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13-First Morning

Finch's POV

I take a cold shower and try to get to sleep. But I just toss and turn for a bit.

Duke- This is stupid!

I go back to her room and open the door. I hear her talking to someone from the bathroom.

I step out but stand by the cracked door. She shutters when they talk about having to play stepmother to the triplets. I get that, it is going to be crazy awkward. Will the boys expect me to reject her so they can have her? Am I seriously going to have to fight my own sons for my mate?

She talks about running away. She sounds happy when they talk about hybrid babies and hiding from me.

Duke- Hey, at least he knows we will come after her. Ariella will soon be Ariella Conrad!

She finally starts to fall asleep, and I want to go inside and sleep next to her. I just want to be near her. Soon as I know she is asleep, and I peak in.

He is also asleep on the phone next to her.

I can't help it. I don't care that he is on the phone, I lay down

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next to her. I get it, it's creepy, but there no way I can sleep down the hall with her in here.

"What are you doing?" She whispers.

"I can't sleep with you in here and me in there," I confess. "I won't touch you I just want to be close to you."

"What are you 16?" She asks, turning to look at me.

Duke- Yes. Tonight, yes, we are.

"Oh, and keeping your exboyfriend on the phone all night is totally normal," I say, laying next to her and crossing my arms so I don't grab her.

Ariella turns over and hangs up the phone.

"There," she says, laying it face down. "That makes this less creepy."

"Only a little," I confess, starting to drift off to sleep.

"Good night," she whispers as we both fall asleep.

When we wake up, we are holding hands.


We smile at each other, and I want to kiss her. I want to make love to her.

"Good morning," she says, with a smile.

"Good morning," I get out.

"Not a morning person?" She asks, sitting up and stretching.

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"No," I confess, and I roll over, not ready to face the day.

"Too bad, morning sex is my favorite," she goes to move out of the bed, and I grab her wrist without turning over.

Duke- Oh yeah, we can be morning creatures. We can be morning creatures!

She giggles.

I keep a hold of her and turn back around.

"Really?" I question, barely awake.

"Yeah, but maybe another time. It's really early and I know for a fact the triplets do not like being woken up this early in pain," she tells me.

"I'll call them over today to lay everything on the table. I'll make them an appointment with the doctor, and we can mark each other," I release her wrist and sit up in the bed.

"Wow, and I guess consent is not important," she rolls her eyes and moves to the bathroom.


"I thought that was what we discussed last night," I call after her.

She pops her head out with her toothbrush in her mouth.

"We agreed to let them be sedated, we did not agree to do it today," she corrects me.

I fall back into the pillows with a groan.

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"So, torture is your favorite thing to do?" I ask her.

"What is that supposed to mean?" She asks, crawling back into bed.

"The longer you make me wait, the longer you torture me," I joke and rub her back. I just want to touch her.

"Sorry," She lays down and puts her head on my chest. "I just find this whole situation cringe."

I put an arm around her and hold her.

"It is very, very cringe," I agree, and I kiss her head.

"What time will the guys be here?" She asks.

I mindlink all three and tell them to be at the packhouse at 11am.

All three agree.

"They will be here at 11," I say and look at her phone. "So, 3 hours."

"Okay," She snuggles into me. "So, we can stay here a while longer and just enjoy the tingles that are all over us?"


"I like that idea," I say, holding her.

Duke- I like that. I want more, but I will take this.

Me- We will take whatever she gives us.

"What does Luna of Conrad pack look like?" She asks me.

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I tell her about what everyone is going to expect. Mostly dinner parties and event planning. But also training and running the house.

"Who has been doing all this since your mate passed away?" She asks.

"My mother," I answer. "She will be so excited to finally really retire."

She laughs. We stay there talking, joking and laughing. We are laughing so much about something stupid, both of us have tears in our eyes.

"I thought Kale and I laughed a lot," she tells me, looking at her phone. "Shit."

She shows me her phone it's 10:45am. We have 15 minutes.

Duke- She is perfect and so easy to talk to. I love her. Can we say it yet?


"We have been talking for almost 3 hours. I can't believe it," I tell her. "We need to get ready to see the boys."

"Oh yeah," She hugs me tightly. "I might a few minutes late."

"I get it," I kiss her lips and expect a peck.

We both moan and it is much more than a peck. I swear, when we are kissing, I forget everything, except how good it feels.

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I'm on top of her, between her legs, she is holding me, and we are getting really heated.

"Stop," she declares quickly. "The boys."

I hold myself over her, wanting so much to give in, but she is right. Every kiss or touch, they feel it. I am torturing my own sons for selfish reasons.

"You such a better person than me," I groan and climb off of her.

She laughs seeing me with a tent in my shorts.

"Just look at the effect a teenager has on you," she teases.

I can't help but laugh as well. Yeah, this age thing is something else.

I shower and dress quickly. As I come into the den, I see the boys.

Anderson is facing me. His normally shiny hair is pulled back in low ponytail.

"Hello," I say, making Carter and Finley look at me.


"What's up, Dad?" Anderson asks.

"I found my second chance mate," I tell them.

They all freeze, and their eyes go wide.

"Congratulations?" Finley says, looking at his brothers.

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"Before you get to that, I think I should tell you a couple of things," I tell them. "Number one, I'm her second chance as well. Number two, I am accepting her, and she is accepting me. Number three, if you three challenge me, I will take all three of you down."

"Why would we challenge you?" Carter asks with wide eyes and then he sniffs around. "Wait, no fucking way."


Anderson and Finley both inhale deeply.

"NO" Anderson and Finley scream.

"Yes," I nod as Ariella joins me.

Duke- Serves them right.

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