

Chapter 0025

"Will you get the pups warmed up, I have a couple more things to wrap up here." He says to me but not looking at me. He is genuinely confused about the guy's presence here.

I grab Sierra's hand, "Come on, you can help with warm-up." We walk in the smaller arena. We have three so we can run multiple training sessions or training styles at a time. This arena also has an obstacle course at one end that we let the kids run on at the end of class. All the pups start shouting their hello's to me and then I watch their eyes pop as they realize who is following behind me. It was really cute to see them starstruck with the future Alphas, Beta, Gamma and Delta. They are celebrities at school, but I don't think they understand what these little kids think of them.

"Why do they all look terrified?" Oliver asks in my ear. I almost jumped not realizing how close he was to me.

"You guys are idols to them. They've never seen you up close before since you spend very little time with pack members younger than you." Was that mean? The way the guys are looking at me makes me feel like I said something wrong. Sierra nudges me with a huge smile on her face and I shake off the thought and get started. "These are our youngest pups, they range from five to seven. They are learning basic movements and body control, really."

I introduce the guys and explain that they are joining us today to see what we have been teaching and that they better make me look good. That earned a small laugh from the pups and broke the tension a bit.

We go through our usual warm-ups and Sierra and the guys follow my lead walking around and giving corrections. The kids must have thought this was the best day ever, based on their faces every time someone stopped to talk to them. I looked around after an hour and noticed Delta Kyle never came back, so I just kept on going. We do a lot of games to teach the pups, it keeps them engaged and they do the conditioning with less groaning if they know we will do something fun after. Today is tag, but I have an idea to make it more fun for them and for me.

"Okay, today's game is tag!" An eruption of cheers follows. "Wait though, we are going to play a little differently than normal." A chorus of AWW's has me rolling my eyes. "You didn't even hear how we are changing it up." I put my hands on my hips and look at them sternly. "We are going to see which leader you can catch the fastest. You are all going to be chasers against one of our future leaders, work as a team to tag them. Let's see what you can do. Get together to make your strategy." I turn around to the guys and they are looking at me like I have lost my mind. Sierra is openly laughing. "What, all you have to do is not get tagged." I shrug my shoulders.

"But there's like a thousand of them." Sam whines.

"It's only 50, you'll be fine. You can use any means except leaving the arena to steer clear of them for as long as possible, and just so you know. They take this game very seriously. Don't let their little cuteness distract you." I wink at them. "Who wants to go first?!"

"I'll go. It can't be that hard, can it?" Oliver volunteers.

I turn around. "Alright we have our first victim, I mean volunteer." I laugh. "Future Gamma Oliver is up. Remember he is going to try and evade you at all costs for as long as possible. Ready? Go!"

The kids all charge at us and the momentary panic in Oliver's eyes has Sierra and I almost crying with laughter. I don't think he expected them to be that fast and they work really well together due to the team building games we play. At two minutes and 40 seconds they finally cornered him. He walked back to the group panting.

"Should maybe work a bit on that cardio, less on the weights." Sierra pats him on the back.

"I really don't like you." He says to the ground, but he could be talking to either Sierra or me at this point.

"Who's next?" I ask, ignoring him.

"Let's get this over with." Mateo grumbled good naturedly.

Chapter 0026

"We have Future Beta Mateo. Ready? GO!"

Mateo has a better strategy at least, he runs a couple circles around the obstacle course and when they catch on he runs under it to cut off the two groups they formed, jumping to the rope climb, I'm sure he's hoping they don't know how to use, but he underestimates my training or their abilities or both. A kid follows him up his rope and two jump on the ropes on either side of him, effectively blocking him in.

"That was done in two minutes thirty five seconds." The kids scream at their accomplishment.

"Damn, they are fast. What kind of training do you put them through?" Mateo asks, going to grab a bottle of water and stands next to Oliver.

"Let's do this. All I have to do is make it longer than two forty." Sam chuckles.

"Willing to make a bet?" Oliver asks. Seriously these two and making bets. I'm sure they bet on who can hold their pee the longest. I roll my eyes.

"You're on, winner buys lunch, for all seven of us." Sam wiggles his eyebrows. This must be a very good wager. I'm not sure if I will ever understand the dynamic of boys.

"Okay, Ready for Future Delta Sam?" I don't even wait for

their response before shouting, "GO!" trying not to laugh at their antics. Sam is actually really fast and seems to be just as sporadic in his movements as the kids. I hate to doubt Oliver, but Sam might actually win this bet. He's laughing and dodging, spinning and jumping over the kids' heads. He clearly has the movements of a natural born warrior. He's leaner than the rest of the guys, like a runner who just happens to lift a ton of weight. The kids eventually break into 5 groups, 4 of them covering an entrance to the obstacle course Sam decided to climb and the rest have made a perimeter around in case he decides to jump from somewhere random. Which of course he did. He made a running jump to the rope climb, but did not anticipate the kids being able to shimmy up and tag him.

He climbs down laughing with the kids, looking at me expectantly. "Sorry... Oliver, he made it, two minutes and 43 seconds." I looked at Oliver apologetically, while Sam is hooting and hollering doing the do-se-do with some of the pups.

"Ugh! I'm never going to hear the end of it now." Oliver rolls his eyes, but has a smile on his face.

Both of the twins take their turns, but they are less serious about it. Opting to tease and taunt the kids before letting themselves be caught after only a minute or so. I'm not sure if they were trying to give the kids a break or if they didn't want the added pressure of having to beat Sam. He would definitely gloat.

"Alright cadets, now it's time to see if you can finally stop your biggest nemesis." Delta Kyle calls from the seats near the center of the arena, only he isn't alone. For the first time in a long time he is accompanied by the Alpha, Luna, Beta, Gamma and a couple of our Elite warriors.

Some of the kids groaned and some cheered. I get why, though. This is the only challenge they haven't won yet.

"What's he talking about?" Sierra asked.

"They have to play capture the flag against me." I wink at her.

"Wait, you're their biggest nemesis?" Dakota asks.


"I guess, you could call it that. I think Delta Kyle is being dramatic, but they haven't beaten me yet." I shrug my shoulders.

"What do you have to do?" Cameron asks.

"I have to capture the flag." I point to the flag one of the pups is attaching to the top of the forty foot rope climb. "And get back to this side of the stadium without being tagged in under a minute.


"WHAT? And they haven't beaten you? How many times have you played this? Once or twice." Oliver asks

"We have played this at the end of every Saturday training for almost a year." I say walking to my end of the field, not looking over my shoulder. I don't want to look at them and I

 +5 BONUS

also have to get my head in the game. I've never had an audience before and the current and future leaders are here, including my dad. It's a little bit nerve wracking.

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