115 CHAPTER 115

Eros Pov 1

"What!" we both said simultaneously.

"Relax" I pressed Aella down gently back to the bed, "let me take care of this"

"But..." she made to protest

"No." I shook my head, "You've been through a lot, let me handle this"

She sighed, worry clouded her face, "Are you sure? I can help" she continued.

"You're pregnant, heavily too, you should rest more" I didn't fail to note the fact that her stomach had gotten bigger. Well wolf pregnancy did develop differently.

"Promise me you'll call if anything goes wrong" she insisted.

"Nothing will go wrong. And if it actually does I want you to leave without looking back"

Her pupils widened, "I would nev—"

"Promise me. You won't try to fight, you'll think of our babies first and leave" I cut her off, my voice soft but stern enough to show just

how serious I was.

"I can't"

"You can" I insisted, "You're not running away or abandoning me. You're protecting our babies" I placed a hand on my stomach, "I can't be out there if I don't know that you all are safe, I need you to promise me, no matter what, the first thing you'll do is to run" I insisted hoping she'll see just how serious I was about all this.

She lowered her head, "I promise" she said with difficulty.

I pecked her, "I'll be back doll. Promise. I'll send the girls in, I'm sure they've missed you too"

She held onto my hand, unwillingness shining in her eyes, it broke my heart to see, but I softly withdrew my hand and left, if I had stayed for even an extra minute I may never be able to leave again.

I headed straight for the chamber, Kayden and the rest were already waiting with a grim expression on their faces.

The all went silent on seeing me, waiting for my next command.

"Status report?" I went straight to the

point.

The lay out of the pack was already laid out on the table, Kayden spoke first, "they were here" he pointed at a mountain on the map "when the Scout first spotted them"

"That's like 100 miles from pack borders" I replied, "how did the scout determine that they were headed this way?"

His jaw ticked, "seeing their number and considering the recent happenings, Xenos decided to keep an eye on them and now they've advanced this far up." He motioned to another spot.

"When did he first spot them?"

"Last night" murmurs rose among the team,

"They advanced 40 miles just between last night and now?" That was practically impossible especially considering the slope and terrain of the surrounding environment and not to mention, they're on foot.

The murmurs quietened soon, "Isn't 40 miles a bit too far fetched? Certainly they must have stopped for rest, even if they didn't just how fast were they? Were they walking at 1 mile per minute?"

"Maybe. In case you haven't noticed drake, I'm only passing the Information across." Kay shot back

"Was Xenos able to find out what they were? I mean surely we should at least know what we were expecting?" Axen spoke up.

"No." He shook his again, "He couldn't get closer without exposing himself"

"They aren't wolves" I noted.

"To the best of his knowledge, they were all in human form. Didn't seem like wolves but he was unsure of that as well."

"Alpha." A knock came, Caleb stepped in, "Excuse me alpha" he hesitated

"Come." I nodded, not missing the way his eyes flickered widely, he was panicking

His fists were clenched, jaw tightened. "They're getting closer to the pack"

"Impossible" shouts rang across, followed by murmurs, the air got thicker with tension.

"Control yourselves" my eyes swept across the room.

"Thank you Caleb. Ring the bells" I dismissed him.

I turned back to them, "I want every ounce of this pack covered, women and children first, Xavier and Axen you handle that, Drake ensure my mate is protected, Julian go to the refugees, bring them up on recent events, make sure nothing happens to even a single of them, the rest, come with me to defend the pack" the command rolled off like a wave, as I assigned roles to everyone.

"As you command Alpha" they bowed, chairs scraped, footsteps echoed behind me, all running towards their post.

"Kay, mindlink Celeste, ensure she keeps the enchantment up, they must not break through it." I ordered, we quickly rushed to the front line.

"What is the update?" I asked almost immediately, I walked into the watch Tower

"They seem to have just stopped" Axel responded,

"Stopped how?"

Right there, he pointed, I followed his hands and I could make out their tiny silhouettes at the distance, Just standing, were they planning something?

"they don't seem much"

"That's the thing, they keep getting smaller, almost like they were dividing themselves on purpose."

"A tactic? They know we're aware of their presence."

"Possibly, and look. This knew group seem to be aware of the enchantment on the pack borders, they've been staring at it strangely for the past hour. Fiddling with it too." he responded.

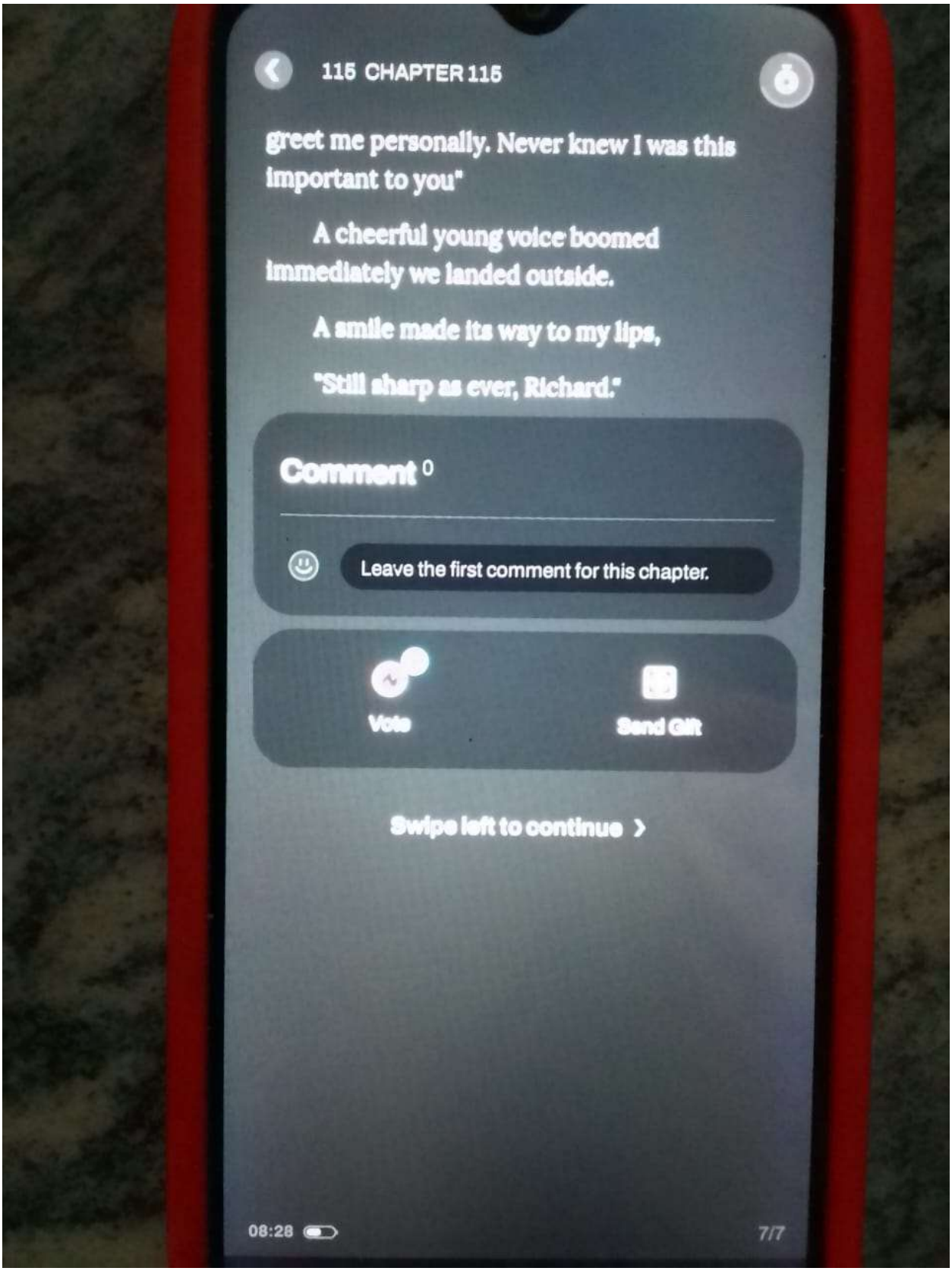
"Celeste said she felt a disturbance but it's not anything she can't handle." Kay returned

"Good. Let's go find out what they want." I stood, "Close up the borders immediately we walk past it and ensure it stays that way till I give a contrary order, no one leaves or enters without my permission." I ordered and together with Kay and the rest of my officials, left to go confront our dear visitors.

They transformed almost instantly, flanking Kay and I who still remained in our human forms.

My ears perked immediately we crossed, sensing a presence I hadn't expected so soon.

"What a pleasant surprise, you came to


115 CHAPTER 115
greet me personally. Never knew I was this important to you"
A cheerful young voice boomed immediately we landed outside.
A smile made its way to my lips,
"Still sharp as ever, Richard."
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