



Chapter 0453

We talked a little about what we are up to, but they got the same story as Principal Duncan. Not because I don't trust them, but they are all really quick to jump in to save me and we need to really know the origins of the trouble here at school. I need to know what the Cunningham's are up to and what their angle is and I can't do that with the guys in tow. Actually they are going to be helpful in keeping them distracted for us.

"I can't believe you took Cunningham's office from him. I thought you were joking." Mateo laughs as we walk in.

The single mahogany desk is very upscale for a school, but very on par with his tastes and styles. Kevin Cunningham loves all things expensive and opulent. The wall behind the desk has a large window that overlooks the courtyard area behind the school between the elementary and middle and high school areas. This is where most students eat lunch on nice days. The wall furthest from the door has an extensive bookshelf that I thoroughly plan to look through. I'm not sure if all the books are decorative or if he actually uses them. The wall in front of the desk has a dark brown leather couch, similar to what Alpha Lucas has in his own office at the packhouse. The wall with his office door leading to the hallway has framed photographs of his family. Everything is very formal and no one looks happy to be in the photos.

"Perfect!" Jena growls, sitting behind the desk.

"What?!" We all ask at the same time.

"Lil, check your lock, has it been tampered with?" She doesn't answer any of us, but that is Jena. She's like a bloodhound when she's on a mission and nothing is going to distract her train of thought.

"Doesn't look like it from the outside. Why?" Jena puts her index finger up to her mouth indicating we should stay quiet. Someone has been here.

"I think someone has been in here, but they were good about covering their tracks." She gets up and starts to move around the room, not making a sound. I've seen this before. She thinks someone has eyes or ears on us. "High school students are probably trying to play tricks on us, since we are new in the pack and the building." She rolls her eyes as she looks through the books.

"What are you looking for? Can we help?" I ask over our team mindlink.

"Someone wiped the hard drive and then installed a mirroring code, but they are stupid or have no idea that someone in your team has basic computer knowledge and would have set up defenses for general, remedial level hacking. The microphone is live on the computer so I have to assume another one of those cameras we found in the hallway yesterday is probably here."

"Should we help look, or stay put and act as a distraction?" Lil is always hoping to be a distraction, usually in the form of destruction.

"Let's go with minor distraction in the form of talking too much, Lillian. Do not destroy the office!"

I link Oliver and Mateo to let them know what is happening while Lil rambles on.

"Well, I don't know sh*t about computers. So we are just going to have to wait. I know Alpha King Reggie wanted us to go through all the high school files and start to pinpoint potentials for the next trials. We didn't have as many people last summer as we did when Midge ran them. That was our biggest year yet."

"We had just started so hopefully we can recover the information we gathered. It's so frustrating to have to start over again." I whine a little, walking over to the wall of pictures.

"What does that mean for your investigation?" Mateo asks.

"Nothing, really, we will have to gather our candidates manually which will take up more time, so we will have more hours here. Less time to hang out with you guys." I keep up my pout while following my instincts to the family picture of the Cunninghams sitting on a side table. All the eyes seem to follow you no matter what angle you are to the picture. I get the chills thinking about any of them watching us, ever.

Then I see it, a small black camera set into the thick frame. If I hadn't been training with Jena and Nathaniel and looking for sh*t like this for the last year, I would never have noticed it.

"Jena, got it." She looks over at me and nods.

"Keep talking, I'll take care of that one. We need to look for more. If it was me I would have one on each wall to cover all angles and blindspots."

I relay to the guys and they keep playing along.

"You missed the first bonfire of the year, Shorty. We should do another one to welcome you back, now that you are stuck with us for a little while." Mateo says.

"That would be awesome. We really don't get a lot of downtime in between missions."

"Are there really that many problems? Doesn't Alpha Reggie have a lot of teams to work different missions?"

"Yeah, but our team has unique skills that make us the obvious or only choice for certain missions." I shrug. Lil waves pointing to a camera inlaid in the frame of the window.

"Then we really need to relax one night."

"You still the DD or have you graduated into the land of underage drinking with the rest of us?" Oliver's attempt at being a smartass has Lil, Jena and I all laughing.

"I smile at him playfully, you'll just have to find out. And this time the girls get to take body shots."

"Yes!! I have no idea what you are talking about, but it sounds like a challenge." Lil points at me. "I will always take a drinking challenge. When is this happening?" 1

"Sam is going to be so pissed he missed this conversation."
Oliver laughs darkly.

Mateo smiles, but ignores his comment. "The twins should be done with their patrols around lunch and we will trade out with them. They have a few things going on with the Alpha this afternoon going over pack business since so many imported things have been restricted or slowed down because of the rogues. Maybe after dinner we can make plans. That's really the only time we are all together right now."

We get a thumbs up from Jena as she moves to the desk and opens her laptop then logs into the desktop. Her fingers are flying away on the keyboard, moving between the two devices.

"Is there anything we can do to help with supplies? That is one of Lil's specialties."

"Not sure, I think the twins have it handled. I mean I haven't seen any shortages yet, but we can mention it to them." I just nod not really knowing how to respond.

After about ten minutes of silence, the only sounds are our breathing and the keys, Jena looks up.

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"Alright I have all of the cameras on a loop for now. I'll get a loop of the office empty here soon. Then we should be good to go. It doesn't appear that any of them are recording sound, but the microphone was on when we walked in, which means someone is trying to record conversations. I have control of that as well. It's just static now. That will eat up all the storage they are recording on and whoever it is will need to come and try to fix it sooner rather than later." She takes a deep breath. "I want to connect to the signals on the cameras in the hallways and we will need to do a full sweep of the school. I wonder if there are any cameras in the bathrooms or locker rooms too. It's disgusting, but blackmail always needs proof and your little girlfriend has some kind of leverage on people to get them to do what she wants."

"With the kind of pull her dad has, it wouldn't surprise me." Lil says, seriously.

"We also need to make sure that this isn't different people." I roll my eyes at their looks. "I hate the b*tch, but I'm not going to assume this is all her and her dad. Everytime we find something, this whole thing seems bigger than just the two of them. Maybe it's connected or maybe we just have more than one sh*tty person in our pack. But I won't just try to target because I don't like them."

"Let's go figure out how deep your leech is in this then." Lil jumps from her spot on the edge of Jena's desk, slapping

Mateo on the back. 1

"You need to stay here and figure out how someone got in here and how to prevent it without making any noticeable changes." I look at her.

"Ugh! Boring. We already know they came in through the window. And that is an easy fix."

"What?! How do you know?" Oliver seems genuinely curious.

"This window was set up to be accessed from the inside or the outside. The way the latch sits here, it can be flipped from this spot on the outside of the window." She quickly goes through what she is explaining. "Either someone was planning to break into the school or whoever designed this office wanted to be able to get in and out without detection and the first thing any intelligent person would do is check the locks on the windows and doors."

"Can you look at all the windows here and at the pack house for the same features? I'm curious, now that you are bringing it up." Mateo asks.

"Sure. It will be easier when Nathaniel and Wyatt can be here. They will help this process go faster." 1

"Who are they?" Oliver almost keeps the jealous tone out of his voice. My brother is not successful at all and I smile. 1

"They are part of our team. Nathaniel is probably the only person smarter than Jena with computers and Wyatt was here for trials, he was on my capture the flag team. I will need them for this project."

"You got it boss." Lil says laughing as I kick her in the ass as she runs out the door.

"Not your boss. Now get back here, you aren't going anywhere until this lock is secure."

"Yes, boss." We all laughed this time. "I'll link you when I'm done, shouldn't take me too long."

The rest of us head out of the office and down the hallway towards the highschool end of the building.

"Mateo, why don't you stay and work with Jena here, and Oliver and I will go to the second floor and look around covering more space."

"Why do you automatically assume we will want to work together?" Jena attempts snark, but she can't fool me. She is getting close to my brother, whatever that means, and I think it scares her. It didn't go unnoticed that they were together in my bed this morning. I don't think they were doing anything nasty, she physically has no desires like that right now. but she is drawn to him the same way she is drawn to me. For the first time since I have known her, she slept in a room without me and didn't wake up screaming for me in the middle of the night. That has to mean something. I don't know if that is because we are siblings or something else. I am not opening that can of worms though.

"Because Oliver isn't going to let me out of his sight while I'm in the same building as Kaley. And it's my brother's job to protect the Alpha." I wink at them and head up the stairs before either can protest. 1

Once we get far enough away, Oliver touches my arm gently. "How did you know that I wouldn't let you walk around here with Kaley on the loose?" It's a whisper and it's almost unsure.

"Oliver, of all the guys, you have noticed the most about me. At this point, it's an unacknowledged fact that Kaley has a massive problem with me, she always has. There is no way you were going to leave my side, even if Mateo was here with me. That is how reliable you are to me." I just turn and keep walking.

All in all, today was productive for us. We found a total of twenty two cameras and have every intention of searching the rest of the school. Jena was able to get schematics of the school so Lil could map them out for us as we found them. We don't see any common theme or direction they are pointing in. It doesn't appear like they are targeting any one in particular, but we also only found the ones in the most populated areas of the high school. We need to pinpoint more.

Jena was also able to find the plans for the Cunningham's house while getting the plans for the school. We now can prove the unnecessary changes and permit submissions are what is holding everything up. At a glance it just looks like red tape and paperwork that goes with all new buildings. Every time something is changed, everything needs to be approved and inspected again and they have done a decent job of making it look random, but something always seems to happen to make the permits expire and need reissuing.




Jena, Lil and I have decided that we are going to join the construction crew and get this house done this winter. I mean what else are we going to do with all of our free time?

We sat down to dinner in the formal dining room again. The only people who look comfortable here are Kaley and her dad. Even Alpha Lucas looks annoyed at the set up. It might also be that Kevin placed himself to the left of the Alpha where normally my dad, the Beta, or the twins sit. And he has not stopped talking since we sat down.

We decided to sit at the far end of the table, completely lost in conversation and ignoring the almost blatant begging of Kaley for the twins to sit next to her, since she posted herself next to Luna Ava. I don't know what the deal is, but if the Alpha and Luna are going to let these two continue to walk all over them they can be the ones to entertain them.

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