, I'm sure your reputation will still stand, Osiris. You're good at putting the blame on others. Don't make out you didn't tell him where she was. Derrick knows better than to step into your establishments without permission." Axton snarls.

"No idea what you are talking about," Osiris says, yet the way his lips tug in the corners and his eyes flicker dangerously, I could see the snake he is beneath the facade. Some intuitive sense that I have just been set up filters through my thoughts.

"I was just being friendly." Osiris replies, his eyes moving to me.

"No, you were hoping to get back at me by fucking with my mate. Now, this will be your one and only warning. Elena is off limits. Pull this shit again, and I don't give a fuck how far up the supernatural council's ass you are. It won't stop me from killing you." Axton snarls, his tone ice-cold.

I have no idea what I have just gotten into the middle of, but something has clearly gone on between these two in the past. This plan to have a few drinks with me was far more sinister than just council members checking out the new Alpha and competition in the city.

Lexa, instead of urging me to escape Axton, is urging me to listen to what we are just witnessing. It makes me wonder if this is also why Axton followed me over here. Mostly I thought it was to drag me back and demand the boys, but seeing him now, I wonder if it were to see what Osiris was up to as well. He could have easily dragged me out the moment I stepped in here.

“I’m sure Elena can speak for herself about the company she keeps?” Osiris smirks at Axton and his eyes move to mine.

Axton growls, taking a step toward him when I grab his hand, lacing my fingers through his. He stops, his body tensing only fleetingly, certainly not enough for Osiris to notice. He squeezes my fingers.

“And now you know her answer.” Axton growls, lifting my hand slightly, and I step closer to him.

“Silly girl, you won’t last in the council if you aren’t playing on the right side of it. Being a woman, you’re at even more of a disadvantage. I was willing to help you.”

“This was a power play!” Lexa snarls angrily that we didn’t pick up on it. My father’s pack is the second largest and because I was so focused on Axton, I walked into a trap. One that could have seen me challenged for a title I am yet to claim within the city.

“Now that is where you are mistaken, Alpha. I am not disadvantaged. Once I take my title back, I step into power. I will hold the second-largest pack in this city. Therefore, you will be at a disadvantage. But you know that, that is why you invited me here.” he shrugs, neither denying nor admitting what he did.

“And you think you’re better off with him. That’s the only reason he wants you now, to take your pack. I would have let you be, Luna. He’ll just make you his bitch.” Osiris laughs, walking off before I can answer. Lexa growls angrily in my head. Axton shakes his head, tugging on my hand while I glare after the man.

“Well, I guess he showed his true colors. I guess I’ll come with you lot then! I thought he liked me. Now, I’m wondering if he liked me a little too much. I ain’t nobody’s bitch, and certainly not interested in the D!” Cane chuckles, hopping off his stool. He stumbles, making me wonder how much he has drunk in such a short time. I reach out and grab his arm when Axton growls at me.

He grabs Cane's arm to steady him. "This political shit is hard. I should have stuck with mechanics. But noooooo, Dad and Pete had to just die on me, making me Alpha!" Cane huffs.

"I tried to warn you, Cane."

"That you did, Alpha Axton." he slurs.

"Eli!" Axton calls out, and he instantly rushes over, grabbing Cane's other arm from me.

"Man, what is in those drinks? I think he was planning on making me his bitch. I think he slipped something into my drink. Thank the Goddess you're here, Axton. My ass isn't bitch material." Cane slurs.

"As if I would let my mate wander off with the likes of him, and you. Don't think I didn't catch you checking her out!"

"Guilty, but I'm harmless, you know that."

"Luckily for you, I do know that," Axton tells him before glancing around and waving his hand at Eli.

"Eli, make sure he gets home, and organize his patrols to be on the lookout."

"Lookout for what, you think he likes my ass that much?" Cane snickers.

"No, but Alpha Osiris is up to something, and Elder Stiles has been missing for a few weeks since he returned, we can't be too careful." Axton answers. Elder Stiles is missing? I have so many questions which the man of the hour, Axton, seems to have the answers to. I don't really feel like getting into another argument with him, so I know those answers will have to wait. But it makes me wonder if mom knows because she never mentioned he was missing.

Alpha Cane stumbles. "Maybe we should—" I begin to offer my father's warriors to patrol Cane's borders.

"No, Eli will handle it, and take care of him."

"Wait, you think Osiris did something to his drink?"

“No, Cane doesn’t drink, his father was a bad alcoholic. Yet, he has stepped into a role he was hoping would be left to his older brother. Unfortunately, Osiris got to him before I could,” Axton answers as we watch Eli haul him out.

“Then why would he drink?” I ask and Axton sighs, glancing around before he looks back at me. “Not here,” he mutters, wrapping his arm around my waist and tugging me closer. Axton leads me out of the club and back toward the council chambers.

“Alpha Cane?” I ask.

“His father and brother were both killed a few weeks back in a car accident. Cane has never wanted the title. It was forced on him. I tried to warn him off Osiris, but Cane thought Osiris was just being friendly. Osiris doesn’t do friendly, so you need to steer clear of him.”

“Okay.” I tell him, a little disappointed I didn’t see through his facade, though Lexa was on edge, the moment we stepped into the club with them.

“Okay?” Axton stops in his tracks to look at me.

“Huh?” I ask, confused.

“You’ll stay away from him?” after what he told me; I would be insane not to! Why would I question that? I don’t trust any of them anyway, though Cane does seem harmless.

“I’m nobody’s bitch.” I tell him. Axton smirks.

“No, you’re not. But I still thought you would disagree since I said it,” he chuckles.

“So, I shouldn’t agree. Should I go back? Maybe I should. He did say I could be his Luna?” I mock and turn. Axton growls, and his arm tugs me back to him.

“You’re only allowed to be my Luna, nobody else’s,” he snarls.

“Calm your farm. I am nobody’s Luna. Not unless you want to be a Lupha.” I chuckle.

“A what?” I shake my head, not willing to repeat what Michelle keeps calling him behind his back.

Axton’s brows furrow, and I become very aware of the fact that he still has me in his grasp when I should be trying to get back to the boys. He is supposed to have them for

the weekend. That thought suddenly saddens me, knowing I am handing them over, but I have enough battles on my hands and custody is not one I want to add to the list.