

Confusing Dreams Pt. 1

Chase watched Lexi waiting for her to open her eyes. Her eyes were moving back and forth quickly. I linked Matt, "Do we have reports for our other allies? Did anyone nd a dead body?" Matt said, "Nope, nothing. Alpha Kyle's people saw a blur of someone go by them. They didn't get a good look. They weren't sure which border it came from. Either Alpha Theo or Alpha Raven. Neither have reported anything unusual." I sighed. What the hell was Lexi doing there? After several hours her eyes ew open and she sat up seemingly unable to breath. I told her I had her. She looked at me with wide eyes. I told her she'd passed out, and Heath came by. I wanted her to know he'd look into the letter. Lexi seemed to have multiple thoughts going through her brain. She shook herself and said it had been a crazy night. It was Halloween. I suppose that crazy was to be expected. I was exhausted. Lexi said she'd been running all over the place tonight. I was still confused about where she'd been. Alpha Kyle had no reports of anyone dead in his area. Neither did anyone else. We should have heard if someone was missing. Yet nothing. I asked her how everything went, and she said it went well. So someone was dead somewhere.... It couldn't be some insignificant person. Heath wouldn't send her after someone who wasn't important. Why didn't we have a single report? I decided to switch gears. I wanted to know why the Black Arrow was ghting with Lexi's brother for Sophia's pack. Lexi thought it was suspicious too about her brother. Their two best ghters were protecting Sophia's pack. It had to be more than a border thing. But what? Does Sophia have some secret deal with the Hood? If so, why the f**k wouldn't she give me my damn annulment?

Lexi asked if I thought it was weird that Sophia's father got sick. Ah... So Heath had shared his theory with her. I had planned to speak to Alpha Conners tomorrow about Allister. Matt had scheduled the call with Beta Caleb. There's no way Alpha Eric would have let that go though. He can't suspect there was foul play, but with the way it had been put to me.... Maybe there was. Lexi asked if we saw Allister when he was sick. Our people did see him often. They were on our border. We had to help them make sure their borders were secure. It wasn't a secret his pack was in trouble because he was dying and they opposed a woman leading; however, as much as some opposed Sophia taking over, they didn't want an outsider to take their pack either. I can't believe no one investigated his death. There had to be a reason for that. I honestly never cared to ask.

Lexi changed the subject all together saying she'd like to talk to my dad. I didn't like that one bit. I had told him to stay away from her, but if she wanted to talk to him.... I couldn't deny her that. Or anything. GOD, I was so whipped. I couldn't even found an ounce of myself that gave a single f**k. I didn't want to think about her talking to my dad though. I put that out of my mind and fell asleep. Matt linked me, "Our mates are texting." I didn't open my eyes but listened. I could hear Lexi typing on her phone. I linked Matt back, "About what?" Matt said, "I don't know. I'm throwing in fake snores. I was asleep until Ted's phone went off." I said, "Why don't you tell him you're awake?" Matt said, "Because he's working through some anxiety. I'm not sure if he wants me to help or not, and I was exhausted. I fought rogues tonight, and thought I'd lost your damn dad. Only to nd... OH the damn Black Arrow fast as f**k picked him up and ran him home. My heart rate has NOT calmed down since we reached the area your dad was in, but nowhere to be found. Nadine was FRANTIC. We are all lucky Susie was sleeping. We knew your dad was in trouble, in pain, and then we couldn't f****g nd him. I thought he'd been taken prisoner, and that I'd have to tell you that. I AM TIRED!"

I barely held a laugh back. I linked him, "Go to sleep then. FYI I was asleep until you linked me. I had a night myself. How did you know it was Lexi that Ted was texting?" Matt linked, "The ringtone. Ted has ringtones assigned for everyone. Lexi's is Me and My girls by Fifth harmony. I hear it all the DAMN time because they talk ALL the damn time." It was getting harder and harder not to laugh. Lexi put her phone down and shot into the bathroom. I opened my eyes and held back yet another laugh. This was when she was sneaking candy. When I was asleep. I closed my eyes and she quietly got back into bed. I pulled her to me. I fell asleep quickly. I heard a giggle. I opened my eyes and saw the Black Arrow standing in front of me. I looked around, "Where's Lexi?" The Black Arrow laughed, "She is around. Closer than you could ever know." I said, "Huh?" The Black Arrow sighed, "She gets you all the time. It's my turn." I frowned, "Turn for what? Actually, I wanted to thank you. First, you saved our Beta Male, and then my father. Truly... I cannot thank you enough for either action. My father...He means the world to me. Even though I'm mad at him." She smiled seductively and straddled me. Oh God.... no. I was getting hard. She leaned down and whispered in my ear, "How grateful are you?" I gulped, "Umm...I have a mate..It's actua...". Her lips cut me off. I couldn't help but respond. Her lips t perfectly on mine. She ground against me. She yanked my head to the side and bit my neck hard. I growled and pulled her face back to mine. I kissed her on the lips again. I need to taste them on mine again. I was craving her lips. They felt so familiar and right. She groaned, "Oh come on!" I was confused. I was about to ask her what was going on when she dug her nails into me. I stared at her in shock. What happened? She screamed, and my eyes ew open.

Guilt hit me like a freight train. Lexi was digging her nails into me. She was screaming and crying. I am the worst f****g mate of all time. I'm having a s*x dream about one of her people, and she's locked in some damn nightmare. I'd never been so ashamed of myself in my entire life. I let Lexi scratch me for several minutes. I tried to coax her awake, but gently wasn't doing it. Finally I yelled her name trying to get her to come around. She nally opened her beautiful eyes. I could see the guilt in her eyes when she looked at my arms. She had nothing to be sorry for. I deserved this and more. How could I ever want anyone but her? She was perfect, and I was an ass. I told her I'd heal. I wanted to know what her dream was about. It made me feel even worse. She was dreaming about her mother getting murdered, and I was about to get it on with the Black f****g Arrow. I was getting hard again. I linked Bolt, "What the HELL is wrong with us?" Bolt was quiet then said, "I don't know. Can we have two mates? I feel drawn to them both." I said, "No... because it's bad enough we are married. Haley will MURDER me if I try to have Lexi and the Black Arrow. I can't do that to Lexi." Bolt whimpered, "Neither can I. I don't want mate to be upset. Maybe...if we marked her...it would stop. Maybe the Black Arrow is our second chance mate." Oh f**k me. That would actually make sense. GOD DAMN IT! Could something in my life be simple. I shoved that aside. I was going to stay far away from the Black Arrow. I might ban the mention of her in my oce even.

I offered to help Lexi nd her family. Honestly, I needed something to make me feel like less of a shitty mate. She declined though. She wasn't even sure she wanted to meet them. I could tell she did want to. She was just angry. She had every right to be. They were awful to her and Heath by abandoning them all this time. I hoped they had a hell of a reason for keeping their distance. It wasn't out of the realm of possibility they were told to stay away. Maybe they were told Lexi and Heath didn't want to see them because their parents didn't like them. I don't know. There had to be a reason though. She mentioned Heath really could've used guidance from her father's family. Which they absolutely would've known. Heath did just ne though. He's known as a great leader. I asked who he leaned on most. I was going to guess it was Noah's f****g dad and Ted's. I was right. I was leery of Noah's dad. His son was crazy, and that could make him some I'd watch too. Or at minimum he wasn't a bad person, but he could be hiding his son. Not wanting Heath or I didn't kill him. He could know where Noah was hiding though. I looked at the time. My dad would be up. I asked if she still wanted to talk to him. My call with Alpha Eric was soon. I could give them privacy. Isaac would still be there, and he could tell me what happened. Lexi conrmed she still wanted to talk to my dad. Of course she did. I went downstairs and made us both breakfast. I really felt it was the least I should do. Make her breakfast. Nothing says I'm sorry I almost f****d your friend in a dream like scrambled eggs...Right? I was such a dead man. Haley was GOING to kill me dead.

Lexi ran back upstairs to get dressed. I followed her. She grabbed another one of my hoodies. I loved that she liked being in them so much. I loved seeing her in them. It screamed that she was mine. Lexi asked me why I was staring. I just loved seeing her in my clothes. She simply said they smell like me. I was so happy that my scent calmed her and made her happy. She made me happy. Bolt said, "Until we dream about her friend at night." I said, "SHUT UP! Lexi DOES make us happy." Bolt said, "I know. I think this could all be solved if we mark mate." I blocked him out and grabbed Lexi's hand. I linked Nadine, "Where's dad?" Nadine answered, "He's still in the hospital." I tensed, "Is he ok?" Nadine said, "He's as mad as a hornet that I'm making him stay until this afternoon. I want the doctors to make sure he's ok." I smiled, "You're a good mate Nadine." She said, "Well.... thank you, Chase." I led Lexi into the hospital. She was concerned my dad was still here. I explained the situation to her. Matt linked me, "Where are you we need to...Never mind I smell you." He stepped out of my dad's room and told Lexi he needed to borrow me. I kissed Lexi quickly, and Matt and I left. We ran to my oce. Derrick looked sad. I said, "Derrick?" Derrick sighed, "Sally is supposed to be back today, but I feel nothing. What if she's not my mate?" Matt said, "She's not back. Ted would host a party and link me about drinking mimosas. In fact. I'll just conrm it for you Derrick." Matt was silent for several moments. He smiled, "Sally is not back." Derrick looked relieved then frowned, "Why not?" Matt shrugged, "Maybe she wanted to spend some more time there? Ted told me she's cooking. Maybe their cook had her baby, and Sally ofered to stay for a bit." Derrick huffed, "She's perfect like that."

I laughed. Our phone rang. "Alpha Chase." The reply came, "It's Alpha Eric. This had BETTER be good. My beta pulled me away from my mate for this call." I heard Beta Caleb short, "Damn rabbit." I said, "Alpha Allister.... it's been brought to my attention. His death is odd." Alpha Eric was silent, "It was believed he dosed himself with silver on purpose to kill himself." Matt and I exchanged glances, "He did chemo for his cancer though. Why not just let it kill him?" Derrick said, "He couldn't have been trying to kill himself. Alpha Allister told my dad he wanted to be there for Sophia when she took over for several years to quiet any unrest about her leading their pack...." He trailed off. Alpha Eric growled, "Are we saying.... we've possibly let the MURDER of one of our allies go unavenged for almost four years." I said, "We are saying it's a possibility." I heard groans on the other end. Alpha Eric said, "Come to think of it... of f**k it all to hell and back." I frowned, "What?" Alpha Eric said, "Martha and Allister died. Beta Alfred Senior's mate died. Before Wyatt was made a former Gamma... his father and mother died. That's a hell of a lot of people dying in charge over there." I gaped, "Well, I don't know how Sophia's mom died, but Wyatt's parents died in a rogue attack." Alpha Eric said, "Supposedly. The rogues were never tracked down." I rubbed my head, "I really just called to tell you I think we should look into Alpha Allister's death. Now we are talking about.... what? A revenge plot happening in their pack?" Alpha Eric said, "Or a coup. Made to not look like a coup." Matt said, "Fuck." Alpha Eric said, "Indeed." We came up with a plan of how to quietly look into this. We didn't want to alert anyone if this was some massive conspiracy to kill off the higher ups.

We hung up. I slammed my hands on the table, "I'm not telling Sophia this s**t. She'll NEVER f****g sign the annulment papers." Derrick winced, "She does have a right to know her dad was murdered." I said, "If we get proof. We will tell her. DAMN IT! We can't even have Ted ask Wyatt about it because he'd f****g tell Sophia." Matt said, "Unless he already knows." I sighed, "I don't think he'd keep that to himself. Or that anyone would tell him. Someone obviously knew he was in love with her." Derrick coughed, "Everyone." I said, "What?" Derrick said, "Everyone knew man. He's always been gaga over her." I said, "No one told me that!" Matt laughed, "Why would you care? It's not like you had eyes on her ever." I sighed, "You're right." We stepped outside my oce. Nadine and Isaac were talking. My eyes went wide, "Isaac, I thought you were with Lexi and my dad." Nadine said, "Frank and Lexi are talking? Oh that's great! I mean...why do you look like that's a good thing Chase?" I said, "Oh gee, I don't know... their last interactions they had alone he bugged her, then accosted her telling her to stay away from me. I wonder what jolly good times this visit will bring." Nadine frowned, "He won't do anything." I snorted, "Since he's not currently able to get out of bed to try to chain her down.... oh f**k! Come on!" Isaac said, "He won't hurt her Chase. You know that." I did know that. I wasn't worried about that. Matt linked, "You are worried he'll spill the Sophia beans." I said, "Yes or that he will CHAIN her to the wall to try to keep her here." Matt said, "As someone who saw their rst round of ghting. She'd just run away. Maybe chain him up instead."

Ted was waiting outside the house, "Hey Matt you ready for my dinner with my family? What is wrong with you two?" I said, "Matt, explain while we run to stop this conversation from continuing." Matt quickly explained. Ted laughed, "Oh come on. Lexi's too smart for that. She'd have told him she didn't want to know. Your dad is too afraid to f**k up with her again. If that was his rst strike, then sure. He might swing at that, but he wants her to like him now. He won't tell her." I didn't have the same faith Ted had. We rounded the corner and ran into the hospital. I quickly walked into my dad's room. Lexi looked from me to Matt to Ted. She asked if I was ok. I linked my dad, "Did you tell her?" My dad said, "Be more specic son. I told her a lot of things." My heart sank. I looked at Lexi, but she didn't seem anything but concerned about me. I linked, "About Sophia." My dad said, "I didn't. She told me she didn't want to know about your, as she calls it, situation. You should tell her Chase. She belongs here with you." I ignored him and asked Lexi if everything was ok. She was confused on what would be wrong. Oh... so many things could've gone wrong. I thought Isaac would've stayed. Lexi's eyes were practically laughing at me as she pointed out Isaac wasn't my dad, and that's who she wanted to talk to my dad. I linked my dad, "What do you guys talk about?" My dad said, "A lot of things. Some are between her and I." I said, "Don't pull that." My dad said, "Her request son." I said, "Come on... really?" My dad smirked, "Ask her." Lexi told me they'd started over. A strange happiness settled into my chest. A worry I didn't even know I had lifted from my shoulders. She was amazing. I kissed her.

Matt linked me, "Worst. Kept. Secret. Ever. Your dad already knows, but now he knows that he knows beyond a shadow of a doubt." I pulled down from Lexi as Isaac came in. I linked Matt, "The Conners are the one who can't know." Matt snorted, "They can't know that they know for certain because they for DAMN sure know but haven't conrmed it. I'm sure Alpha Eric will punch you one day soon for making it so damn hard for him not to officially know you met Lexi." Ted and Lexi spoke which my dad found entertaining. Lexi said goodbye to my dad, then turned right back around. She walked over and took his phone. Matt linked, "Clean slate means exchanging phone numbers? I don't even have her damn number. What the hell happened in here?" I linked, "I don't know. I know that she always wanted to close to her strings family." Lexi and my dad exchanged nods. Matt linked, "Oh I think something is up." I said, "I do too, but we can gure it out later. In the meantime...they are bonding. I thought that was going to be an uphill battle." I asked Lexi about it when we left, and she conrmed what I thought. She wanted to start over because of her desire to be part of a family. It made me want to hunt her family down and kick all their asses. As soon as I got her back to her place, I got her naked. I needed to be inside her. We spent the rest of the day together. We eventually fell asleep.

"Wakey, Wakey Chase." I heard a distorted voice. I groaned, "No, I'm sleeping." BA laughed, "Come on!" I opened my eyes. She sat in front of me. I scooted away. I told her, "I love Lexi." BA tilted her head, "I know." I said, "I'm not cheating on her." BA said, "It's a dream. Not real life. If you told Lexi about your dream.... she might just laugh." I stared at her as if she'd lost her mind. "You don't understand women then. She's my mate. I love her. I'm sorry if you're my second chance mate, but I love her. I'm not giving her up." BA laughed, "Men are so clueless. Your subconscious is trying to tell you something, and you're ignoring it. Typical." I frowned, "Tell me what?" BA moved closer to me. In a ash she was in my lap. She bit my ear, "I can't just tell you. You have to gure it out." I leaned into her for a second before I stood up and ran away. "NO! Stop this! I love Lexi." BA sighed, "Yes, yes, I know. Maybe you love me too." I shook my head, "No, I don't even know you." BA smiled, "Don't you? You have to admit you're intrigued by me though." I wanted to deny that, but I couldn't. "I don't care that you intrigue me. I will NEVER hurt Lexi." BA sighed, "You do care that I intrigue you. That's part of why I'm here. I already told you, Lexi would laugh about your dream." I said, "I already told you she wouldn't." BA laughed, "I think I know her better than you do." I said, "You may be her friend, but she's my mate. I won't hurt her." BA snorted, "I'm more than a friend." With that I woke up. Now I was completely confused. Did Lexi and BA have a kind of past? Did they have a ing to help her get over Noah? What the HELL was going on? Maybe Matt could ask Ted. THAT'S IT! Stupid Chase. "Bolt, where were you with that idea?" Bolt huffed, "I'm just confused. I don't understand what's going on." Yeah well, he could get in line.

When Lexi woke up, she was clearly worried about something. I asked she know I'm having a dream about the Black Arrow? Was I talking in my sleep? I asked if she was ok. She said yes, but it was a clear brush off. I probed if she had a big event. She said no that she was planning on going to the shroud today. I sighed in relief. She was anxious about going to her home. That made since she barely went, and the last time she did Ted's mom almost died. I kissed her goodbye when we reached her car. I shifted and ran to the house. Kincaide linked me, "The Luna is going to shroud. We aren't allowed to go because her brother doesn't know about you. See I nd that curious because he DOES know about you. I saw him the other night. Can't you call him?" I said, "I'll call him." Kincaide said, "Let us know." I ran inside. My dad was waiting. I said, "Give me second dad." He nodded and I went into my oce. I quickly dialed the number I had for Heath. "Hello." I frowned, "Who is this?" A man said, "Isaiah." I said, "I wanted to speak to Heath." "Isaiah said, "On the anniversary of his parent's death Heath leaves the shroud. He'll be back later this week." Isaiah hung up. I sat in my car. My dad's death. I said, "That's why she's so damn anxious. It's the anniversary of her parent's death. GOD! I am SUCH an ass!" Matt said, "Mark and Joanie are pissed they can't go." I frowned, "They could. You are ocial with Ted. He'd just have to ask Heath...which apparently no one can do. Because he's gone." I linked Kincaide, "Heath is apparently unreachable." Kincaide sighed, "Fine." Matt shrugged, "Sound like Heath has a thing he does.... Maybe Ted does something with Lexi." I said, "I didn't get the impression Lexi was around much after she turned eighteen." Matt shrugged again, "Moving on from that can of worms. Why do you think you're an ass?" Derrick walked into my oce.

I groaned, "I don't want to talk about it." Matt snorted, "Now we HAVE to know what that's about." I said, "I'm having dreams.... about the Black Arrow. Sometimes s**** dreams. Bolt thinks she's our second chance mate. He thinks because I haven't marked Lexi that bond feels like we have a chance or something." Both gaped at me. Derrick said, "You have to mark her man." I said, "Not yet. I've never even met the Black Arrow." Matt said, "But you're dreaming about her." I said, "I told her I won't hurt Lexi." Matt said, "So let me tell this straight. You told the Black Arrow in your dream that you wouldn't hurt Lexi? Brilliant. What did your subconscious say back?" I sighed, "That Lexi would laugh if I told her about my dream." Derrick said, "Your subconscious is trying to f**k you over." I snorted, "Tell me about it."

I linked Matt, "Do we have reports for our other allies? Did anyone nd a dead body?" Matt said, "Nope, nothing. Alpha Kyle's people saw a blur of someone go by them. They didn't get a good look. They weren't sure which border it came from. Either Alpha Theo or Alpha Raven. Neither have reported anything unusual." I sighed. What the hell was Lexi doing there? After several hours her eyes ew open and she sat up seemingly unable to breath. I told her I had her. She looked at me with wide eyes. I told her she'd passed out, and Heath came by. I wanted her to know he'd look into the letter. Lexi seemed to have multiple thoughts going through her brain. She shook herself and said it had been a crazy night. It was Halloween. I suppose that crazy was to be expected. I was exhausted. Lexi said she'd been running all over the place tonight. I was still confused about where she'd been. Alpha Kyle had no reports of anyone dead in his area. Neither did anyone else. We should have heard if someone was missing. Yet nothing. I asked her how everything went, and she said it went well. So someone was dead somewhere.... It couldn't be some insignificant person. Heath wouldn't send her after someone who wasn't important. Why didn't we have a single report? I decided to switch gears. I wanted to know why the Black Arrow was ghting with Lexi's brother for Sophia's pack. Lexi thought it was suspicious too about her brother. Their two best ghters were protecting Sophia's pack. It had to be more than a border thing. But what? Does Sophia have some secret deal with the Hood? If so, why the f**k wouldn't she give me my damn annulment?

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Guilt hit me like a freight train. Lexi was digging her nails into me. She was screaming and crying. I am the worst f****g mate of all time. I'm having a s*x dream about one of her people, and she's locked in some damn nightmare. I'd never been so ashamed of myself in my entire life. I let Lexi scratch me for several minutes. I tried to coax her awake, but gently wasn't doing it. Finally I yelled her name trying to get her to come around. She nally opened her beautiful eyes. I could see the guilt in her eyes when she looked at my arms. She had nothing to be sorry for. I deserved this and more. How could I ever want anyone but her? She was perfect, and I was an ass. I told her I'd heal. I wanted to know what her dream was about. It made me feel even worse. She was dreaming about her mother getting murdered, and I was about to get it on with the Black f****g Arrow. I was getting hard again. I linked Bolt, "What the HELL is wrong with us?" Bolt was quiet then said, "I don't know. Can we have two mates? I feel drawn to them both." I said, "No... because it's bad enough we are married. Haley will MURDER me if I try to have Lexi and the Black Arrow. I can't do that to Lexi." Bolt whimpered, "Neither can I. I don't want mate to be upset. Maybe...if we marked her...it would stop. Maybe the Black Arrow is our second chance mate." Oh f**k me. That would actually make sense. GOD DAMN IT! Could something in my life be simple. I shoved that aside. I was going to stay far away from the Black Arrow. I might ban the mention of her in my oce even.

I offered to help Lexi nd her family. Honestly, I needed something to make me feel like less of a shitty mate. She declined though. She wasn't even sure she wanted to meet them. I could tell she did want to. She was just angry. She had every right to be. They were awful to her and Heath by abandoning them all this time. I hoped they had a hell of a reason for keeping their distance. It wasn't out of the realm of possibility they were told to stay away. Maybe they were told Lexi and Heath didn't want to see them because their parents didn't like them. I don't know. There had to be a reason though. She mentioned Heath really could've used guidance from her father's family. Which they absolutely would've known. Heath did just ne though. He's known as a great leader. I asked who he leaned on most. I was going to guess it was Noah's f****g dad and Ted's. I was right. I was leery of Noah's dad. His son was crazy, and that could make him some I'd watch too. Or at minimum he wasn't a bad person, but he could be hiding his son. Not wanting Heath or I didn't kill him. He could know where Noah was hiding though. I looked at the time. My dad would be up. I asked if she still wanted to talk to him. My call with Alpha Eric was soon. I could give them privacy. Isaac would still be there, and he could tell me what happened. Lexi conrmed she still wanted to talk to my dad. Of course she did. I went downstairs and made us both breakfast. I really felt it was the least I should do. Make her breakfast. Nothing says I'm sorry I almost f****d your friend in a dream like scrambled eggs...Right? I was such a dead man. Haley was GOING to kill me dead.

Lexi ran back upstairs to get dressed. I followed her. She grabbed another one of my hoodies. I loved that she liked being in them so much. I loved seeing her in them. It screamed that she was mine. Lexi asked me why I was staring. I just loved seeing her in my clothes. She simply said they smell like me. I was so happy that my scent calmed her and made her happy. She made me happy. Bolt said, "Until we dream about her friend at night." I said, "SHUT UP! Lexi DOES make us happy." Bolt said, "I know. I think this could all be solved if we mark mate." I blocked him out and grabbed Lexi's hand. I linked Nadine, "Where's dad?" Nadine answered, "He's still in the hospital." I tensed, "Is he ok?" Nadine said, "He's as mad as a hornet that I'm making him stay until this afternoon. I want the doctors to make sure he's ok." I smiled, "You're a good mate Nadine." She said, "Well.... thank you, Chase." I led Lexi into the hospital. She was concerned my dad was still here. I explained the situation to her. Matt linked me, "Where are you we need to...Never mind I smell you." He stepped out of my dad's room and told Lexi he needed to borrow me. I kissed Lexi quickly, and Matt and I left. We ran to my oce. Derrick looked sad. I said, "Derrick?" Derrick sighed, "Sally is supposed to be back today, but I feel nothing. What if she's not my mate?" Matt said, "She's not back. Ted would host a party and link me about drinking mimosas. In fact. I'll just conrm it for you Derrick." Matt was silent for several moments. He smiled, "Sally is not back." Derrick looked relieved then frowned, "Why not?" Matt shrugged, "Maybe she wanted to spend some more time there? Ted told me she's cooking. Maybe their cook had her baby, and Sally ofered to stay for a bit." Derrick huffed, "She's perfect like that."

I laughed. Our phone rang. "Alpha Chase." The reply came, "It's Alpha Eric. This had BETTER be good. My beta pulled me away from my mate for this call." I heard Beta Caleb short, "Damn rabbit." I said, "Alpha Allister.... it's been brought to my attention. His death is odd." Alpha Eric was silent, "It was believed he dosed himself with silver on purpose to kill himself." Matt and I exchanged glances, "He did chemo for his cancer though. Why not just let it kill him?" Derrick said, "He couldn't have been trying to kill himself. Alpha Allister told my dad he wanted to be there for Sophia when she took over for several years to quiet any unrest about her leading their pack...." He trailed off. Alpha Eric growled, "Are we saying.... we've possibly let the MURDER of one of our allies go unavenged for almost four years." I said, "We are saying it's a possibility." I heard groans on the other end. Alpha Eric said, "Come to think of it... of f**k it all to hell and back." I frowned, "What?" Alpha Eric said, "Martha and Allister died. Beta Alfred Senior's mate died. Before Wyatt was made a former Gamma... his father and mother died. That's a hell of a lot of people dying in charge over there." I gaped, "Well, I don't know how Sophia's mom died, but Wyatt's parents died in a rogue attack." Alpha Eric said, "Supposedly. The rogues were never tracked down." I rubbed my head, "I really just called to tell you I think we should look into Alpha Allister's death. Now we are talking about.... what? A revenge plot happening in their pack?" Alpha Eric said, "Or a coup. Made to not look like a coup." Matt said, "Fuck." Alpha Eric said, "Indeed." We came up with a plan of how to quietly look into this. We didn't want to alert anyone if this was some massive conspiracy to kill off the higher ups.

We hung up. I slammed my hands on the table, "I'm not telling Sophia this s**t. She'll NEVER f****g sign the annulment papers." Derrick winced, "She does have a right to know her dad was murdered." I said, "If we get proof. We will tell her. DAMN IT! We can't even have Ted ask Wyatt about it because he'd f****g tell Sophia." Matt said, "Unless he already knows." I sighed, "I don't think he'd keep that to himself. Or that anyone would tell him. Someone obviously knew he was in love with her." Derrick coughed, "Everyone." I said, "What?" Derrick said, "Everyone knew man. He's always been gaga over her." I said, "No one told me that!" Matt laughed, "Why would you care? It's not like you had eyes on her ever." I sighed, "You're right." We stepped outside my oce. Nadine and Isaac were talking. My eyes went wide, "Isaac, I thought you were with Lexi and my dad." Nadine said, "Frank and Lexi are talking? Oh that's great! I mean...why do you look like that's a good thing Chase?" I said, "Oh gee, I don't know... their last interactions they had alone he bugged her, then accosted her telling her to stay away from me. I wonder what jolly good times this visit will bring." Nadine frowned, "He won't do anything." I snorted, "Since he's not currently able to get out of bed to try to chain her down.... oh f**k! Come on!" Isaac said, "He won't hurt her Chase. You know that." I did know that. I wasn't worried about that. Matt linked, "You are worried he'll spill the Sophia beans." I said, "Yes or that he will CHAIN her to the wall to try to keep her here." Matt said, "As someone who saw their rst round of ghting. She'd just run away. Maybe chain him up instead."

Ted was waiting outside the house, "Hey Matt you ready for my dinner with my family? What is wrong with you two?" I said, "Matt, explain while we run to stop this conversation from continuing." Matt quickly explained. Ted laughed, "Oh come on. Lexi's too smart for that. She'd have told him she didn't want to know. Your dad is too afraid to f**k up with her again. If that was his rst strike, then sure. He might swing at that, but he wants her to like him now. He won't tell her." I didn't have the same faith Ted had. We rounded the corner and ran into the hospital. I quickly walked into my dad's room. Lexi looked from me to Matt to Ted. She asked if I was ok. I linked my dad, "Did you tell her?" My dad said, "Be more specic son. I told her a lot of things." My heart sank. I looked at Lexi, but she didn't seem anything but concerned about me. I linked, "About Sophia." My dad said, "I didn't. She told me she didn't want to know about your, as she calls it, situation. You should tell her Chase. She belongs here with you." I ignored him and asked Lexi if everything was ok. She was confused on what would be wrong. Oh... so many things could've gone wrong. I thought Isaac would've stayed. Lexi's eyes were practically laughing at me as she pointed out Isaac wasn't my dad, and that's who she wanted to talk to my dad. I linked my dad, "What do you guys talk about?" My dad said, "A lot of things. Some are between her and I." I said, "Don't pull that." My dad said, "Her request son." I said, "Come on... really?" My dad smirked, "Ask her." Lexi told me they'd started over. A strange happiness settled into my chest. A worry I didn't even know I had lifted from my shoulders. She was amazing. I kissed her.

Matt linked me, "Worst. Kept. Secret. Ever. Your dad already knows, but now he knows that he knows beyond a shadow of a doubt." I pulled down from Lexi as Isaac came in. I linked Matt, "The Conners are the one who can't know." Matt snorted, "They can't know that they know for certain because they for DAMN sure know but haven't conrmed it. I'm sure Alpha Eric will punch you one day soon for making it so damn hard for him not to officially know you met Lexi." Ted and Lexi spoke which my dad found entertaining. Lexi said goodbye to my dad, then turned right back around. She walked over and took his phone. Matt linked, "Clean slate means exchanging phone numbers? I don't even have her damn number. What the hell happened in here?" I linked, "I don't know. I know that she always wanted to close to her strings family." Lexi and my dad exchanged nods. Matt linked, "Oh I think something is up." I said, "I do too, but we can gure it out later. In the meantime...they are bonding. I thought that was going to be an uphill battle." I asked Lexi about it when we left, and she conrmed what I thought. She wanted to start over because of her desire to be part of a family. It made me want to hunt her family down and kick all their asses. As soon as I got her back to her place, I got her naked. I needed to be inside her. We spent the rest of the day together. We eventually fell asleep.

"Wakey, Wakey Chase." I heard a distorted voice. I groaned, "No, I'm sleeping." BA laughed, "Come on!" I opened my eyes. She sat in front of me. I scooted away. I told her, "I love Lexi." BA tilted her head, "I know." I said, "I'm not cheating on her." BA said, "It's a dream. Not real life. If you told Lexi about your dream.... she might just laugh." I stared at her as if she'd lost her mind. "You don't understand women then. She's my mate. I love her. I'm sorry if you're my second chance mate, but I love her. I'm not giving her up." BA laughed, "Men are so clueless. Your subconscious is trying to tell you something, and you're ignoring it. Typical." I frowned, "Tell me what?" BA moved closer to me. In a ash she was in my lap. She bit my ear, "I can't just tell you. You have to gure it out." I leaned into her for a second before I stood up and ran away. "NO! Stop this! I love Lexi." BA sighed, "Yes, yes, I know. Maybe you love me too." I shook my head, "No, I don't even know you." BA smiled, "Don't you? You have to admit you're intrigued by me though." I wanted to deny that, but I couldn't. "I don't care that you intrigue me. I will NEVER hurt Lexi." BA sighed, "You do care that I intrigue you. That's part of why I'm here. I already told you, Lexi would laugh about your dream." I said, "I already told you she wouldn't." BA laughed, "I think I know her better than you do." I said, "You may be her friend, but she's my mate. I won't hurt her." BA snorted, "I'm more than a friend." With that I woke up. Now I was completely confused. Did Lexi and BA have a kind of past? Did they have a ing to help her get over Noah? What the HELL was going on? Maybe Matt could ask Ted. THAT'S IT! Stupid Chase. "Bolt, where were you with that idea?" Bolt huffed, "I'm just confused. I don't understand what's going on." Yeah well, he could get in line.

When Lexi woke up, she was clearly worried about something. I asked she know I'm having a dream about the Black Arrow? Was I talking in my sleep? I asked if she was ok. She said yes, but it was a clear brush off. I probed if she had a big event. She said no that she was planning on going to the shroud today. I sighed in relief. She was anxious about going to her home. That made since she barely went, and the last time she did Ted's mom almost died. I kissed her goodbye when we reached her car. I shifted and ran to the house. Kincaide linked me, "The Luna is going to shroud. We aren't allowed to go because her brother doesn't know about you. See I nd that curious because he DOES know about you. I saw him the other night. Can't you call him?" I said, "I'll call him." Kincaide said, "Let us know." I ran inside. My dad was waiting. I said, "Give me second dad." He nodded and I went into my oce. I quickly dialed the number I had for Heath. "Hello." I frowned, "Who is this?" A man said, "Isaiah." I said, "I wanted to speak to Heath." "Isaiah said, "On the anniversary of his parent's death Heath leaves the shroud. He'll be back later this week." Isaiah hung up. I sat in my car. My dad's death. I said, "That's why she's so damn anxious. It's the anniversary of her parent's death. GOD! I am SUCH an ass!" Matt said, "Mark and Joanie are pissed they can't go." I frowned, "They could. You are ocial with Ted. He'd just have to ask Heath...which apparently no one can do. Because he's gone." I linked Kincaide, "Heath is apparently unreachable." Kincaide sighed, "Fine." Matt shrugged, "Sound like Heath has a thing he does.... Maybe Ted does something with Lexi." I said, "I didn't get the impression Lexi was around much after she turned eighteen." Matt shrugged again, "Moving on from that can of worms. Why do you think you're an ass?" Derrick walked into my oce.

I groaned, "I don't want to talk about it." Matt snorted, "Now we HAVE to know what that's about." I said, "I'm having dreams.... about the Black Arrow. Sometimes s**** dreams. Bolt thinks she's our second chance mate. He thinks because I haven't marked Lexi that bond feels like we have a chance or something." Both gaped at me. Derrick said, "You have to mark her man." I said, "Not yet. I've never even met the Black Arrow." Matt said, "But you're dreaming about her." I said, "I told her I won't hurt Lexi." Matt said, "So let me tell this straight. You told the Black Arrow in your dream that you wouldn't hurt Lexi? Brilliant. What did your subconscious say back?" I sighed, "That Lexi would laugh if I told her about my dream." Derrick said, "Your subconscious is trying to f**k you over." I snorted, "Tell me about it."

I linked Matt, "Do we have reports for our other allies? Did anyone nd a dead body?" Matt said, "Nope, nothing. Alpha Kyle's people saw a blur of someone go by them. They didn't get a good look. They weren't sure which border it came from. Either Alpha Theo or Alpha Raven. Neither have reported anything unusual." I sighed. What the hell was Lexi doing there? After several hours her eyes ew open and she sat up seemingly unable to breath. I told her I had her. She looked at me with wide eyes. I told her she'd passed out, and Heath came by. I wanted her to know he'd look into the letter. Lexi seemed to have multiple thoughts going through her brain. She shook herself and said it had been a crazy night. It was Halloween. I suppose that crazy was to be expected. I was exhausted. Lexi said she'd been running all over the place tonight. I was still confused about where she'd been. Alpha Kyle had no reports of anyone dead in his area. Neither did anyone else. We should have heard if someone was missing. Yet nothing. I asked her how everything went, and she said it went well. So someone was dead somewhere.... It couldn't be some insignificant person. Heath wouldn't send her after someone who wasn't important. Why didn