



Chapter 217

Friday came, and Lizzy, Misty, Alessia, Cassidy, Tessa, and Thea met up in one of the common rooms for their Girls' Night. Lizzy had it set up with food, games, drinks, blankets, and pillows. She got matching pink pajamas for everyone—even for Arella, Ophelia, and Cassandra, who were allowed to join them until their bedtime. They watched movies, braided each other's hair, danced, and ate junk food. They walked the girls to their room and tucked them in when their bedtime came.

The older girls returned to the common room, and Lizzy brought out some bags.

"These are for Thea," Lizzy said. "Go ahead. Look inside."

Thea looked inside one of the bags and pulled out a package.

"What is this?" Thea said.

"Read the label," Lizzy said.

"Oh my goodness," Thea said. She put the sex toy back in the bag. She looked in another bag and saw books on sex and more toys. "Thank you, Lizzy. I'll look at these later."

Lizzy laughed. "Truth or dare time," Lizzy said. "Since I just embarrassed Thea, let's all tell an embarrassing story about ourselves. I'll start."

"I didn't think you got embarrassed," Thea said.

"I hide it well," Lizzy said with a wink. "The night of the mating ceremony, when everyone went on the hunt, I was running through the woods, and I tripped over something. I don't even know what it was. I totally biffed it. Tail over snout. My wolf wouldn't speak to me for days. She thinks I'm a total clutz."



"Does that happen often?" Thea said.

"Not often, but it does happen. I'm not coordinated in wolf form," Lizzy said.

"You're so graceful," Misty said. "I never would have guessed."

"Your turn," Lizzy said, looking at Misty.

The group's attention turned to Misty. She took a deep breath in, thinking.

"My pack is on the small side," Misty said. "There aren't any other kids my age. I hung out with adults more than anyone else growing up. When I went to school, I didn't have any friends because I didn't know anyone and there was no one else from my pack. I was afraid of everyone, so I spent lunchtime hiding in a stall in the bathroom. It took me forever to get to know people and feel comfortable sitting with them outside of class."

"I had no idea," Lizzy said. "You always seemed so confident."

"I wasn't," Misty said.

Alessia felt brave after hearing Lizzy and Misty share.

"My embarrassing story," Alessia said. "Did you guys ever have to do a family tree for school?"

The girls nodded.

"When my turn to share came," Alessia said. "My tree was empty. I never knew my parents, and no one could tell me anything about my family. I told the teacher, and she said I didn't have to share, but the other kids pointed out that I was the only one who hadn't shared yet. The teacher said I didn't have anything to share. Everyone looked at me like I was a freak or a loser. I think that was the first time I cried at school."



Misty put her hand on Alessia's shoulder. Thea felt the butterflies in Alessia's stomach.

Cassidy noticed the two were having a moment and waited for Alessia and Misty to turn their attention away from each other. Misty took her hand from Alessia's shoulder, put it on the floor, and leaned on it. Alessia had her hand on the floor too, and Misty's landed right next to hers, their skin touching. Alessia didn't move away, and neither did Misty. [1](#)

"Before I left Cold Moon and went rogue," Cassidy said. "The higher ranked boys decided to play a game. I think they drew straws, and the shortest one had to ask me to be his girlfriend. They were older than me. I was naive. He took me to a party they were throwing and kissed his real girlfriend in front of me. They spent the night making fun of me, not letting me leave. Saying how stupid I was for thinking anyone would be interested in me, how ugly I was—" [1](#)



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