

Alpha Maddix: A Brother's Promise Chapter 46

DAMIAN POV

I haven't heard back from Alette. My worry is that she will rebel against Alpha Issacs and he will hurt her. From what I have heard from her family, as well as learned for myself, if she doesn't want to do something, she won't do it. If she doesn't like what she is hearing or being told to do, she will argue. Neither of those traits will be good for her if she bucks up against the Alpha who has her.

Maddix, Luke and I are already at the challenge site. My father is late, and Elder Xavier has sent for him and his Beta. My brother Lance is here with me, as is my father's Gamma. Both support my decision. Lance informed me that his mother, Sandy, had packed up and abandoned him and our dad. I feel bad for him, but I think she knew her fate once I won. I have never made it a secret of how I felt about her.

Finally, my father shows his face. He was being led towards the challenge area by 2 of the Royal Council guards. His cockiness exuded from him, and he was releasing his aura to intimidate those around him. Before he even fully enters the challenge circle, Elder Xavier orders him to draw in his aura. "Alpha Lawrence! I suggest you contain your aura. The only people it works on here are your pack members. It's just showboating now. I hope you have a good reason for being this late," he bellowed.

Humiliation exuded from my dad's emotions. "I apologize, Elder. I was stuck in a meeting." he apologized. Elder Xavier stood tall and crossed his arms over his chest. "Meeting my ass. My head guard that retrieved you for me, said you were in your room, sleeping. Don't lie to me ever again," he stated.

I stepped forward, and asked if we could begin. I was ready to finish this, so I could get to my mate before anything happened to her. The Elder agreed and explained the conditions of the fight.

"Esteemed members of the Spirit Mountain pack. Today we come before you to honor a request for an Alpha Challenge. Alpha Lawrence DeLuca has been challenged by his son, Damian DeLuca, for his title of Alpha. As speaker of The Royal Council, I approved this challenge. Damian, since you have issued the challenge, it is up to you to issue the terms. What say you?" he asked.

I stepped forward, coming almost nose to nose with my father. While staring into his eyes, I clearly stated, "To the death. I will allow a submission, but death will follow that submission. The only way one of us leaves these grounds is in spirit only."

“Alpha Lawrence, do you accept these terms?” the elder asked. My father accepted the terms, and we were let in the center of the training field. From the sidelines, Elder Xavier finished explaining the rules.

“Gentlemen. This is a one on one. There will be no outside interference in any way. If someone interferes, you lose, and will be put to death. The person interfering will also be put to death. There is no time limit. No weapons. You may fight in either human or wolf form. If the rules are understood, you should begin,” he finished.

My dad started to circle me. My eyes never left him. I could tell he was about to lunge at me, and I was ready for it. Sure enough, after one full circle, he lunged at me from the left. I grabbed him and slammed him to the ground, and punched him hard in the face. I was able to get in around 4 good hits before he rolled away from me. “Is that all you got my boy?” he taunted. I stood straight up and carefully watched him as he became upright as well.

We went back and forth with one another for a long time. I was trying to wear him out, and it was working. Just not fast enough. I called out to my wolf, Zion, and asked him what he thought the best strategy to tire him was. He told me that we should shift, and use his speed against my dad. It was as good an idea as any, and I started to back away from my father. I crouched down, and prepared to shift.

Dad sensed what I was doing and shifted quickly. He started to run towards me and when he was close, I shifted to Zion. Zion stood taller than my dad’s wolf, Demitri. Zion was pure black until you got to his front paws. His paws were a beautiful charcoal gray. Demitri, was smaller, and dark gray. As Demitri was upon us, he jumped for Zion’s neck. Zion swatted him away with his large clawed paw, and ripped into Demitri’s face, leaving large gashes.

Demitri let out a loud yelp, but was also quick to get back to his feet. Blood was streaming down his face, and it looked as if his eye had been mutilated. He wasn’t backing down, and had to commend him for that. However, this was taking much longer than I had time for.

I relayed to Zion that it was time to stop toying with my dad. We needed to end this, so we could get to Alette. He agreed, and stood tall. He released a loud growl, and bared his teeth. My father bared his teeth in response and, without hesitation, jumped at Zion. His teeth were able to sink into Zion’s shoulder, and my wolf let out a loud roar. He shook my father off of him, and towered over top of him. With one quick snap of his jaws, he sunk his teeth into my father’s neck. He twisted his head, ripping out my dad’s jugular, and I watched as the life left his body.

As Zion stood over him, his throat still in his muzzle, he let out a small whimper. He whispers to me, “I’m sorry, Damian. I didn’t think I would feel bad for ending his existence, but I do.”

The Elder rushed to Zion's side, and declared us the winner. He demanded we shift back to human form, and Maddix approached me with a robe. Zion dropped what was left of my dad's throat, and allowed himself to shift back to my form. I slipped myself into the robe, and turned to the pack.

One by one, they started to stand to their feet. I heard a female voice exclaim, "All Hail Alpha Damian! May the Goddess bless his reign!" I stared in awe, as I was given a standing ovation for defeating my father. It felt amazing, and bittersweet. Unlike Zion, I didn't feel bad. I felt pity. Pity that he couldn't have been the man he should have been. Pity that his life was so selfish that he could only feel himself when he was making other people miserable.

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MADDIX POV

Watching my brother-in-law fight his father was heart-wrenching. I could never imagine having to challenge either of my dads. It goes to show that not everyone is raised with love. The second his wolf took his father's life, I saw a shift in his wolf's demeanor. It was almost something looking like regret, but the emotion pouring from him was more like pity.

The elder demanded him to shift, and I grabbed the robe for him off the table. I ran it over to him so that I could cover him when he shifted. He slid it on, and stared out into the crowd of pack members. He stood tall and proud. Elder Xavier approached him and held his hand high in the air.

"Your winner and your NEW Alpha," he exclaimed. The crowd started to cheer, and fell to their knees and bared their necks to their new leader.

Damian said a few words to his pack, and assured them that he would oversee the pack in a just and fair way, unlike his father. He assured them that big changes were coming, as well as their Luna. He announced that the pack dinner to welcome him as Alpha would have to wait as he had an urgent matter to attend to, but told them he was leaving them in good hands until he returned.

"Do you even have a Beta in mind?" I asked. He nodded head, and said that he was hoping his cousin, Buckman Thunderhawk, would take the position. He lived close to the Spirit Mountain border. "Right now, he is the only person I trust to help me with anything like running this. We have been thick as thieves since childhood. He was my protector growing up, especially from Lawrence," he explained.

He asked me to go with him to speak with his cousin, Buckman, aka Buck, and I agreed. I would help this man do whatever he needed, because he has proven to me in the short time I have known him that he would move mountains for my sister and family. Our talks have gotten pretty deep for two Alphas who have just met. It's almost like I have known him my whole life.

As the jeep pulled up to Bucks cabin, Damian noticed that the door was wide open. He shot me a look of concern, and we quickly got out of the vehicle. He ran onto the porch, and yelled his cousin's name. "BUCK?!" he yelled. He started to go through the house, when Buck finally emerged.

Coming out of a back room behind the kitchen, was an extremely tall, tan-skinned man. His hair was almost to his waist, and his eyes were dark as night. It was a lot to take in, especially since he was standing in front of us butt naked. He had splatters of blood all over his skin, and for me, it set off alarms. Damian, however, burst out laughing.

"Damn it man! Put some damn clothes on! Hunting again?" Damian laughed. Buck started to chuckle and nodded his head. "Yea, man. I needed leather and antlers, so I went hunting earlier for deer and elk. I was removing a rack from a nice elk I caught. That's why the door was open. You know, ventilation for the smell. I wasn't expecting company," he replied.

Buck excused himself to clean up, and Damian turned to me with a smirk. "Sorry, Maddix. Buck is a little odd, but he is an amazing person. You will love him," he said.

Eventually, the big man came back out to sit with us. "What brings you here cousin?" Buck asked. It dawned on me that no one had informed Buck of the fact that Damian had challenged Lawrence. Damian leaned back in the chair he was sitting in, and raked his hands over his face. He took his hair out of his man bun, and shook his long hair out.

"I'm just going to be straight with you, Buck. I challenged dad earlier than I had planned. As of a little over an hour ago, I am the new Alpha of Spirit Mountain," Damian began. Buck let out a whoop so loud it sounded like a war cry. Damian lifted his hand, and Buck calmed down. "That is why I am here right now. I need you to be my Beta. You know me better than anyone, and you are the only one I trust to handle the job," Damian finished.

Buck was now very quiet in deep thought. He stood and walked to the large window in the living room. "Two conditions, D. First, I don't have to live in the pack house. Not all the time at least. If you are away, I will stay there, in my own room. Not a guest room. When you are here, I live in my cabin. Second, because I know you don't have a Gamma yet either, I think you should consider Caleb Bravebird. He is the strongest warrior I know, and will be the best choice for protecting our Luna. When we get one, that is," he finished.

Damian Mashed a big smile, and spoke again, "Funny you should bring up a Luna. I found my mate, Buck. She is the reason I challenged dad so quickly. He sold her to Alpha

Jameson Issacs. He was unaware she was my mate. His only concern was that she was one of the triplet daughters of the Young twins of Blood Moon. This is her brother, Alpha Maddix, by the way.” he explained.

I waved, and I could see the light come on in Buck’s brain.

“AH! Congrats Brother!! It’s nice to meet you, Alpha. Pardon my lack of acknowledgment. I’m kind of feral according to most people. In actuality, I just like my privacy and don’t conform,” Buck stated.

I told him that it was perfectly fine. I was at his home. I liked this guy, and I started to understand why Damian wanted him for the job.

“Buck, I can see why Damian trusts you so much. I wish everyone could be as open and honest. However, we will need an answer soon. We need to get to Washington to save my sister. That would mean you would need to be sworn in immediately, while the Elder is here, and you would take over for Damian right after. At least until we can get my sister out of the situation she is in,” I expressed.

He fell to his knees in front of Damian, and pledged his loyalty and duty to him. “Bro, you already knew I would.

Let’s do this!” he exclaimed.

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ALETTE POV

I had hoped they had been here by now. I’ve tried not to go get my phone, because we are being watched so closely.

The bathroom it’s in is kind of out of the way, so it would definitely look suspicious. I feel like I need to though. There is a library near where it is, so I decided to go in there and read a little bit before going in.

There was a very nice older woman working at the desk in the library, and she smiled at me as I walked in. “Can I point you towards anything in particular?” she asked. I had to think quickly, and asked her if they had anything about the history of the pack. She told me that there wasn’t anything of that nature as the pack hadn’t been around for a very long time to build history. Then she got a little snarky and said, “The only history we have doesn’t show us in a very good light, I’m afraid.”

I just nodded my head, and told her I would just look around to see if something caught my eye. I pulled a book off the shelf, and thankfully it wasn't something off the wall. It was a book about etiquette, and one I had already read.

I found a fluffy chair, and curled up in it. I opened the book mid-way, and pretended to read. After an hour of sitting there, I asked the woman where the closest restroom was.

She pointed me in the direction of the restroom I needed to enter. I thanked her, and hurried to my destination.

Closing and locking the door, I rushed to the vent. My phone was still safely inside, and I pulled it out to send a text to Damian.

Thankfully, it still had a decent charge.

Me: Damian?

Please hurry and answer ...

Damian: Alette, are you alright?

Me: So far so good. Where are you both?

Damian: We are just now leaving Spirit Mountain. You are now a Luna, babe. I had to make sure things were covered here before I could leave again. I'm sorry.

Me: Wow! Good to know, I guess. I'm starting to get really scared. I keep hearing word that he has clients coming in for the 'new girls.

Damian: Try to avoid the situation, baby. I know it might be hard, but do your best. We should be there in around 4 hours, and are bringing reinforcements.

Me: I will try. I promise.

I put the phone back, and left the restroom. As I walked out, someone grabbed me by the hair and pulled me down the hallway. "I found her, Alpha. She was in the bathroom in the front foyer, the man said. Alpha Issacs dismissed him, came to stand in front of me. 'I've been looking for you, triplet. Where have you been hiding?'" he asked.

I gulped and looked him in the eye. That was my first mistake. He slapped me as hard as he could. I fell to the ground, and he yelled at me to answer him. "I wasn't hiding, Alpha. I went to the magnificent library you have here. I have been in there reading books to help me be a more proper lady," I explained. I avoided touching the space where he hit me, and tried to appear meek.

He extended his hand to help me up, and I obliged him. He pulled me in close to him, and the smell of his cheap cologne burned my nose. He placed his finger under my chin and lifted my face to look at his. "Next time, tell someone. It is my business to know where you are at all times. Do you understand?" he asked. I whispered, "Yes," and he brought his lips down to mine. I prayed he didn't connect them together. That prayer went unanswered. He bit my bottom lip, and I could taste my blood from the bite and started to pull away from him.

Jerking my body back against his, he ripped my shirt, exposing my breasts. He licked the top of my bosom before resting his forehead on mine. "Too bad my client wants a virgin. I would take you right here, right now," he stated. My heart began to race. "How do you know that I'm not a virgin already?" I asked. He started to chuckle, and asked, "Do I need to insert a finger to find out? Don't test me little girl."

He must have heard me gasp, because he stepped away from me. He demanded that I go to my room until dinner, and I did as he asked. That was too close for comfort. I walked as fast as I could until I got to my bedroom door.

Grabbing the handle, I felt myself relax. I was holding a breath I hadn't realized I was holding.

I needed to find something to pass the time, so I decided on a bath. I knew it would help my anxiety, as well as my sore muscles. I wanted to shift so badly, and I knew Alaska wanted to as well, but it was forbidden so far. I couldn't put her at risk.

Hot water filled the tub, and I added some strawberry and cream scented bath oil inside it. I undressed and pulled my hair up into a bun to keep it out of the water. Moaning as I slid into the tub, the warmth of the water started to soothe my muscles. I closed my eyes and moved deeper into the water. This is just what I needed at that moment.

My mind shut everything out except for the surrounding atmosphere. The smell of strawberries took me back to memories of my childhood. The times my mom would take me and my sisters to pick berries. We would sneak and eat them on the way home. Mom would pretend that we were in big trouble when she found out, but would end up finishing the rest of them with us. I wished so much that she was here with me right now.