

Four or Dead by GOA

Chapter 67

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Chapter 67 Jayden

"Are you sure this is right? I don't see a road leading inside." Logan says from the backseat. [?]

Two teams of our crew have split up to attempt to find a way into this forest where supposedly one of Zane's properties is located. So far the others haven't found any sign of Zane or Emma at the other locations we checked. This is the last one, and it was built years ago and seems to not have a road leading to whatever is built on the land

My laptop is sitting on my legs and I am trying to find an easy way in but it looks like Zane has made it almost impossible to drive through the thick trees and brush

"He must have another way in," Asher says cursing under his breath as we try to find a space in the trees big enough to pass through from the two-way street we're on. .7)

"They could be using four-wheelers to get in." Leo offers and it seems to be the only possibility

"It looks like we are going to be going on foot," Logan says with a groan

Asher's phone rings and he answers it on speakerphone. "Doesn't look like there is any way in kid," Tony says on the other line

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"Try to get in as far as you can, and then we'll walk the rest of the way in," Asher orders. "Call some of the other guys and have them boost some offroading gear if we have to."

"Not a bad idea. One of the other teams was heading this way. I'll have them bring what they can." Asher ends the call and pulls over

"Looks like we aren't going to be going in guns blazing," Logan says with an amused snort

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"This has to be the place. There is no landmark on the map showing anything is out here, and no one found any paperwork on this place. It's known by word of mouth only. I was able to get satellite images that show the structure, but there is no clear path or road leading to it."

I explain

"So what do we do?" Leo asks

"I can use our phones to track our movements and try and guide everyone in the right direction, but there is no way to know if the

direction we go in will be easy to maneuver," I say

"Great," Asher adds dropping his head back against the headrest and running a hand down his face. "This is going to be fun. A trek through

the woods with no directions."

"Shut the hell up! Emma needs us and you're bitching about a walk through the woods? What is wrong with you?" Leo snaps and the car goes completely silent

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"Come on man, he didn't mean it like that," Logan says trying to calm Leo down

"No? What does he mean? Because it sounds like he's complaining about trying to get Emma back. Is this all too much for you? If so then drop me off here and I'll go alone. The rest of us don't give a damn how hard it's going to be to get through these woods. We care about helping Emma get away from a man who has no problem killing her. If you don't want to help then go home, because I'm tired of you acting like you don't care about Emma at all." Leo opens the car door and slams it behind him

Logan sighs and shakes his head. "He'll cool off once we get Emma back."

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"Will he? It seems like all this has done is convince Leo that Emma doesn't belong with us." Asher says, his voice low and defeated

"Maybe he thinks so, but Emma wouldn't let this bring us apart." Logan offers

Asher scoffs. "She deserves better. She's in danger and the first thing we thought when we saw that video of her was that she turned against us

We didn't even consider other options." \) He isn't wrong

Truthfully I didn't know what to think. We lived with Emma all this time and I fell in love with her so easily, but I also feel like there is so

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much I don't know about her. We were so busy trying to keep her out of all this that we weren't opening ourselves completely to her. She must have been waiting and hoping we would let her in, but we didn't. We were going through the motions of being with her, but nothing more.

She is as much a stranger to me now as she was the last three years. I can tell you her favorite food and show but not much else. We spent time hanging out and sleeping together, but it hasn't gone deeper. She hasn't complained once until we told her we didn't like this plan. She had been staying quiet about how she really was feeling for so long. I hate that we didn't trust her enough to let her into our world and show

her everything we are. *

We wanted to hide our monsters, but they are so much of who we are

So why wouldn't Emma hide things too? Maybe the fact that we know we didn't tell her everything made us think she is hiding something too.

Now I think the only thing she was hiding was how much she was hurting from how we treated her

"Leo's right," I say

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"What? Man, we made a mistake, but it doesn't mean we don't care

about Emma." logan says trying to rationalize our guilt

"Look, it doesn't matter. When all of this is over Emma might decide she doesn't want to live this life. We'll have to be ready to let her go

That's it." Asher says with finality

It sounds to me like he is already letting her go. .*

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Maybe he's right and it would be better to let Emma go, but...I can't. I haven't felt right since the day she left. I let her into my heart and if she left I wouldn't be able to move on. That little part of me that she found that is still human will be gone for good, and I would never be able to come back from that darkness in me. All the blood I've shed so far since she left is proof of that

"I'm not letting her go. Not ever." Logan says before opening the door.

and following after Leo

Asher sighs. "And what do you think?" He asks me

"She belongs with us. It makes sense to let her leave and have a normal life, but we are selfish bastards." I say.

Asher looks at me and lets out a snort. "Yeah, we are." He lets another sigh and looks down at his phone.

"They're here. Let's go get our girl." He pulls open the door just as the sound of tires comes to a stop behind us

I make sure to sync the information from my laptop to my phone before shutting it down and lowering it to the floor of my seat. I follow Asher and the four of us meet the guys who just pulled up in a moving truck of some kind. One of the guys opens the back and we follow around the side of the truck to find two four-wheelers waiting in the back. \)

Logan laughs with a clap. "Alright, let's do this."