

Chapter 0105

The small space between them seemed to be calling to me. I padded toward the center of the foot of the bed and slowly crawled over the comforter that was piled there. I could feel their body heat from here and their combined scents of citrus and cinnamon is heavenly and my pulse instantly slows, like my body knows I'm safe. I move all the way up to the pillows and lay down on my side, facing Cam. I take another deep breath in and my eyelids droop. At the same time, both Cam and Kota shift. Kota, against my back and he wraps his arm over my stomach and buries his nose in my hair. Cam turns to face me, glides his hand down my side and rests his large hand on my hip with his fingers extending toward my butt. His head leans towards me, lips grazing my forehead. That's the last thing I remember before I am dead to the world.

"WHERE IS SHE! IF SHE LEFT WITHOUT US I AM REALLY GOING TO KILL HER!" The door to the room banged open and my eyes flew open and took a sharp quick breath in, but I couldn't move anything.

What? Where am I? I took another deep breath and tried to look around. Then the familiar scent settled in and I remembered, I crawled in bed with the twins

when I couldn't sleep last night. Oh jeez, I crawled in bed with the twins! What was I thinking? Before I could move or say anything, a gravelly voice spoke up.

"Are you sure you looked everywhere for her?" Cam asks from in front of me. His breath fanning over the top of my head and moved the baby hairs slightly.

I can hear footsteps pacing the room. "Yes. Her room is empty, she's not downstairs in the kitchen or in the Luna's office. We told her not to go without us, it's 8, where else would she be if she didn't leave?" I flinched hearing the time, I never sleep this late. How did I manage that? I think, starting to get uncomfortable at how close and intimate this feels. Hands flexed on my hip and on my stomach. I stopped moving.


"I'm sure if you took a deep breath and calmed down you would be able to find her." Kota says behind me. I can feel him huff into my hair behind me and I know he is smiling. They are clearly enjoying my brother's torment and I have to admit, it is kind of funny. He hasn't noticed I'm sandwiched between the two people he's freaking out to.

"Fine," I could hear him taking a deep breath. "Wait!..."

Both twins are laughing now, but they haven't moved from the position we started in. "Okay, you have had your fun with him, but I need to pee, so let me go." I tell them, pushing up from Cam's well defined chest, not doing a good job of holding in my own laugh.

I climbed down between them and walked past my brother, not looking at anyone. I keep my gaze down as I walk past the rest of our friends. I can imagine what Sierra's knowing grin looks like, Oliver is probably confused or still just waking up and Sam is probably ready to throw a party. I don't want to know, I just move past all of them, into my room and straight to the bathroom to do what I need to do to get ready.

I'm ready in 20 minutes, I couldn't stall any longer than that. I pull on black leggings, a black sports bra and black tank top that has a high neck. I don't know what the trials are going to consist of, but I'm sure the more of my skin that is protected the better. I pull my hair up into a high ponytail and throw on my new tennis shoes. Somehow the Luna knew I busted through my last pair. I walk out of my room to see all my friends waiting for me on the couches in the sitting area and ready to go. No one says anything about where they found me this morning. We just



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walk to the stairwell and head down to the kitchen for breakfast.

“You seven really do travel as a pack, don’t you?”

“Good morning Alpha Reggie.” I say walking to the island covered in food. “Good morning Luna Anne, Prince Xander.” I acknowledge them as I get closer. The rest of my friends form a line behind me to get food and I follow Cam and Kota to the large kitchen table set near the patio windows. We all slide into our own chairs and dig in.

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Chapter 0106

“Are you really going to go through the trials today?” Prince Xander asks. “They are really brutal.”

“Yep. I’m too young to join, but the more experience the better for when I am able to fully participate.”

“I don’t know if I’m going to be able to watch that.” He looks like he might be sick. He barely knows me, why would he be this emotional about it?

“Now, son, don’t go giving anything away. No advantages to our young friend here. We can’t be showing any favoritism.” Alpha Reggie winks at me and I smile, but start to feel an unease set in.

I have to force food down after that little interaction. Who knows how long the trials will be and if we will get food or water during it, but I am not hungry at all. That’s new. I’m actually nervous for something. I don’t know how to feel about that. At 9, I stand up from my chair and I look at everyone.

“Okay, I have held off as long as possible, I need to go or I am going to go crazy. Delta Kyle can deal with me being 30 minutes early.” Everyone smiles at me and I turn towards the door before they can laugh at me. I

am already nervous, I can't handle the playful teasing this morning. I just need to get there and get my head in the zone. Just when I think they are all going to let me have my space, I'm scooped up and thrown over a shoulder. The thick honey scent tells me it's Oliver.

"You didn't think we were going to let you head to the trials alone, did you? You are about to do something massive without us. We are going to go with you as far as we can."

"Can I at least be cavemaned in an upright position?" I giggle at him.


"Fine, you can climb on my back, but you are staying with me. The twins got you all night." Was that jealousy?

Without putting me on the ground, I scramble to his back. My legs are too short to lock around his waist, so he locks his hands together under my butt for me to sit on. I wrap my arms around his neck and rest my chin on his shoulder.


"Are you jealous?" I tilt my face to his to see his reaction.

Nothing on his face changes, but he turns just enough to look me in the eye. "Maybe."

He keeps walking forward. We are clearly not taking the truck. I take a moment to notice where everyone else is. They are all loosely walking, but seem to be giving Oliver and I space.

“Look, I don’t know what is going on, but we are all drawn to you for some reason. We all feel it. I just know that I like being near you, I like having physical contact with you, but I also know it isn’t something romantic or s*xual. It’s hard to explain. It is definitely more intense than brotherly affection, but I don’t think it’s the same as the way Cam and Kota feel. You keep me calm, keep my head on straight. When we thought you left this morning, I thought I was going to have a panic attack, then we found you and the first thought in my head was, ‘I wish they found you with me.’ I don’t know what to do with that, but I just wanted you to know, we all need you. You have your reasons for wanting to leave and I hope someday you’ll trust us enough to tell us the whole truth, but the idea of you leaving is making us all a little crazy, so you are going to have to deal with us being clingy and possessive.” 


Then he just turns his head forward and keeps walking. Holy sh*t! First, that is the most words at one time he has ever said to me, but it is also the most

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truth I have gotten from any of them. At least it explains their weird behavior recently and why they went all Alpha male last night. I do the only thing I can think of in the moment and hug his neck tighter burying my nose in the crook between his shoulder and neck taking in his honey scent, calming my nerves as we get closer to the training grounds they are holding the trials at for the next two days.

“Thank you for explaining.” I whisper into his neck and goosebumps ripple down his arms, but he has no other reaction than that.

 Comments

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