Chapter 10

MADDOX

I was thankful that she was going to be okay. The panic that I had felt when I saw her injuries had gutted me. She was still in pain, but at least her wounds had healed up.

What I would not give to kill the bastard who decided to fuck with her ...

We were currently sitting in a large conference room, awaiting the rest to show up. Not only was Beauty and Zion's fathers coming, but so was the bastard's. I could not wait for him to see what his son had done.

A cup of coffee appeared in front of me, and I looked up to see one of the twins.

"Thought you could use it," he said before taking one over to her as

Looking over, I saw the bloodstains on her top. It took everything in me to look away without leaping over this table and ripping his throat out.

I was broken away from my thoughts as some seriously powerful and angry auras entered the room.

"Alpha Theo and King Jackson," our headmaster said, bowing his head respectfully. "You as well, Luna Ziyah," he added when he realized it was not just them.

My eyes snapped towards the newcomers, and the pieces started fitting themselves together. It was no fucking wonder why Beauty had a powerful aura and had the personality that she did. She was not only from Alpha blood but was an Alpha heir.

Anyone could be named an Alpha heir, but only the first-born from the Alpha held an additional source of power within them unless they formally relinquished their birthright or were stripped of it. First-born simply meant the first birth in the case of multiples.

"Alpha Crestor," the headmaster said as the bastard's father walked in as well.

Alpha Crestor did not look thrilled at all once he spotted his son. If looks could kill then the boy would be six feet under.

Now that the party was here – cue the sarcasm – we could get down to business because I needed to let Neo run to burn off my anger.

The headmaster opened his mouth to speak but was cut off by someone. I looked over and saw the Luna with a glowing hand on Beauty's shoulder. I watched as the bruises completely faded, and she looked like the pain had left her.

"I want this put out there so that everyone is on the same page. She received vampire blood to help her heal, and my own healing ability allows me to see where it touched and what damage it repaired or began mending. Two fractured ribs, a bruised kidney, a concussed head with two hairline fractures, and as you can see from the blood on her top, a fuckton of lacerations that were bad enough to have given her a good deal of blood loss," she said as she glared the bastard down.

The growls, snarls, and anger aimed at the bastard had him cowering. He looked towards his father for help. However, there was nothing apart from disgust, disappointment, and anger aimed at him.

At least it was not only me who wanted to murder him right now. I figured any of us could do it and probably get away with it given the circumstances. Okay, probably not, but the thought was still tempting.

Beauty stood up from her seat, crossed her arms over her chest, and stared him down. After a minute, her eyes swept around the room.

"Let me explain a few things so that you have context. David started a petition last year to ban me from Leadership Training because he felt it was a disgrace to have a female heir. He hated me the entire time that I've been attending the academy. We were paired up on our first Training Ops day. He was pissed off because I beat him fair and square during our spar. He waited until my back was turned before he, still in wolf form, went to attack me from behind. I sensed it the moment that he leapt and used my aura to block him, throwing him into the bleachers."

Then she continued on to explain about what happened today after she and I sparred.

His father grew murderous when he heard that his son essentially threatened not only her but also her father and their pack. That was dangerous because it could have be grounds for serious conflict between the packs.

She went on to detail everything that happened when she was heading to the library. Hearing about it from her made my blood boil with rage at the thought of what he did. How could someone be that fucking pissed off about being 'emasculated' that he would go to those lengths?

There was a pregnant silence once she was done explaining everything.

"Tell us why you did all of this and what you would have done to her if you had not been stopped," his father commanded.

He tried to fight the command but could not do it. He might be an Alpha heir, but there was no fighting against his Alpha's command.

His eyes landed on Beauty's. There was nothing but anger in them. What did he have to be angry about? He should have thought twice before he pulled this shit.

"She's a bitch who thinks she's some gift from the Goddess, prancing around as a future Alpha like she deserves it or some shit. A female can never be Alpha. She should have taken the fucking hint when twelve different heirs signed that petition last year. If the fucker hadn't stopped me," he said, throwing a snarl my way, "then I would've ruined her so that nobody would take her serious, knowing that she couldn't even protect herself, let alone an entire fucking pack. I would've destroyed that little innocent act that she had going on and enjoy every second of fucking her."

I was certain that everyone wanted a go at him now, but I was just the fastest to react. I launched myself across the table and had him pinned against the floor.

Not only did he bully her and hurt her today, but he also had every intention of raping her. What deprayed sick fucker would do that?

I was a player. There was no denying that, but I never acted without consent. Even if I was in the middle of pounding into someone when they told me to stop then I would. Consent was not a hard concept to fucking understand.

"You're just a sick fucking piece of shit that doesn't even deserve the right to be called an Alpha heir."

I snarled at him with my hand wrapped around his throat. It would not take much to snap his neck, but I was trying my best to rein Neo and myself in.

A warm hand on my arm broke through the red haze of murderous thoughts. I looked up and saw Beauty's beautiful green eyes looking at me with appreciation.

"Thank you for your help today, Maddox. Thank you for stopping him when I couldn't." A single tear fell from her eye that she wiped away before continuing. "He's not worth it, so let's go sit back down. I'm certain that he'll get what's coming to him because what he's done and intended to do are both very serious."

Then she held her hand out to me. I grabbed it and stood up even if I wanted nothing more than to rail him with the same injuries that he inflicted on her.

I had expected her to take the seat that she had been in, but she sat down next to me instead. Her presence was like a balm to the anger swirling around inside of me right now.

"I have to agree with Maddox," Alpha Crestor murmured. "I, Alpha Crestor of the Aspen pack revoke the title of Alpha heir from David Paulson. Never will he be a candidate for Alpha of our pack from this day forward and will be without rank."

A gut-wrenching scream tore from the bastard as his birthright was stripped away from him. I had never seen this happen before, so I had no idea that there was a physical pain associated with it. I supposed it was similar to a mate's rejection.

Honestly, I was thankful that Alpha Crestor had done this. It proved that he understood the seriousness of what his son had done and wanted to do. Not only did he remove his heir status, but he also made him lower than an Omega even.

"I leave the punishment for his deeds up to you, Alpha Kalen," he said respectfully, showing her that he did not believe the same thing that his son did.

She looked taken aback by his offer. There was a deep look of determination as she observed the bastard who was trying to hold back his tears but was not really succeeding.

"There's a reform program offered up by Coverstone Council. It's had great success with individuals who have either committed crimes or had every intention to. They are immersed in a work environment, along with mandated therapy sessions to help them overcome whatever issues they suffer from. My mother was the one who helped develop it because she understands that many of those individuals' issues stem from deeper psychological trauma or distress. I'd like David to go there in hopes that this will benefit him. There's no changing the past, but hopefully he can have a brighter future that he can find happiness and a true sense of worth."

I was bewildered by her choice. She could have asked for anything

