

Letters Sent To Eternity

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Chapter 51

34 – Kennedy

I have to be cool though. I cannot act like the freakish girls that I have seen around Jeremiah, or even Amy last night. These alphas have girls throw themselves at them all the time. Girls that only want a piece of the 'alpha,' not the guy who happens to have the title of alpha. He also doesn't seem super happy about having to deal with the presence of a human. Although, I thought last night might have at least made him more open to me.

We had a moment last night and then again on the training grounds. I know he could feel it too, see it in his eyes, even if he won't admit it, but this little flirtation will end when I go back with Jeremiah, Rayna and the guys in a few days. I may never see him again after this. I just need to relax, he's just a guy like all the other guys I hang out with daily. Just treat him like one of the guys. A really big, really hot, alpha male kind of guy.

Just one of the guys. Just one of the guys. That's the mantra I have in my head as he climbs in the driver's side. How can he make sitting in a truck seat sexy? Well, being shirtless is working in his favor. There is not an ounce of fat on his cut body. I wonder if he just flexes all the time. He clears his throat. Oh sh*t! He caught me staring, but I can't help the elevator eyes as I look up to his face. My mantra goes flying out the window when I make eye contact with him and he smirks. He knows exactly what I was doing and his ego just grew three sizes. I have to break this silence somehow. What is it about him that makes me tongue tied? He's just a hot guy. I'm around hot guys all the time. I clear my throat while trying to get my brain to restart.

"How do you seem to know what I am thinking?" I blurt, wanting to cringe at my slightly aggressive question. Not as smooth as I wanted to be, but here we are and that could be taken so many different ways. I am officially a loser.

"What do you mean?" That stupid smirk.

"Well, last night..." I hesitate and he stares at me, eyes going a darker shade. Nope, not going there while it is just the two of us stuck in this confined space. I clear my throat again. "You seemed to get that I was nervous to dance and you helped me out. I don't usually do the slow dance thing outside of my guys. I try to avoid it actually, too many guys get handsy. Not a big fan of random people touching me." I swear I can hear him suppress a growl in his chest. "And then when you offered me a ride back to the packhouse just now. It had literally just crossed my mind that I walked here and I wasn't sure if my friends had room. You offered, kind of, before I could even ask." I shrug, I

like it was that simple. It's not, but I also want to know if he will bring up the other situation last night, cause he definitely knew what I needed then too.

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He makes a sound that could be a grunt, or maybe just talking himself into having a conversation with me. He knows where my thoughts went, maybe his have been stuck on that loop too. It's a great loop. "Umm, well as far as dancing. That was easy, everyone else had paired off and you and I were left, so..." He just shrugs.

Thank you for that reality check mister Alpha sir. I had to work to not look annoyed or hurt as my ego took a hit, it made sense, sort of. Even though I was hoping for something a little more, I guess. Whatever.

He pulls out and starts driving before he finishes. "As for the ride, I saw you walk up with all the pups. I mean who wouldn't notice an entrance like that?" He didn't smile, but huffed what I think was a laugh. "But you walked, so I figured you would need a ride back." He gives me a side eye that I pretend to ignore, looking out the window at the pack as we drive by. His non-dismissive dismissal is frustrating. He clears his throat, "How did you get them all to follow you like that, by the way? Like the pied piper. We can't seem to corral them for sh*t at training. Getting them started takes forever and it's exhausting."

I fully looked at him this time, confused. "Really? I played a game of soccer with them, they are really coordinated together, then I asked someone to show me the fastest way to get to the training grounds so I wouldn't be late." I shrugged. "I guess they thought I needed all hands on deck as an escort."

He makes another sound that I can't place, nodding his head and looking annoyed.

"What?" I don't think I really want to know his opinion, but he clearly has a strong one.

"I know what those boys thought." He grumbles, hands flexing on the steering wheel.

"What is that exactly?" I cross my arms, fighting the frown that wants to take over my face. I should not be getting into this with the Alpha of the pack we are visiting, but I also will not let him talk down to me.

He looks sideways at my tone and his face falls. "Uh." Cough, "You are a new face in the pack and a beautiful woman. Then you asked for help after giving them your attention. Every one of those boys wanted to be your hero, and you fed right into it." He presses his lips together, eyebrows raised, hoping I will take the compliment wrapped in an insult. That is not what went through his head originally an

d we both know it. Then he implies that I led them on **or** tried to manipulate them. Asshole. I did not miss the way he said 'boys' either.

He pulls up to the garage next to the pack house without saying anything else on the subject.

"Good save, Alpha." I emphasize the word like I did last night when I told him goodnight, then jump out of the truck, not looking back. His overwhelming scent is making my head spin and I'm liable to do or say something stupid in my irritation if I don't get some distance soon. I won't let him make me feel like cheap entertainment or gloss over what we did, even if he doesn't want to talk about it. I'm going to keep it in the forefront of his mind. Because to be honest, I really want a repeat no matter how irritating he is. I have never felt so good after an orgasm and he didn't even touch me. It was so good, in fact, that I didn't have one nightmare. I don't remember dreaming at all for the first time in three years

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Chapter 52

35 – Ryker

"Why don't

you just go and talk to her?" My wolf's question has been the same everyday. Today we are watching Kennedy, Rayna and some of the guys play with the pups. It's fascinating. It didn't take much to convince him to stop on our border run.

"I can't trust you to behave yourself, that's why."

"So you're just going to hide like a pussy and then follow her around like a stalker instead. That makes so much more sense."

"I am not stalking her. I'm trying to understand her. Besides, she hasn't made any effort to come to me either."

"That's what you're going with? Leaving your balcony door open hoping to hear her moaning your name is not an invitation to come talk to you. She's also human and doesn't have the same senses that we do. You're going to have to be in the same room as her for her to talk to you, dumbass."

"I swear to the Goddess if Danny hugs her one more time, I am going to rip his arms off." They know I am here and he's doing it to get a reaction. It's working. I lock all of my muscles resisting the urge to follow through on my threat.

"And you say I can't be controlled. They are playing a game and clearly she likes to win. You can't make everyone stay away from her. Based on our stalking, I have noticed she's not a fan of being told what to do."

“Jeremiah told us that. I’m not shocked it has been confirmed. I really hate you sometimes, you know that? Josh, any news about Claude? He went dark after the meeting last week. We should have heard some type of complaint by now.” I can’t focus on her any more. We need a distraction from our distraction.

“Nothing Alpha. Where are you? I’ve been running for thirty minutes. I should have passed you by now.”

“I stopped for a minute. Needed to get a better look at something.”

“That something wouldn’t happen to be 5’5“, blonde and playing soccer way too close to your delta would it.”

My wolf laughs right along with Josh. Dicks.

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“I think I hate both of you.” He’s obviously close, so my wolf gets up and we continue to run the border checking for signs of distress from our neighboring packs.

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“What’s the deal bossman? You’ve never been interested in blondes or women outside the bedroom.” His tone is playful, like he knows damn well what the deal is. I won’t say it out loud to anyone, not yet.

I just need to keep busy this week, I can’t afford to be this distracted. Bennet can play guide and keep an eye on her, especially with all the rumors flying around right now. Something is coming and I think Claude might be behind it. I can’t show weakness or have a weakness like a human mate right now. I need to get a handle on the threats and neutralize what I can before I can even consider talking to Kennedy about this mate situation.

My wolf and I have gone rounds about what to do. He won’t take a chosen luna, so that’s off the table and I don’t disagree. I know we would be stronger having our fated mate, but I still don’t know how that works with a human. I should probably just come clean to Josh and maybe Robin and they can help me research this. But, if I tell Robin, she will find a way to keep Kennedy here and more than likely tell my sister and my mother. Then the choice would never be mine or hers to make. I can’t have that. Not yet. It’s safer for Kennedy if no one knows she’s my mate. Jeremiah can protect them both and if I send warriors to help it won’t be strange since he’s mated to my sister.

Ignoring the constant taunts from my wolf and my beta, I have been able to stay away from Kennedy all week and finally caught a break in the rumors of disgruntled pack members. Claude’s f*ckery is behind the biggest upstart and his land is close so Josh and I have been able to run out there and come home each night.

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Chapter 53

The first day we were out there, we were given the run around and stalled for over an hour until I finally Alpha commanded his packhouse omegas to tell me where he was. I hate causing pain to omegas who are innocent, but there wasn't any other option. All they knew was that he was 'out of territory.' And they had no idea of when he was to return. We took the time to walk the pack freely and I set another command to keep Claude in the dark about our visit and I should be told of his return immediately. Many of the pack members are suffering under his leadership still. I let Robin know what we needed so we could take care of them personally. This is probably his doing too. Mistreating them the same way he was when he was alpha, but this time he's blaming it on me.

Josh and I plan to return in a couple days, after we sent Jeremiah, Rayna and Kennedy off with their warriors and ours. It's too bad the universe and the Goddess seem to think that all my plans are a joke for them to mess with.

Of course, I got a mindlink as we were heading down to say goodbye to my sister. We had to leave, Claude has returned and is going to be imprisoned for treason, we finally had enough proof. I just needed the man himself. I let Bennet and Danny know and maybe this was for the best. I have been steering clear of her, there's no reason to change that now. But, I had to see her once, make sure she didn't put up a fight about the extra warriors I assigned to them.

I'm close enough to hear voices, but not what they are saying.

"Danny, mind your hands." I growl out as I watch him hold her tightly.

"Jealous Alpha?" He taunts. "I bet she would even hug you if you came down here and asked nicely." My heart leaps and my stomach drops at the idea of her being in my arms. That dance seems like forever ago and wasn't nearly long enough.

"F*cker. Watch it." Danny is lucky to be alive after his antics this week. I have had to stay away from him almost as much as Kennedy. My wolf preens at the thought of her wrapping her silky arms around my neck, but knows we need to get to Claude first, he's more than just a

minor inconvenience now.

"She seems to be alright with the extra detail, that might be because Jeremiah and Rayna are fine with it. Are you going to explain what's going on, or should we just start guessing?" Bennet breaks into our, almost, argument.

"Claude isn't in custody yet. I don't trust him and his reach is pretty far. I want them to get to Silver Crescent safely. End of story." I take a breath, trying to calm myself of the pain at the thought of her being so far away. Then a growl rips through me uncontrollably.

I'm glad we are far enough that Kennedy didn't hear me. I had to blink a few times to get my vision to clear. What the hell was that? Instinctively, I look at Kennedy again and Danny has his arms wrapped around her waist from behind and he's whispering something in her ear that makes her smile brightly and then roll her eyes as he kisses her on the cheek. My whole body is vibrating with jealousy. They can probably feel it through our link.

"End of story, my ass, bossman." Danny snickers in my head. Well if anyone was going to call me out publicly it was going to be him. I say nothing, just watch them get in the SUV's and drive away. I feel like a piece of my soul is being torn away. "What do you need us to do so we can talk about why your Luna is being allowed to drive away?"

He knows, they all know, but they are waiting for me to confirm. I say nothing as a way of emptiness washes over me and then is replaced by rage. Rage I can work with. "Let's go get Claude."

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Chapter 54

36 – Kennedy

As much as I want it, nothing else happens between Alpha Ryker and I again. In fact, I only caught glimpses of him coming and going from the pack house during the week and I didn't see him at all the last two days we had before heading back to Silver Crescent. I know he's busy running a combined set of packs with probably thousands of pack members, but his room is right next door to mine and I can smell his cologne in the hallway and even on the balcony, so I know he's still here. He's just out of reach.

Realistically we should have come across each other at least once or twice, but I feel like he's avoiding me. And then I want to smack myself, because why should I even care? I have never wanted a second round with any of the guys I have been with. I even kept Ben at a distance, even though I've been with him a few times. I don't know why this is different, but it is. As much as he riles me up, something about him settles me, although I'll never admit that out loud. I haven't had a nightmare all week. I haven't woken up screaming and terrified since we have been here. Jeremiah asked me how I was doing one morning over breakfast, since I hadn't called for him, or any of the guys, he assumed I wasn't being honest about it. I told him it was Gretchen's fault and that I needed someone like her in our pack to train me to exhaustion everyday. Not a total lie, she's kicking my ass. He left it at that, but I know he and Rayna are watching me more closely too.

All my thoughts of Ryker went out the window when I got to play with the pups again the third day we were here. This time Rayna, my guys, Bennet and Danny joined in too. The game was so much more fun with all of us. It seems like Todd and the boys learned their lesson, because Emily was schooling all of us. I think she actually got better in just the time that we have been here. These big guys are really good with the kids. They would challenge and taunt the teenagers, while letting the littles walk all over them. Rayna showed me around the p

ack hospital where she would help out, everyone seems to love her here. They are really going to

miss her.

I also got to wander around the pack this week, I was never alone though after they 'lost' me the first day and Jer's suspicions of my lack of need for him get bigger every day. Ben and Bennet seem to think that I needed a dual escort everywhere. I tried really hard to not let that offend me. I am a guest and really shouldn't be left on my own, but I know that neither would do the same if I had a wolf.

Even though someone was with me pretty much all of the time, every now and then I would feel the hairs on the back of my neck stand up, like I could feel eyes on me. Someone was watching me, following me. I could feel it, but anytime I looked around, there wasn't anything unusual to see. These guys were making me paranoid and the twitchy feeling is pissing me off.

Bennet's a great host and guide, he seems to know everyone. I found probably my favorite ice cream shop, which I made them go back to every day since I was introduced to the handmade goodness. I have never had desserts like cookies and ice cream that made me want to cry because it was so delicious.

There was a tiny shop that had handmade jewelry, bags and other small knick knacks. The owner was quirky in a hippie sort of way and made me laugh with all the stories about how she came up with her ideas and designs, many of them x-rated, much to Ben and Bennet's embarrassment. She became my second favorite person here, next to Emily.

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Chapter 55

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Bennet bought me a wolf statue he caught me staring at. It caught my attention each time we walked through the shop. I was drawn to it for some reason and the shop owner said it was good luck, giving me a long story about the moon and its position at the time of carving the wood. It was an ornately carved wood statue that had so much detail it was almost life-like and stained midnight black with little silver details that made the fur look like it was shimmering as I moved it in different directions. Its defining feature was the faceted red glass for eyes. The way they caught the light made it look like the statue was looking right at you, following every move. It was a menacing look, but also comforting or maybe protective.

Speaking

of protective, I think Ben came along to make sure I was never alone with one of the Dark Moon guys and

he grumbled about Bennet buying me a gift the whole walk back to the packhouse. I may need to have a real talk with him.

Our final morning is bittersweet. I have really enjoyed a majority of my time here. Greta and the kids have been a wonderfully surprising distraction. The rumors clearly didn't get everything right. Bennet and Danny meet us at the SUV's as we finish packing up. Rayna hugs them both, mumbling something about her brother being a workaholic.

"You know how he is. He and Josh have to get Edward's pack set up. No one thought it was going to be a big deal, but there are lots of other pack members with demands and everything they take care of something, or more likely someone, some other sh*t hits the fan." Bennet says to her and then looks at me for some reason.

I ask Danny. "Is Greta here or did she travel with your alpha? I'd really like to say goodbye and thank her for putting up with me. I know she got stuck with me for training and I appreciate her patience."

"Trust me, she enjoyed having you here. We all did. She is working with the alpha, but she'll be with us for the mating ceremony, no worries." He hugs me for far longer than necessary and clearly enjoyed it based on his low, gruff giggle.

"Alright, alright, enough of that." Bennet pushed Danny away from me, looking more than playfully irritated. "Leave her alone, they have to get on the road. Jeremiah, Alpha Ryker is sending two cars with you. There have been reports of attacks and he has ruffled a lot of feathers recently. He wanted you to have extra protection since you have your whole leadership team and Luna."

Jeremiah looks from Rayna and then to me. Why does everyone keep looking at me? I hate that I can't mindlink. Rayna would tell me what's going on if I could just ask... I think.

"I appreciate it. Let him know I will have my guys meet us halfway, that's not a short round trip."

"They have orders to stay with you until you make it safely to your packhouse and they report in." Why does Bennet look so serious? We're just driving home and we had no trouble getting here. "Alpha Ryker will fly them home, if you don't mind hanging onto our vehicles until we come in for the Luna ceremony."

"That works for me. I appreciate the extra protection. We have precious cargo." He smiles at Rayna and then looks at me again. What the f*ck is going on?

Danny grabbed me around the waist from behind, breaking me of my thoughts. "Don't miss me too much, my hot little human friend."

"I will try so very, very hard." I giggle at him as he kisses me on the cheek and then wiggles free.

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Chapter 57

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I leave the room quickly before Aunt Beth can read too much into it. There really haven't been any big problems. Most of the girls just talk a big game, some of them have tried to follow through with their threats, but I am a good enough fighter to hold my own and stay out of any real trouble. Now, it's not that I'm trying to take him and don't deserve him. It's that the Moon Goddess has proven I'm not worthy and that gave them permission to be awful. I only have a couple classes with the really b*tchy ones though, thank the Goddess I was born intelligent with a drive to get sh*t done.

"I expect you back and ready for hair and make-up by two. Do you hear me young lady?" I hear her holler down the hall and I just laugh in response. I may tease her, but I wouldn't be a problem on Rayna and Jer's day for anything. They are both so happy and I couldn't wish for a better partner for him. She has a calmness that just radiates around her and we have all become better for it.

Ben and Tommy have been taking turns coming to class with me. Jason is in full gamma mode sticking by Rayna's side whenever she is going out and about in the pack learning first hand from his dad. I actually miss his calm company in class, but that is the name of the game as we all become adults and start to do our own things. I should actually be glad we are doing this transition slowly now so when I do leave for college, it won't be so abrupt.

The party prep was in full swing when I got home from school. It's just the rehearsal, but Aunt Beth is not messing around. We will do the ceremony rehearsal, which should only take an hour, then dinner and a party. This reminds me of a wedding I went to with my parents once and my mom was a bridesmaid.

There's an area sectioned off for the Luna Ceremony and no one is allowed to touch it once we are done learning our places and roles. There are white flowers hanging from arches surrounding the seating area and on the back of every single chair. There are only enough chairs for the elders and leadership, the rest of the pack will stand behind and watch as Rayna becomes our future Luna. The rest of the backyard is full of fairy lights and seating for almost the whole pack, but tonight it is just those of us in the ceremony filling up the space. There are several small fire pits, a buffet table full of food, two bars and a DJ and we are living it up.

Arms come flying around my neck from behind and we almost topple over. "I wish my brother wouldn't work so much. He should be here. He promised he would make it." Rayna whines in my ear. It takes a lot for wolves to get drunk, but Rayna seems well on her way.

I turn to grab her giddy butt before it hits the ground. "He'll be here. He wouldn't miss your big day." I hope I'm not telling her a lie. I know if it was me, Jer would drop everything to be here. He wouldn't miss any part of this. But, I don't know her brother well enough to say that for certain. He was actually a d*ck most of the time we were in his pack. He seemed to only t

alk to people who he had to out of obligation or some kind of formality. Even him dancing with me was due to everyone else being occupied and he looked like he hated every second of it.

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Chapter 58

38 – Ryker

At this point I'm really thinking about taking everyone's advice and just ripping Claude's head off. We never caught him on our last visit. Somehow he managed to find out we were coming for him, meaning he has someone in my pack feeding him information. So we had to play it off like we were visiting to reprimand him for his lack of leadership ability and start our investigation over. This time inside our home pack. We were at least able to take care of the pack members that he had been neglecting. Josh and I found a few trusted members who seem to be handling things better than Claude or the people he put into place. At least I can bestow delta class ranks to those who deserve it. They now have authority to help and protect **on** my behalf and have a direct link to Danny and the rest of my team if needed. I told them to reach out directly to Robin for anything else they needed that Claude wasn't providing. I'm done trying to be politically correct. I'm going to ice him out and he will have no one and nothing before I finally wipe him off

this earth.

Now I need to find out his contact in my pack and that won't be easy. He's been doing this shady sh*t for so long, he's a master. With the way he avoided us when we visited his home, I am surprised to find that the asshole made the trip to Oak Lake Pack to see me. I don't un

derstand his game at all. He's been trying to get to me for two days and now he's not taking no for an answer.

"Linda, just tell him he's going to have to wait." She's almost as good as Robin at deflecting unwanted people. Robin would have had him out of this territory on day one though.

"Of course, sir. What do I do when he throws a tantrum and refuses to leave?" She raises an eyebrow at me. She has him pegged.

"That's his only option. He had his chance to talk to me and he couldn't be bothered to be available. I am busy now. Take a warrior with you just in case, please." I keep working on my computer. We are almost done with all the transfers and I can get this pack thriving again without my constant presence.

When Linda told him he was going to have to wait his turn, he was pissed. I could hear his growl from here. He raged past her and the warrior, storming into my office. He's bold and thinks I can't touch him or that I won't. I jump over the desk and wrap my hand around his throat stopping him in his tracks. His eyes are challenging, but there is a flicker of fear there too and I will exploit that weakness. What he doesn't understand is the only reason he is still breathing is because I need to know how deep his cancer goes.

"I'm disappointed, Ryker. Your little messenger didn't put up much of a fight. How will they protect you under a full attack?"

"Alpha Ryker. They had their orders and so do you. You will be seen when I have time for you."

He taps my hand, arrogant ass. "It appears that you have time now."

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"Your assumptions are wrong. I was in your home over the course of three days, I know you were aware of my presence, but you thought to ignore me. I do not have time for petulant child tantrums. When I have time for you, I will summon you. For now we are done." I release him and turn around. I want to see if he will attack me or leave like I asked.

I was not lucky enough to have him just leave. I mindlink Linda to come back in. We will just work around

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him. He needs to learn his self importance is a myth. He keeps trying every tactic he can think of to keep himself in my sights while I am very clearly working with Edward's people. I'm not sure why though. If he's working behind my back, I would have thought he'd want to stay off my radar, not up my nose.

“I think that you should reconsider the location of the school and pack hospital, Ryker.” Claude talks over us, understanding we are having conversations over mindlink while he’s in here. Josh has joined me and stands like the guard he is in the corner. “It really would be more beneficial where I originally planned for it.” Claude is now pacing my Oak Lake office, while Linda and a few Omegas flit in and out and I am doing my best to ignore him. “The location I chose will benefit more people and will give my warriors a better chance at protecting it.”

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At this point I’m really thinking about taking everyone’s advice and just ripping Claude’s head off. We never caught him on our last visit. Somehow he managed to find out we were coming for him, meaning he has someone in my pack feeding him information. So we had to play it off like we were visiting to reprimand him for his lack of leadership ability and start our investigation over. This time inside our home pack. We were at least able to take care of the pack members that he had been neglecting. Josh and I found a few trusted members who seem to be handling things better than Claude or the people he put into place. At least I can bestow delta class ranks to those who deserve it. They now have authority to help and protect **on** my behalf and have a direct link to Danny and the rest of my team if needed. I told them to reach out directly to Robin for anything else they needed that Claude wasn’t providing. I’m done trying to be politically correct. I’m going to ice him out and he will have no one and nothing before I finally wipe him off

this earth.

Now I need to find out his contact in my pack and that won’t be easy. He’s been doing this shady sh*t for so long, he’s a master. With the way he avoided us when we visited his home, I am surprised to find that the asshole made the trip to Oak Lake Pack to see me. I don’t understand his game at all. He’s been trying to get to me for two days and now he’s not taking no for an answer.

“Linda, just tell him he’s going to have to wait.” She’s almost as good as Robin at deflecting unwanted people. Robin would have had him out of this territory on day one though.

“Of course, sir. What do I do when he throws a tantrum and refuses to leave?” She raises an eyebrow at me. She has him pegged.

“That’s his only option. He had his chance to talk to me and he couldn’t be bothered to be available. I am busy now. Take a warrior with you just in case, please.” I keep working on my

computer. We are almost done with all the transfers and I can get this pack thriving again without my constant presence.

When Linda told him he was going to have to wait his turn, he was pissed. I could hear his growl from here. He raged past her and the warrior, storming into my office. He's bold and thinks I can't touch him or that I won't. I jump over the desk and wrap my hand around his throat stopping him in his tracks. His eyes are challenging, but there is a flicker of fear there too and I will exploit that weakness. What he doesn't understand is the only reason he is still breathing is because I need to know how deep his cancer goes.

"I'm disappointed, Ryker. Your little messenger didn't put up much of a fight. How will they protect you under a full attack?"

"Alpha Ryker. They had their orders and so do you. You will be seen when I have time for you."

He taps my hand, arrogant ass. "It appears that you have time now."

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"Your assumptions are wrong. I was in your home over the course of three days, I know you were aware of my presence, but you thought to ignore me. I do not have time for petulant child tantrums. When I have time for you, I will summon you. For now we are done." I release him and turn around. I want to see if he will attack me or leave like I asked.

I was not lucky enough to have him just leave. I mindlink Linda to come back in. We will just work around

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him. He needs to learn his self importance is a myth. He keeps trying every tactic he can think of to keep himself in my sights while I am very clearly working with Edward's people. I'm not sure why though. If he's working behind my back, I would have thought he'd want to stay off my radar, not up my nose.

"I think that you should reconsider the location of the school and pack hospital, Ryker." Claude talks over us, understanding we are having conversations over mindlink while he's in her ear. Josh has joined me and stands like the guard he is in the corner. "It really would be more beneficial where I originally planned for it." Claude is now pacing my Oak Lake office, while Linda and a few Omegas flit in and out and I am doing my best to ignore him. "The location I chose will benefit more people and will give my warriors a better chance at protecting it."

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Chapter **60**

As we pull up a party is in full swing behind the packhouse. An Omega greets us at the front door and leads us in and I am hit immediately with Kennedy's scent. It's like a balm after a painful injury, a month long injury of her being a way from me. My whole body relaxes and **every** ounce of tension I had from Claude today just disappears.

"Really, Alpha? You got it bad man. I think you just smiled." Josh laughs in my head and I choose to ignore him, while wiping the stupid look off my face. He's not wrong, but I'm not telling him that. I still won't talk about Kennedy with any of them. I need her as my mate, but I can't have her and don't want her because she is a human and a weakness I can't afford. I've been too busy to look into human mates **and** what that means for an alpha. I haven't told anyone else yet, either. I agree with my wolf, she should be the first to know. I can't decide if I should tell her, though, or how.

We continued following the Omega through the house, but just like when she stayed at Dark Moon, I wouldn't need a guide, I would just follow Kennedy's scent straight to her. Out in the backyard, I hesitate just inside the door to survey the scene. I know where Kennedy is immediately, but I ignore her, or pretend to. Jeremiah has about twenty warriors stationed around the yard seeming to blend in, but clearly on duty. Good, he's taking my sister's safety seriously. This is their weakest time, they are both vulnerable until they are marked, mated and the ceremony is complete, bringing my sister into the pack and bringing them both to their full strength.

I hear the sweetest laugh and my vision tunnels, my full attention is stolen and I am instantly angry. I shouldn't be this distracted by just one person. That is all a mate would be for me, a distraction. I would be so focused on her safety, protecting her, watching her that others would get hurt instead. My wolf's anger flashes through me and I have no idea what is happening for a second. I have to blink a few times and lock every joint in my body to keep him from forcing me to storm over to her. That's the only thought he has right now. Get to Kennedy. Once I can focus, I see why though. Beta Ben has her pulled into his side, arm lazy around her waist but holding her hip in a protective way that adds my furious possession to my wolf's.