

The Triplet Warriors And Their Pup Mate Chapter 57 - Tips

~Godfrey's Point of View~

Who did this dog think he was? No one escapes me, no one ... escapes the justice of the council. I would hunt this piece of sh!t shifter to the end of the earth if that's what it took.

The very idea that Gunner could keep escaping us was the most infuriating thing. I dashed to where the she-wolves were being held and demanded that two be brought to me.

"Tell me about your pack, why are they housing Alpha Gunner," I said to the two women.

They looked at me and growled, and I didn't have time for this nonsense. Pat the she-wolf from headquarters stepped forward, sensing my anger.

"It's okay he's not going to hurt you, you have to tell him what you know," Pat said.

They continued to scowl but knew what Pat said was true.

"My name is Olivia, I'm mated to a warrior named Colin, please don't k!!! him," she begged.

"I can't promise anything, if he fights for Gunner," I said plainly.

"Alpha Gunner came to us promising to expand the pack, which we desperately need. We mostly stick to ourselves and when that happens there are no new mates to find and no pups to be made," she said, and began to cry.

"So many of us opposed it, begged Alpha Evan not to follow him, but he refused. Our Beta William went with Alpha Gunner to join his pack and help the two merge. We started building new houses, getting ready for unmated male wolves to come in and mate with us... they were even saying those of us who were mated but still able to bear pups would have to do it for the good of the pack.

Unmated males have just been showing up for weeks now, we assumed from Blood Claw but I guess I don't know for sure," she explained and cried dramatically.

"Blood Claw is no longer," I said, dismissively.

I hated watching humans cry, it didn't give me emotions, it just made me want to leave.

"Where would they go, where else could they possibly want to go," I demanded, getting annoyed.

"Alpha Gunner just constantly talked about his Luna and her beauty. He said he would bring her here and that she was very young and fertile. We don't have a Luna since Evan was never able to find his fated mate. He promised to let Charles mate her as well, so he would have an heir. Gunner said she was from a line of Betas and had strong blood," she said.

Isaac appeared.

"The Blacks say something is wrong with Lilly, they can feel it through the bond."

Pat shot me a look and I immediately flew into the air, moving quickly to locate Ellie, Lilly ... whatever her name was!

A twinge of guilt hit me and I felt like I should get the mutts first, even though I didn't want to waste the time. I quickly shifted my mind to locate River through our bond, and landed back at a house where they were all gathered.

"Mutts, now," I bellowed.

"What's happened, where's my dad," Tyson demanded.

"No time for your sh!t now, Blacks with me," I said.

I felt Tyson also jump on me and I couldn't be bothered to care, even though I could easily have kicked him off my leg. This time it was very easy to find Ellie, her blood called to me and I honed in on it.

We were in some woods and there were easily twenty some wolves in close proximity. I dashed to where the blood bond called to me and I spotted Ellie and Chance. He was badly injured and heavily outnumbered, but he looked as though he'd held them off quite well on his own. I licked my lips and dashed from wolf to wolf, ripping out their throats as I moved.

Within a minute the Black boys and Tyson came out from the trees and joined me, having already shifted. Where in the hell was Max!?

Ellie looked badly hurt as though she had been fighting too. Skyler ran to her and shifted back to his human form.

"Get her out of here Skyler," I yelled.

I jumped twenty feet in the air and looked down, taking in the wolves that remained until I picked up his scent. I fell back to the earth just to see Tyson had already found his father and they were heavily engaged.

Hmm, maybe I should let this play out. I tapped my fingers together, very curious.

They were wrestling like little children rolling in the mud, although it didn't appear either was holding back. Hunter and River had the other wolves down to only about eight now, and a few of them appeared to be surrendering.

At one point Tyson threw Gunner several feet and he landed near me. I reached down and grabbed him by the throat.

"Shift mutt," I demanded, my fangs out and ready to quench the thirst of fire in my throat.

A vampire simply cannot be around this kind of blood and not indulge. But I was old, far more controlled than most. I dropped him and then delivered a swift kick to his midsection, likely breaking many ribs. Gunner began gasping for air and I grinned like a madman.

"SHE IS MATED?!" I heard someone yell.

I kept one foot on Gunner's stomach as he'd just shifted back. I turned to find the source of the outburst and saw two of the wolves had shifted with one holding Skyler by the throat. I recognized him as the Alpha Evan.

Ellie had shifted back as well and turned her neck to show her marks.

“Three mates, marked and mated,” she boasted.

She was covered in blood, I didn’t know how much of it might be hers.

She immediately kicked the Alpha right between his legs and I had to chuckle right out loud. Who knew the little pup had that kind of spunk?

The wolf dropped Skyler and Chance shifted back to human form, getting between Skyler and the Alpha.

The Alpha and his shadow, I’m guessing his Beta moved with all the speed they could muster and ran toward Gunner.

“You promised us a clean she-wolf, UNMATED, we risked our entire pack for the promise of a strong Luna,” he growled.

“Yes, he makes a lot of promises he can’t follow through on, isn’t that right little Gunner,” I said in a baby voice, practically cooing.

I went ahead and kicked him again.

Tyson remained in his wolf form and growled at his father, scratching at his legs.

Just then, Angel and Isaac appeared.

“Take the living, they will face trial,” I commanded. I removed my foot from Gunner and let Tyson bite at him, it was far too entertaining. I had to see how far it would go.

The Alpha and Beta tried to attack Gunner as well, but Angel promptly put a cage around them. Angel was really very impressive in this war, and I had a feeling I would be kicking out that miserable council witch Fiona soon and replacing her. We’d made her stay back at headquarters since there must always be a council member at homebase. She is by far the youngest and most impulsive, I’d never liked her but I had been out voted.

“It’s over Gunner, the only question left is who gets to be the one to take your head,” Isaac said.

“You have nothing to say for yourself,” River demanded, running toward Gunner.

I jumped back from all these eager wolves, it almost didn't seem I was needed any longer. I found myself no longer wanting to be the one to rip off Gunner's head. I wanted the show I'd hoped to have the day of his mediation and here it was right before me.

I laid in the grass on my stomach and propped myself on my elbows. This was better than a soap opera.

Hunter ran to Gunner and picked him up, forcing him to his feet. He punched him in the face so hard Gunner fell back right on his a.ss.

“I did it all for you my sweet girl, I loved you and cared for you, I love you still,” Gunner moaned out.

Oh please, AS IF! I laughed to myself, I really had to stop watching Buffy. But, we were all entitled to our guilty pleasures. I happened to be a snappy dresser who liked human movies about vampires.

“You took EVERYTHING FROM ME! You stole everything about who I was and as if that wasn't enough you kept my wolf from me too?! I want you to die knowing you didn't break me, you took ten years from me I can never get back. I will never let you fill space in my head again,” Ellie cried out.

Everyone was so focused on Ellie's little dramatic performance that it seemed I was the only one who noticed Tyson, going straight for Gunner's throat. I dashed a bit closer, wanting to hear every gurgle, every pathetic attempt at gasping for air. Oh yes, I was quite the sadist as well.

With one final chomp, Tyson pulled back and threw away a chunk of his father's throat. He growled and then stuck his snout in the air, letting out a large howl.

I was now ready for my feast, practically giddy with anticipation. I flung myself onto Gunner's thigh and bit, drinking all I could suck from his near lifeless body until his heart took its final beat. I threw myself back on the ground and giggled. I felt it coursing through me, sweet life, sweet and everlasting.

I forced myself back to my feet and looked down at the empty blood sack.

"I got dinner and a show, what a spectacular evening," I laughed and clapped my hands.

I stood up to see all the eyes staring back at me. I looked down at myself and found I was quite a mess.

"Oh dear, well they were Gunner's clothes anyhow," I smiled.

The mutts all ran to their mate, and I was bored again, no longer needed.

"Well I say, Isaac your last duty as werewolf council member shall be to clean all this up, you will be retiring effective next week when we meet to determine your replacement. I think I shall go to ground for a few days with my belly all happy and full," I said, before dashing up into the sky.

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~Hunter's Point of View~

"Baby, are you okay, where are you hurt," I said, picking up my Lilly and holding her.

"Mostly just scratches, Gunner wouldn't let them really hurt me but I was still trying to get a few swipes in," she said with a smile.

"Even though I told her a.ss to run," Chance said, wincing as Angel began assessing his wounds.

"They would have just loved the chase, I didn't see the point," she defended herself.

"Chance man, we owe you the biggest favor imaginable, thank you so much," River said, kissing Lilly's cheek.

Lilly pulled back from River and threw her hands in the air.

"Oh no! Mom, Grammy, Daisy and Sunny were left back at the house ... are they okay," Lilly said, panting and out of breath.

My heart stopped, not even realizing that we did leave them there. Surely someone had checked on them, or the fairy stayed with them?

“What happened to Max,” I demanded.

“The Beta snapped his neck, nothing I could do. I couldn’t help anyone else, Lilly was my only concern,” Chance said.

Chance was always all about business, straight and to the point. I tried to be like that but if I was with my brothers, there was almost the likelihood of getting easily sidetracked.

“Let’s get out of here then,” Angel said and within seconds we were back in our yard.

I immediately noted seven dead wolves in the grass and the entire White Star pack sitting around with the ladies. Some were still shifted. Thank the Goddess! I instinctively put my hand over my heart to make sure it wasn’t beating out of my chest.

“Mommy, Grammy,” Lilly said, running toward them. I quickly realized she was naked and a part of me freaked out about all these men seeing her ... but hell, we were all naked.

“I knew my Rocky was just down at Daisy’s house and in range so I mind-linked him, they were able to run here in just a few minutes. Most of Gunner’s wolves chased after you all so we didn’t have a lot to deal with, but we held our own until the pack got here,” Jasmine explained.

She looked so proud of herself, even though she was a mess. She still looked a lot better than we did but she’d probably had a bit of time to heal by now.

“Oh thank the Goddess,” Lilly cried.

“Your little sis is a fierce fighter, just needs some training huh,” Jasmine said, elbowing Sunny.

Sunny blushed but enjoyed the compliment.

Yeah right, who would keep the mall in business if Sunny became a fighter, I mind-linked to my brothers. They both snickered back to me.

Lilly’s brother ran toward us in his wolf form and quickly shifted back. He reached forward and wiped some blood off Lilly’s face.

“Who is the hero, who got Gunner,” Ridge asked.

“Yeah you won’t believe this sh!t,” Skyler said, sarcastically.

We looked around for Tyson and I flicked my head toward him. Ridge gaped at me in shock. We all spoke for a few more minutes and filled each other in on the events of the night.

Tyson quietly laid in the grass on the far edge of the yard, covered in bl00d, lost in himself and not seeming to care about anything going on around him. I guessed he had a lot on his mind.

As much as I hated to admit it, it seemed like he’d been dealt a sh!tty hand in life, and tonight had been pretty damn insane. I looked at my sweet little mate and she was staring at him. Buck growled and demanded I take her in the house.

“I want to talk to him alone,” Lilly said.

“No fvcking*g way,” Skyler said, absolutely.

“You’re ALL right here, what’s he going to do? Come on, we’ll still be in the yard, my whole pack is right here,” she persisted.

River growled. Sunny came running out with a dress for Lilly and some wet towels for us. We were all pretty bl00dy and messy. It felt incredible to be able to wipe my face clean.

“Thanks sis,” Lilly said. Sunny winked at her.

Lilly put on her dress, k!ssed each of us and walked over to Tyson, and sat in the grass next to him and handed him a towel.

~Tyson’s Point of View~

It was over, my father was dead, by my own canines. Well, technically Godfrey drained him, but he would have bled out in a couple minutes. It was incredibly ironic I thought, since my dad hated vampires so badly.

I laid in the cool grass, covered in his bl00d, my bl00d, all kinds of bl00d. I stared up at the perfect night sky, it was so clear.

I'd never felt more absolutely lost and alone. Did I miss my old life? Hell no, there was absolutely no going back.

I heard a lot of chatter around me but it all faded into the background. What the hell was I going to do now? No way was I joining another pack. Who would even have me? Son of the mental and deranged Alpha? Yeah right.

"Hey," I heard, as someone laid next to me.

I would absolutely know that scent anywhere. It was all I dreamed about for the last ten years.

She handed me a wet towel and I took it, wiping my face and hands.

"Thanks," I said, putting the towel over my lap once I was done with it.

"Tyson, I-"

"No Ellie please ... oh, I mean Lilly," I sighed.

"There is literally no way I could ever have the words necessary to apologize to you. Everything I did, everything my dad did, my pack ... Goddess ... it was all so awful. I really had no idea about your pack being there the whole time, your family, please believe me in that. My dad made me so crazy for you, I mean it didn't take much, you're absolutely beautiful, everything someone could want in a mate," I said.

I turned to face her, even soaked in blood she looked like an angel. Her perfect blonde hair was matted and nasty, but it didn't matter.

Even with three marks on her, knowing I could never touch her again, it didn't matter. She was safe, and she would be loved and cared for, like she deserved.

Her eyes met mine and we just stared at each other.

"You more than deserve the triplets, and you deserve not to live in fear anymore. I'm just ... I'm so fvcking*g sorry Lilly, I should have done more to help you. But I can't change the past," I said.

"I appreciate you apologizing... as crazy as it is to say I ... I don't hate you. I don't particularly want to see you anymore but I don't hate you. Your father told me some things, he never ever planned to let you have me. We found out

that not only did he put a spell on me to suppress my wolf, but also to keep me from having pups by anyone but him, both were broken,” she said.

I immediately sat up, infuriated all over again.

“What? How the fvck... Emily that damn b***h, unreal! Lilly I swear I knew nothing about any spells, you have to believe that,” I said.

Skyler came creeping near us and Lilly raised her hand to tell him that she was okay.

“I don’t believe you did,” she said.

“It’s a crazy dynamic. I mean, you were my basically only friend for so long. It was quite a fvckingd up friendship, if I can use that word. Since it was mostly one-sided but I mean we grew up together. We learned so much about life together,” she said.

“But I hurt you, countless times. No horseback riding lessons or swimming lessons can make up for all the times I snuck into your room—“

“Shhh, don’t say it,” she said.

It was quiet for a minute and I didn’t know what to say.

“Promise you’ll fly straight, do everything right from now on,” she said.

“I will, I mean I feel like my life was never really my own, you know what kind of command and stronghold my dad had over everyone. I need to find myself, be my own person. I don’t know how I’m going to do it though, I have nothing. I’m not joining another pack. I’m going to see if there’s any way in hell they might let me be a Shadow,” I said.

It was really the only thing I could do, but these guys were impressive as hell and all the different creatures were so bada.ss.

“I have no clue how all that works but if there’s a way I can ... vouch for you or something, I would. I mean I did spend half my life watching you train, you know how to fight that’s for sure,” she said.

She turned to look at me again and gave me a little smile. I didn’t even deserve it, but it tugged at my heart and relaxed me.

"I'm really glad you found your mates, I mean really. They'll be great for you, you'll have the life you deserve," I said, sincerely.

"Who knows, yours is still out there," she said.

I laughed. I didn't deserve a mate, that was for sure.

"We'll see, maybe one day," I said.

She went to stand up and I did too, wrapping the bloody towel around myself.

"Thanks for talking to me Lilly, I know it wasn't easy," I said.

Damn I wanted to hug her, one last time but I knew everyone here would rip me to shreds. I was sure she sensed it.

"Good luck," she said, and turned to walk away.

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~Lilly's Point of View~

I hugged everyone and said good night. I knew everyone was just as exhausted and desperate to sleep as I was. I had no idea where they were putting everyone up but I just couldn't think about it right now. I felt horribly selfish about that but I just needed some time to myself, and a shower.

I wanted to say thank you to Max for his bravery and sacrifice, but they'd already taken his body away. I decided I would pray about it later.

I did check on Chance and between getting some vampire blood and Katrina taking care of him, he was already more than half healed. Apparently he'd really fought about taking the vampire blood but he had internal bleeding, a shattered collarbone and a dislocated shoulder just to name a few injuries.

I felt like anything else just had to wait until tomorrow.

"The shower is all yours baby," Hunter said, as he walked out of the bathroom.

"Need any help," Skyler asked, already clean as well.

I laughed.

“No, I’m good but I’ll see you in bed in a few.”

He blew me a kiss and I caught it, making my tummy flutter. By the time I got all cleaned up and felt like some sort of human being again, I went into our bedroom and they were all waiting for me.

“As badly as I want to jump all of your bones, I think we all just need to go to sleep,” I said, yawning.

River turned out the light and held his arms open, I fell into his warmth and he kissed me. He rolled me into the middle of the bed where Hunter and Skyler each kissed me.

“Good night my sexy triplets,” I said, getting comfortable on Hunter’s chest.

“Good night Lilly,” they all said at once.

I beamed and knew they had all rehearsed that.

We all slept about fourteen hours, and it was glorious. I was standing in front of a massive feast on the kitchen table, courtesy again of Angel. She was simply too nice for her own good.

“There’s so much to do today, we have to find homes for people, figure out what’s what,” River said.

“I think White Star and what’s left of Blood Claw might make a new pack, there was talk of it,” Hunter said.

I gaped at them both, opened my mouth to say something, but shoved a donut in my mouth instead and sat down.

“Who would be the Alpha,” Skyler asked.

That was only one of my million questions.

“Actually, Ridge is interested,” Hunter said.

My mouth opened again on its own and again, I decided to shove the donut in there instead of talking.

“Damn, that’s a good idea. I saw him fight, he can definitely hold his own,” River said.

“What did Godfrey mean about Isaac having to retire,” I finally managed to ask.

They all looked at each other.

“Ohh no, no no no. Not this business of keeping stuff from me again, spill it,” I demanded.

“Isaac admitted to knowing some things about what Gunner did to your pack, but he didn’t pursue it as hard as he should have, he kind of let it go,” Hunter explained.

My face grew red hot and without realizing it, my hands were in fists. I tried to calm myself down but it was hard.

I felt hands on my shoulders and kisses on my neck.

Skyler. I relaxed and he put his arms around me.

“You think he was just lazy or actually malicious,” I asked.

“Both maybe,” River said.

I reached for another donut, I figured I burned off enough damn calories lately.

“I need to talk about something else, get my mind off everything even if only for a little bit. Where are we all going to live, are we staying here,” I asked.

“We haven’t decided anything yet, we know you’ll want to be near your parents. But at the end of the day, we’re all still Shadows and our work goes on. It never stops,” Hunter said, taking my hand.

“Maybe we’ll see what your parents and your pack want to do and go from there,” River offered as a suggestion.

“Yeah that makes sense,” I said, nodding my head slowly.

My parents ... my pack. It was all still just swirling around in my head like it couldn’t mesh with reality. I had a brother, who could be an Alpha. Just ... wow.

“Angel’s coming over, she’ll be here in a few,” River said.

I zoned out for a little bit and ate some more until Angel showed up. She quickly put her arms out to greet me and I jumped up, giving her a long h.ug.

“I’m so glad you’re okay and safe, you really had us all pretty worried,” she said.

“I could never possibly thank everyone enough for all they did to help me,” I said into her shoulder.

“Well it solved two very big problems, Gunner and the traitor, Kai,” she said, releasing me and sitting down.

“Oh yeah, so ... I mean do you think we’re square with Katrina, is she still going to want something for helping us,” I said, quite curiously.

I noticed the guys all stopped whatever they had been doing to listen for her response.

“Oh no, she couldn’t be more over the moon that she found Chance, I mean he’s as hot as hell. And she wouldn’t have found him if she wasn’t helping you guys,” Angel said.

We all kind of relaxed but I was still wondering if she was here for any other reason. Werewolves naturally didn’t trust witches but I had no real reason to question her for coming here.

“So as you can imagine I’m here on a bit of business too,” Angel said.

Ohh there it is, Skyler said, over mind-link.

“Well a Shadow’s job is never done, Quinn wants you guys in tonight for debriefs and all that. Godfrey’s actually MIA, but probably just sleeping off his bl00d l.ust hangover for a few days. Lilly you’ll have to come on Tuesday for official statements and they will be announcing candidates for Isaac’s replacement. Technically you are not a Shadow but their mates have to be able to mind-link everyone, just in case it is ever needed or in case you need a teleport,” she said.

“Has Tyson approached you about being a Shadow,” I asked.

“He has, but any recruits go through a rigorous investigation in addition to physical testing and have to have sponsors, all kinds of things, they have telepaths secretly tail them to make sure their intentions are pure. What do you think about him joining,” she said.

“Honestly, I think he’s a very well trained fighter, he’s smart, as long as I don’t really have to see him, I don’t care,” I said.

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~Lilly’s Point of View~

I was dressed in one of my most conservative dresses, which wasn’t saying much since it still looked like Sunny was in full control of my closet.

Now that I had my mates I wanted my body to only be for their eyes and I was going to need an entirely new wardrobe. Skyler was already chomping at the bit to take me to the mall and I knew he’d make me visit the lingerie store.

Dusk constantly flirted with Violet and it was like a war going on in my head. I couldn’t believe what a horny toad Violet was and she didn’t give up easily. Even if I could convince Dusk to behave a bit, she’d just start up with Hawk or Buck.

I had no idea what all to expect from today’s proceedings, but I overheard someone say they were knocking out all kinds of issues in court today since they’d been tied up too long with Gunner.

The guys were all working so they weren’t in here, but I was sitting with their parents, my parents and Ridge.

Godfrey appeared in some silly and ridiculous judge-like outfit that would have probably fit right in if this were five hundred years ago. I realized he was always dressed very ... old-fashioned if that was the term. Did someone make his clothes? I had certainly never seen anything like that at the mall.

Just as I was joking to myself about his attire, he disappeared from sight. I blinked to see he was now inches from my face.

“Congratulations,” he said, with his devilish smile that was a bit unnerving. If his fangs were out I’d have probably screamed.

I gaped at him, unsure what he was saying or doing. Before I could even ask he disappeared again and my eyes found him in his seat next to the rest of the council.

“Quinn, order two demon Shadows at the entrance to the vampire quarters while Lilly is here today, no one leaves,” he said, without any further explanation.

I looked at Quinn and he nodded.

“He must sense your pup, it is very hard for a vampire to control himself around a pregnant human or baby,” my father said, whispering in my ear.

My hand instinctively went to my belly and a big dumb smile crept across my face. A wolf is only pregnant for a fraction of the time as a normal human, so things move a lot faster. I immediately wondered if Godfrey could tell how many pups I was having.

“I call this session to order,” Godfrey said, hitting a little gavel.

“I have the docket today,” Dina said.

“Good, first order of affairs,” Godfrey asked.

He immediately turned to look out the only window in the room, it was angled away from him, in case it was a sunny day I figured. But of course, today it was overcast and he would likely be staring outside which was his favorite thing.

I decided I needed to follow up asking him about his life sometime, I just had so many questions.

“That would be the current state of the Blood Claw and White Star packs,” Isaac said.

“What is your proposal,” Quinn asked.

“Seeing as the entirety of the Blood Claw ranks and all head warriors were wiped out, there is no one coming forward to claim a position on their end. As for White Star, Ridge Sparks has declared his intent for Alpha, with his trusted

childhood friend Pike as his Beta. They have already gathered roughly a hundred wolves from both packs willing to pledge allegiance to him," Isaac stated.

Whoa, I didn't realize all that, he did that in just the span of a couple days? He must have been really busy going around to all those wolves. Since Ridge was sitting next to me I took his hand and held it. I could not possibly be more proud of him.

"Am I to understand the original Alpha of White Star is no more," Dina asked.

"Killed by Alpha Gunner during his invasion, as was the Delta. His father, Rock Sparks was the Beta at the time, he sponsors his son," stated Isaac.

"Anyone wishing to challenge," Quinn questioned.

"No one that we are aware of," Isaac said.

"Very well, shall we vote," Godfrey said.

There is usually more than one wolf wanting to be Alpha of a pack if there is an opening, but since this one would be newly formed and had no challenger, the council could make the decision. At least that was how River briefly explained it to me this morning.

Every council member voted in favor and Ridge squeezed my hand. I wanted to jump up and scream, I wanted to hug him, but I didn't dare move since they moved things right along.

Tyson was walked into the room by a guard who looked freakishly disfigured with only one eye and I figured he must be a demon. He gave me the willies and Violet growled.

"Next is the matter of the living heir of Blood Claw, please stand Tyson," Isaac said.

"Tyson, son of Gunner, deceased Alpha of Blood Claw, you are charged with kidnapping, attempted rape and aiding and abetting your father with war crimes, what say you," Isaac said.

"I am guilty of everything. I humbly ask that my sister Tyra be clear of absolutely any wrongdoing, I understand she was recovered at the pack in

England. She's a good girl, she was never involved in anything. I have no idea if my father tried to promise her to anyone, but I also ask that any possible forced matching be banned for her, that she would be allowed to try and find her fated mate," he said.

I did always like Tyra but Gunner often kept her away from everyone, she had private nannies and tutors, I rarely saw her.

"The child is being adopted by a good family, she has asked to see you and you will be permitted an hour with her after this hearing, then you are not to have contact with her until she comes of age and only if she decides to initiate contact," Dina said.

"I understand, thank you, thank you so much," Tyson responded.

"Now as far as your punishment ... I cannot overlook the lengths to which you were willing to go to help us in finding the Blacks' mate and your father, but you have a lot to prove. I understand you are interested in being a Shadow. There is no standard amount of time for a recruit to be a Shadow, when your leaders feel you are ready, we review your file and vote.

However, in your case I propose a minimum of three years before there could be a vote on you, and if rejected you would have to wait an additional three years to try again. Do not ... fvck this opportunity up. If you do anything stupid or take any actions against the council or a Shadow, it will be ten years in the dungeons with bread and water three days a week. Shall we vote," Godfrey said.

Tyson paled and took a hard breath.

The council voted yes unanimously. I let out a hard breath as well. Tyson quickly looked at me and locked his eyes on mine. He smiled, and I gave him a smile back.