

Chapter 82: Planning for War

Warren

We spent Friday night with Harold, Henry, and Farrah, showing them around the pack and letting them get to know our pack members. I could tell that Harold was surprised. It's one thing to hear that your pack is happy, but it's quite another to see it and feel it. And because of my amazing mate, Farrah got the full force of our pack's love and admiration.

The next morning after breakfast, Harold, Henry, Charlie, and I all head to my office.

When we sit, Harold turns to look at me. "It is really impressive what you've done here, Warren."

"Thank you, Harold. Most of that is because of my mate. The pack fell in love with her before she agreed to be my mate. Thankfully, she found something in me that was worthy of her love and trust."

"Thankfully? It sounds to me, based on what I've been hearing from your pack members, that you ARE worthy of everyone's love and trust."

"He is," Charlie says before I can answer. I glance at my Beta, then turn back to Harold.

"You and I both know, Harold, that the love and trust of your mate is the most important thing there is. So yes, Yara accepting me for the man and wolf that I am is more important than the pack's love and

trust.”

“But how did you get the pack to feel like this. I know I’m young, but I know our pack doesn’t feel like this and we should try to get this feeling in our pack too, right Dad?” Henry asks.

“We definitely want something like this in our pack. Your pack is obviously stronger because of it,” Harold says.

“They are and I wish I could tell you that it was this or that, but in reality, I think it was a lot of little things combined. First, Charlie and I have a strong bond. We’ve run this pack on our own since we lost our Gamma in the war. No matter how injured I was, I always knew that I could count on Charlie to support me and manage the pack in my absence. That was key. But then Yara arrived,” I say, unable to stop the smile that spreads across my face when I think back to our first meeting.

“She came in like a breath of fresh air. You’ve heard her mumbling. She does it all the time. The pack adores it, adores her. It didn’t hurt that she’s one hell of a doctor and believe me when I tell you that when you’re in her hospital, she’s in charge. She may not be a warrior, but she’ll go toe-to-toe with anyone that she thinks isn’t strong enough to be in battle.”

“And believe me, our Luna doesn’t hold back when tells you all about yourself. Alpha’s biggest threat to our warriors is that they will have to face our Luna’s wrath if they try to fight without being a full strength,” Charlie says, smiling. I know he also has fond memories of Yara’s arrival here. I’m just glad he found Noelle and that’s all they are, fond memories of his Luna.

"Once Yara arrived, it was like everything began to fall into place. Even with the constant fighting, my pack was getting stronger. Yeah, we had fewer warriors fighting, but they were stronger, because of her. Then Charlie found his mate and then we finally had time to choose a new Gamma, and now our pack feels whole, complete. The pack feels it and is excited about life again."

I can see Harold thinking through what I've said. He knows as well as I do that it starts with his Luna. I don't want to ask in front of the others, but his relationship with Farrah is key.

"So, you wanted to talk about Brady. I hope it's okay that I brought Henry in to listen. He's getting older now and I think it's important that he hears strategy and what goes into a war and keeping the pack safe," Harold says.

"I couldn't agree more and as I said before, I know that my alliance with Henry will begin once you step down, so I think it's important that Henry sees how I operate now so there are no surprises when he's takes over as Alpha."

"Thank you, Alpha," Henry says.

"So, this is my plan. I think we need to spring all of Brady's traps and then attack."

"Spring them how?" Harold asks.

"We need weights. Something heavy enough, something that weighs as much as a wolf or man, so that the traps spring. Now, I'm well aware that they aren't all just around his pack lands. I found that out

the hard way. And I know we probably won't be able to get all of them around his pack lands. But, we have Yara now. And if we use our hospital as ground zero for our injured, bring Savannah over here to help out, I don't think we'll have any casualties. We'll have injuries, definitely, but I think Yara can help our warriors heal from just about any injury they sustain."

Harold sits back, thinking about what I said. I have to fight to hide a smile when I watch his son mimic his position and get a very similar thoughtful look on his face. I don't care if Yara has a boy or a girl this time. I already know she's willing to give me more pups. One day though, I hope it's my son mimicking me just like Henry is doing with Harold. I get a sudden flash of a little girl, looking just like her mother, walking around the pack and mumbling to herself, just like Yara. Damn I can't wait to have a family with my mate.

"Carrying that much weight would exert a lot of effort. How do you propose that we get, whatever that weight is, to Alpha Brady's pack?" Harold finally says.

"I was wondering the same thing, Dad," Henry says, nodding. Yeah, I can't fucking wait to have a son.

"So, I have a couple of thoughts on that. First, we load up trucks and drive in like we own the place, driving around the pack lands and dumping the weight. I'm currently leaning towards sections of tree trunks. We dump them onto his land until they blow. That way, our men aren't tired because they've been carrying large loads with them. Another option is to find downed trees or cut some trees when we're close and then carry them the rest of the way. A final option, if we want stealth, is to carry the weighted objects to a place near his pack,

rest overnight and attack at first light."

This time, Henry turns to watch his father. I glance at Charlie and see the same desire to have a son on his face that I'm sure is on mine.

"While I like the idea of a stealthy approach, I don't think it's needed with Alpha Brady. He's arrogant because of his traps. He thinks he's safe behind them. Showing up with several trucks and beginning to blow his traps will send him into a fit. I've gotten the impression from him that he's impulsive, not intelligent in his fighting."

"I would agree," I say.

"I think his knowledge of explosives and spring traps has kept him and his pack safe, for the most part. I think Quinton was the strategist and mastermind of the alliance. Goddess knows Thomas wasn't smart," Harold says, thinking out loud. I'm not sure if it's for my benefit or his son's, but either way, we're all following along.

He nods, thinking, until he finally looks up at me. "I like the direct approach."

I smile. "I do too. I think it sends a message that we're not afraid of him."

"Agreed. So, what do you plan to do with his pack members?"

"If they fight, they die. If they don't, they have the choice of joining one of our packs, or going rogue. Do you agree?" I ask.

"I agree," he says, looking at his son. "What about you, Henry. Does this approach make sense to you?"

Henry thinks for a moment, then nods. "Yes, sir. I think this makes sense."

Harold looks back at me. "When do you want to schedule our attack?"

"Within the week."

"I'll call Franklin, let him know that we need to start preparing for battle, since I need a couple more days to go see Luna Yasmin and Alpha Quirin," Harold says. "I also happened to have some downed trees on my pack lands that need to be cleaned out."

I smile at him. "I might have noticed that when I was there getting Yara. It's where my idea came from."

He shakes his head at me. "I didn't know that you noticed anything other than your mate when you came to get her."

"Not much, but as we left your pack and I had her in my arms, I had a few moments to look around." I shrug. "I guess it's the Alpha in me."

"I guess it is. Now, let's go find our mates and you, Alpha, and you Beta, have a celebration to prepare for."

"Yes, we do," I say, standing and smiling. Today is finally the day that I get to make Yara the official Luna of this pack.

"Just one more thing, Harold. I'll be executing Simon tomorrow for what he did to Yara and my other pack members. You're welcome to stay and bear witness, but it's not necessary. I wasn't sure if this was a lesson you wanted your son to have or not. I will be honest, the pack has not been kind to Simon. His death will not be the honorable

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death that Quinton had. He hurt too many of our pack members, made it too personal for all of us.”


Harold looks at Henry before nodding. “We’ll stay. It’s not an easy lesson, but it’s an important one.”

“Okay. For now, let’s go find our mates. As you said, we have a celebration tonight!”



Cooper  Author

“Next up, the pack ceremony!”

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