

## The Triplet Warriors And Their Pup Mate Chapter 13 - Tips

~Ellie's Point of View~

I had now been with the Black family for about ten days and the hot triplets had not been to visit, much to my disappointment. I felt like thinking about them was sometimes all I had to look forward to. I mean, basically I had a new family now, but we all knew it was only temporary. I knew they were just being nice and I was trying hard to remember all the different things I was learning about proper manners.

Still, even with all my new-found knowledge, all I really cared about was seeing the triplets. There were pictures of them all over the house, of the whole family and it gave me such a sense of security and peace. I had so many daydreams about the guys. I felt like they were kind of with me, but yet so far away. But that was all changing tonight. They were coming for dinner and I was cooking!

I was making them what I now know is called "lasagna" ... yeah still sounds weird. Daisy took me to the grocery store and I was completely overwhelmed with all of the choices and options. Back at Blood Claw, the ingredients were just given to me and I was told what to do. There were not different choices provided. I had no idea there were so many kinds of cheese! I must have stared at the cheese for what seemed like an eternity.

I was grateful that Daisy was very patient with me and let me look at everything, because I wanted to remember it all. I also probably bored her to death with questions about what different things were used for, and how you cooked them. I also did not have access to a lot of spices and seasonings before, and that was equally overwhelming! I couldn't wait to taste it all, smell it all!

I would be making lasagna and what I also now know are called snickerdoodle cookies. It stabbed a bit at my heart to know that I was making Tyson's favorite dish for the triplets and their family, but it was the one I was the most proud of, and the most confident they would enjoy.

I also normally made garlic bread from scratch, but Daisy assured me that we could buy a loaf of already made bread and it would be just as good. It was so crazy to me that you could just go somewhere and pick up things that were already made!

When we got home I went right to work, and everybody stayed out of my way, which I was grateful for. I didn't want to seem overbearing, but I was very particular about my food and I wanted it to be perfect. This was my first real chance to impress Hunter and thank him for saving me and it meant everything to me to do something for them. Obviously, I had no money, no standing in our world and really nothing to offer him. I didn't live with him so I couldn't clean and do his laundry.

I think I also secretly hoped that deep down, my food would somehow make them want to come back more often. I know that sounded ridiculous but Tyson used to say he kept coming around for my sweets. Like I had a choice in making them anyhow.

I'm sure he used to use that as an excuse, but maybe it was true. For all I know my food tasted like dirt and he just came around and told me things to make me happy and try to impress me.

Since I was feeding more than just myself and Tyson, I made two huge pans of lasagna. Tyson insisted on eating every meal with me, and only me. Although sometimes the Alpha would join us if I was making something he liked.

Sunny insisted that there also be a salad. I had never had such a thing. It looked like a bunch of grass and leaves ... it didn't seem appealing, but she said it was normal for salad to be served with lasagna. I let her go ahead and make that herself, since I had no clue.

I was just taking the last of the cookies out of the oven to cool, when I heard River's silky smooth voice coming from the living room. My stomach immediately began to flutter and I quickly glanced in the mirror like image of the refrigerator, to make sure my hair looked decent.

I had already made sure Meadow set the table and everything was ready for dinner. I wanted it to be perfect!

Sunny had put me in a new dress, and assured me that it was appropriate to wear to dinner. I didn't know these things so I relied on her opinion. I was wearing a baby blue colored dress that showed off my shoulders and went just to my knees. It was going to be tricky to always remember to keep my legs closed. I was never allowed to wear clothing that showed my skin before, since that would only be for Tyson's eyes.

I was also very nervous about walking in the shoes Sunny gave me. I had never worn a shoe with a heel before and it was incredibly uncomfortable. She insisted that it was the style and I should get used to it. I thought for sure I might break my ankle! I was grateful I would at least be sitting down for most of the evening.

Sunny also got me some b.ras, for the first time in my life. I had to admit, I absolutely hated them! I don't know who created b.ras and heeled shoes but clearly they liked being miserable and uncomfortable. They did make me feel a bit pretty and girly though, I had to admit.

She let me know that it's pretty much custom to have to wear a b.ra, and you can only get away with not wearing one sometimes when you are home and away from company. Otherwise it's not considered normal to not wear one.

I was definitely going to sneak in not wearing one as often as possible! There was just so much to remember, I loved learning it all but it was a bit overwhelming at times.

"Hey sweetie, how are you doing," one of the triplets said, coming into the kitchen.

My face and my heart lit up, but my smile quickly faded when I realized I didn't know which one he was, and I was embarrassed. Normally, you could smell a wolf, and that was a foolproof way to always know who they were, but I couldn't smell him. I could smell his family, so why couldn't I smell him?! It infuriated me.

"What's wrong Ellie," he said.

My smile quickly returned, giddy to hear him say my name.

"I'm sorry but I ... I don't know which one you are," I said, looking down at my hands.

He laughed, making me look back up at him. He quickly took my hand and held it, making my belly do fl!ps!

"I'm Skyler, I know my fool brother Hunter has a similar haircut, but I'll change it if it means you always can tell which one I am," he grinned.

I giggled at him, feeling warm all over. He kissed the top of my hand before letting it go and all I could think about was throwing myself at him. Stop it Ellie, what is wrong with you! This is probably just him being polite, right? I mean, everything was so new to me, I had no idea.

I decided to change the subject because I could hear more voices coming closer.

“I hope you guys are hungry, can you help me carry the ... la-sahn-ya,” I said, carefully.

I wasn't totally sure I said it right.

“Of course, I'll carry both of them, don't worry!”

He took the trays and left the room. I smiled, relieved that maybe I hadn't sounded stupid.

“Can I help,” I heard another voice say.

I quickly turned to see the one I knew to be Hunter, since his hair was similar. I grinned at him and held back all of my willpower to keep from hugging him. I didn't know if it was appropriate or not. Sunny had pumped so much information into my head in the past week I was so afraid of mixing things up.

“Sure! You can take the bread and cookies out,” I said, quickly putting the cookies onto a plate.

I was sure my food had to be good, as many times as I had made it. I mean, I thought it was amazing but I realized how unbelievably sheltered I had been all these years.

He smiled and said, “you look so ... so ... happy. You look, happy. Is everything going okay?”

Why did it seem like he meant to say something else? Did he think he couldn't talk to me? I thought he might compliment my dress, I thought I looked awfully nice. Sunny even put a bunch of color on my face which I had never done before. I had bright blue eyeshadow on, and I loved it! I had looked in a mirror at myself more in the past week than I had in my entire life.

“It's been ... a lot. Like a whole lot. But everyone has been very nice,” I said.

I met his eyes and just stared into them. My feet moved on their own, a bit closer to him and before I knew it my hand was just inches from his.

“Wow Ellie this looks great,” I heard Ash yell from the dining room.

Hunter smiled and turned away, I took his lead and followed him out. So close, yet so far away, I thought.