

Triplet Alphas Gifted Luna By Samantha Doyle Chapter 51

Chapter 51 Recovery

It took Thea a week to stop bleeding. A blood bag was constantly dripping into her IV to replace what she was losing. Several compatible donors from New Dawn didn't hear about the call until they got home from school because they couldn't mind link. They immediately went to the infirmary to donate. Misty came over with several unshifted high schoolers from her pack who donated their blood. They had to get her a heated blanket which was unheard of in the werewolf community.

Werewolves were warm creatures.

Lizzy befriended Misty at school. They ate lunch together and were almost attached at the hip. Misty was a little apprehensive and asked

Lizzy

why she suddenly wasn't mad at her.

"I thought you hated me," Misty said.

"I did. Something you'll learn about me. I'm fiercely loyal," Lizzy said.

"Oh, I'm aware."

"Saving my best friend and future Luna's life outweighs talking bad about her before. That's the thing about deep bonds and loyalty. Do me and mine right, and you're part of the family. I trust that you care about Thea, and you won't hurt her again. I believe that you'll do what you can to help her. You're in the inner sanctum now."

Thea slept most of the time, which was a blessing. When she was awake, she thought about the pup she might have had and the possibility of not having pups at all. She tried to be strong, but the triplets could feel her heartache. They never left her side.

She seemed to be sleeping every time her parents called, but Luna Ada was there to answer and give them an update. They were worried, but they knew her mates would take care of her, and the best way to help her

was to finish their work out east.

Lizzy spent all the time she could with her. She brought the triplets their homework from school. One day, she came in with books from the pack library.

“I remembered where I saw the symbols in your marks.” She opened a book and showed Thea and the triplets. “See? This one means royalty.” She opened the other books. “The others mean goddess, mother, savior, life, leader. That’s what I’ve found so far. I don’t know what the colors mean. I assume they’re from being goddess gifted, but all the goddess gifted we’ve read about were stolen before they found their mates. I don’t know if they would have had this coloring.”

“That’s interesting,” Alaric said.

Kai kissed Thea’s forehead. “I always knew you were special,” he said.

Thea got stuck on the mother symbol. She was meant to be a mother, but she might have messed that up. The guilt and pain were overwhelming. Alpha Ulric took care of pack business but visited Thea every day. The doctor told him her vitals were getting stronger each day.

The whole pack was practically in mourning. Everyone wanted to visit Thea, but the doctor wouldn’t let anyone in to see her. He said she needed rest. They held a fireside vigil for her. Several people were always at the fire, sending prayers to the moon goddess on her behalf until the day she was released. Then the fire turned into a bonfire to celebrate. The kitchen cooked all her favorite dishes.

She was still weak, tired, and easily light-headed.

Alaric carried her up to their room.

“You’re treating me like I’m made of glass,” Thea said. Her voice sounded better, though it was weak and still a little hoarse.

“Right now, you are,” Kai said.

“Normally, I’d fight you to show you I wasn’t, but I think you may be right,” Thea said. She rested her head against Alaric’s shoulder. “I want a proper shower,” she said. Her breathing was shallow. Her eyes closed involuntarily.

“The doctor said it would be okay,” Conri said, “Just no baths or swimming for another week.”

She’d been getting sponge baths the past week. She got the stitches in her neck taken out that morning. She still needed to be careful with the area, not exert herself, but she could finally shower.

“Okay, my love,” Alaric said, “But let us do everything.”

“No contest,” she said,

They went to the bathroom, and Kai and Conri stripped and turned on the shower. Alaric supported Thea while Kai and Conri helped her take off her clothes. They helped her into the shower while Alaric took off his clothes. He followed them in.

“Maybe she should sit. I don’t want her to fall in here,” Alaric said.

Kai nodded, took her to the bench, sat down, and pulled her onto his lap.

“Just relax, darling. I got you.”

She relaxed against Kai and let him support her. Conri started gently washing Thea. She felt the comforting tingles and was grateful she had the best mates.

“Thank you, guys, for being so wonderful,” Thea said. “I’m sorry.”

“Sorry for what, darling?” Kai kissed her shoulder.

“I didn’t consider what could happen to me. I’ve jeopardized the future of the pack.”

“No, you didn’t do anything wrong,” Conri said.

“If we didn’t leave pack lands, they would’ve found a way to get to you on pack lands,” Alaric said. “We know they have at least one witch. A

powerful one. I bet she's been sneaking wolves onto our land for months. If they had to come onto our land to get to you, odds are they would've kidnapped you. We wouldn't have been around when they did their tests."

"They probably would've killed me," Thea said.

"You would be gone, and we wouldn't know what happened to you," Kai said.

"I prefer you alive and with us," Alaric said. "I'm calling this a win."

"It could've been much worse," Conri said.

"But if I can't have pups," Thea started.

"We don't know that you won't be able to have pups," Kai said.

"I used to think being Beta was the most important thing," Thea said. "I took the other things for granted—having a wolf, having pups. I don't want to take important things for granted anymore. I don't know what I would do if I lost you guys."

"We're not going anywhere," Conri said.

"And neither are you," Kai said. "You're stuck with us. Forever."

"I like that," Thea said. "I love you all."

"We love you too," they said in unison.

They finished showering and got ready. The triplets dressed Thea and brushed her hair. She would have fought them and done it herself, but she didn't have the strength, and it felt good to have them close.

They went downstairs to join the celebration. They sat by the bonfire, arms wrapped around her. Thea was still perpetually cold. People came up to her and the triplets with food. She was able to hug and thank all the kids that bravely came to her rescue.

When she fell asleep, Kai carried her back up to their room. Alaric and

Conri thanked the pack then joined them. They got into their bed for the first time in a week. They'd been staying with Thea in her hospital room. They couldn't cuddle in the hospital bed the way they usually did in their own bed. It felt good to crawl into the bed they'd grown used to sharing.

The triplets all took their usual places. Thea woke up from the bed dipping. Kai and Conri were lying on either side of her, cuddled in her nook. Her arms were under them. Alaric was between her legs, his head resting gently on her belly.

She tried to pull them close, but she was too weak. She couldn't move under them. It was just like when the witch had her paralyzed. She panicked, thinking the witch was back. She could only scream in her head during the attack, but since she wasn't actually paralyzed now, the blood-curdling scream she let out was real.

The triplets all sat up, and her guard detail, which now consisted of four Delta team members, burst into the room.

"She thinks the witch is attacking her," Alaric said. "I hear it in her head."

"Thea," Conri said. "It's okay. You're okay. You're safe."

He pulled her up to a sitting position, and she clutched her chest, gasping for air.

"Her heart is racing. Let's get her to the doctor," Alaric said.

He picked her up and carried her to the infirmary.

"It's a panic attack," Dr. Boman said. He injected her with a sedative, and her heart rate went down, her breathing evened out, and she fell asleep. "You can take her back to your room. I'll send up some anti-anxiety medication in case it happens again. What triggered it?"

"I don't know," Alaric said. "She woke up screaming, thinking she was being attacked by the witch."

“Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. She should see the pack psychologist. When she wakes up, see what you can get out of her, if she remembers,” the doctor said.

“Okay.”

Back in their room, they laid Thea down on their bed. Her eyes opened.

“What happened? Where are we?” Thea said.

“We’re in our room,” Conri said. “You had a panic attack.”

“The witch,” she said.

“No, the witch isn’t here,” Alaric said.

“I couldn’t move,” she said.

“Oh no,” Kai said. “We did this. It’s because we were laying on you, and you’re too weak to move under us. I’m so sorry.”

“I’m so sorry, babe,” Conri said.

“I didn’t think. I’m sorry, Thea,” Alaric said.

“It’s okay, guys. I’m sorry too,” Thea said. “Lay next to me?”

They were careful to lay next to her but not on her. They caressed her gently until she fell asleep.

When she woke up the following day, just Kai was in bed with her.

“Good morning, darling,” Kai said.

She smiled at him.

“Dad said now that you’re out of the hospital, we have to go back to school, but one of us can stay with you each day. I won the first day.”

“My competitive mate. Never could lose a challenge,” Thea said.

“Except with you. I know you’ll always win,” Kai said.

“I think you’ve been letting me win lately.”

“I like it when you win. I just want to see you happy,” he said.

“Speaking of, do you want to go for a run today?”

Thea said.

“Are you up for that?”

“I don’t have the strength to ride Damon, but I can watch him. It’s not good for him to be cooped up.”

His eyes went black as Damon took control. He moved and hovered above her, trailed his nose along her jaw to her neck, into her hair.

Thea ran her fingers through his hair, and he kissed his mark. Kai took back control just in case Damon forgot he couldn’t be rough with her.

“He would love that,” Kai said.

Even though she slept a lot, the triplets very much enjoyed their alone time with Thea over the next few weeks. So did their wolves.

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Chapter 52 School

“It’s been a month since the attack. How are you feeling, Luna?” Dr. Boman said. Thea had regular checkups all month. This was the latest, and being a Saturday with no school, all three of the triplets were with her.

“Better,” Thea said.

“She can stay awake during the day now,” Conri said. “We don’t have to carry her everywhere.”

“That’s true. I have a lot of my strength back,”

Thea said.

“Your body has replaced a lot of your blood, and your neck seems healed,” the doctor said.

“What about pups?” Thea said. “Can you tell if I can have pups yet?”

“Not yet,” Dr. Boman said.

Thea tried to hide her disappointment.

“It’s still too early for you to try to get pregnant. You need to abstain a while longer, but if you feel up to it, you can have protected sex. Listen to your body, and don’t overdo anything.”

The triplets tried to hide their excitement because they didn’t want to put pressure or expectations on Thea.

“You can restart activities as you feel up to them,” Dr. Boman continued.

“You probably shouldn’t train too hard just yet. Again, listen to your body.”

“Thank you, doctor,” Thea said.

They left the doctor’s office and headed to the dining hall, but the Alpha called them to his office for an update from Liam.

“We haven’t found any new nests on pack lands in two weeks,” Liam said.

“You were finding new nests this whole time?”

Thea said.

“Yes, but it stopped two weeks ago.”

Thea sighed. Focus on the positive. “Does that mean they believe I’m not goddess gifted, and they’ve moved on?”

“Hopefully,” Liam said. “We’ve also run down all the possible information leaks. There were a few who kept asking about Thea, but they were benign—just showing an interest in their family’s life. For example, Doris has a sister who puts in extra effort to care about what’s going on in her life since she’s alone. There are a few lines that we lost. The last person we traced them to went dark or died. Because we’ve narrowed it down, exhausted all possible leads, and there are no new nests, I think it’s safe to try an off-site excursion. See if we can lure out any stragglers.”

“Could I go back to school?” Thea said.

“If we did a controlled excursion outside the pack lands, and no one is

stalking you, we could probably say yes,” Liam said.

“Well, let’s go then,” Thea said.

Liam looked at Alpha Ulric. “Fine by me,” Alpha Ulric said.

Liam called the Delta team in, and they took her to the mall. She went shopping with the triplets, who picked out matching underwear sets for her to wear.

“Maybe we should get you guys some sexy underwear,” Thea said.

“Yeah. Then you could give me a lap dance or a striptease.”

“Whatever you want, babe,” Conri said.

Thea laughed but made a mental note to look online for something.

Delta team didn’t notice anyone watching Thea, and she was allowed to go back to school the next day. Her Delta team guards accompanied her. The headmaster easily approved it, considering what had happened. Her guards stayed outside her classrooms but close enough that the triplets could mind link them if they were needed, and they would be there in seconds. They gave her a wide berth in the halls and stood along the walls in the cafeteria. Most people didn’t even notice them.

The triplets were ecstatic to have her back at school so they could all be with her all day.

Her packmates decorated her locker with Welcome Back signs and balloons. Alaric opened her locker, got the books she needed, put them in her backpack, and slung it over his shoulder.

“You’re still not a hundred percent, so don’t fight me on this. I’m carrying your books,” Alaric said.

Then he leaned in and kissed her.

“How could I fight that?” she said.

“I’ve missed this,” Alaric said. “Every day when I’d pass your locker

without you here, I thought about being able to do that again. I've missed you so much."

"I missed you too," Thea said. She pulled Alaric back in for a kiss.

Kai and Conri each kissed their marks on her neck. Hands everywhere. Sparks everywhere.

Lizzy cleared her throat, and Thea turned to look at her. The triplets eventually broke their kiss and took up their positions around her. Kai and Alaric each held a hand, Conri put his hand on her hip.

"Glad to see you're picking up where you left off," Lizzy said.

Thea smiled. "It's good to be back."

Everyone they passed said hi, welcome back, it's good to see you again, something. The triplets never took their hands off her. They kissed her whenever they could. They showed off her marks whenever they could. They were proud of them, and they wanted everyone to know Thea was marked, mated, and theirs.

In class, they had Thea sit on their laps. She didn't fight it. The marks made her crave it as much as the triplets did. The teachers didn't care. Especially now that they were marked and mated, she was officially the future Luna of the biggest and most powerful pack on the west coast, not to mention in just their area. She was now officially one of the most influential and powerful people in their world.

At lunch, she sat on Kai's lap. The triplets took turns feeding her since her hands were busy touching them. Misty and Lizzy sat with them.

"Whatever happened with that betting pool?"

Thea said.

"It's kind of open-ended," Lizzy said. "No one officially won because no one guessed you wouldn't mark the triplets."

"Since I'm human and I can't. Hmm. Funny the things you don't see

coming,” Thea said. Kai squeezed her.

“Thea?”

The triplets turned and growled. Their growls had changed since they shifted. Much scarier. Much louder. It got the attention of the entire cafeteria.

Thea looked over, and Xavier Knight was standing off to the side of their table. His younger brother, Garret Knight, was standing beside him.

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Chapter 53 Slut

“Can I speak with you?” Xavier said to Thea.

“Whatever you want to say, say it here,” Alaric said. “She’s not going anywhere with you.”

Xavier’s eye twitched. “I wanted to say I’m sorry,” he said. “There’s no excuse. I was an idiot.”

“Got that right,” Conri said.

Xavier breathed in, trying to calm himself. Something felt off to Thea. She wasn’t sure what it was, but she didn’t believe his apology.

“Do you think you could ever forgive me?” Xavier said. “Is there anything I can do to get you to forgive me?”

You could hear a pin drop. Rumors of what happened between them had made their way through the school. All the students in the cafeteria were on the edge of their seats, listening. O

“It’s not about forgiveness, Xavier,” Thea said. “You’re either the type of person who can do what you did, or you’re not. You’ve shown who you are. I don’t hold hard feelings toward you because that would just hurt me. If you want to take that as forgiveness, go for it, but I don’t believe

you've magically changed. I don't trust you, and I don't think anyone should."

People whispered throughout the cafeteria. "What did he do?" "I knew he was lying." "I hope she kicked his ass."

Kai put his nose against Thea's neck and breathed her in to calm himself. Xavier's eyes went to Thea's neck. He took in the three marks that combined to make one giant, intricate pattern.

"Three marks on one person," Xavier said. "That shouldn't even be possible, but apparently, the goddess ordained it for you. I guess it's not your fault you like gang bangs so much. The goddess made you a slut for Alphas so weak they needed three "

Conri and Alaric stood up, growling. Lizzy and Misty also stood up, growling and glaring daggers at Xavier. There were growls all over the cafeteria. New Dawn pack members didn't appreciate Xavier disparaging their Alphas and Luna.

Kai growled as he moved Thea off his lap, stood up, and positioned himself between her and Xavier. Conri and Alaric joined him and made a wall between Xavier and Thea.

"Apologize to our mate," Alaric said. He didn't care what he said about the triplets. He only cared about Thea.

"I got this," Thea said. Everyone went quiet and still.

Thea made eye contact with Xavier.

"At least I don't have to use an Alpha tone command to get someone to have sex with me," Thea said loudly. "Lucky for me, your Alpha tone isn't strong enough. Probably because you're not a true Alpha."

The cafeteria erupted. Everyone understood immediately what had happened and what Xavier had done in response.

Xavier couldn't contain his rage. He jumped at Thea, murder in his eyes,

but Conri caught him midair and bodyslammed him into the ground.

“You don’t get to touch her ever again,” Alaric said.

“Call off your goons and face me,” Xavier screamed. He launched himself at her again, clearly unhinged. People backed their chairs and screeched tables away.

Kai caught him this time and held him up by his throat. The triplets were bigger and stronger than Xavier. They were bigger and stronger than everyone. They were built like Redwoods, like their dad. O

Xavier was still trying to get to her. He pawed at Kai’s hand, but his eyes never left Thea.

Alaric and Conri each grabbed one of Xavier’s arms so Kai could let go and beat him into submission.

“Take your eyes off her,” Conri said.

“Back down, and we’ll stop, Xavier,” Kai said. Punch to the face.

“Stop threatening our mate and Luna, and we’ll let you go,” Alaric said.

Kai hit him again. Xavier struggled against their grips. Kai hit him several more times. Once he realized he couldn’t win, Xavier tore his eyes from Thea and looked at Kai.

“Fine,” Xavier said.

Alaric and Conri threw him to the ground, away from Thea. The triplets resumed the wall between Xavier and Thea. Thea could smell arousal from some of the she-wolves in the cafeteria. She wolves were bound to get aroused, feeling the power emanating from the triplets. Seeing them be possessive, protective, asserting dominance, showing off their strength and superiority, they couldn’t help themselves, but it angered Thea. The triplets were hers. She had never felt the need to mark them so strongly. 2

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“Hide behind your henchmen like the filthy

human you are,” Xavier snarled.

Thea didn't flinch through the whole scene.

“I'd beat you anytime, anywhere,” Thea said. “But I have nothing to prove here, and my mates don't want me to touch you. I'll wait to challenge you until you take over as Alpha. That way, I'll get something out of the fight. Your pack.”

Everyone in the cafeteria gasped. Challenging an Alpha for his pack was the worst threat in the werewolf community. It was a fight to the death, and an Alpha couldn't back down from it. If he did, it meant he didn't think he would win, and he had to hand his pack over to the challenger. Even if they fought and the Alpha won, other people would view him as weak, vulnerable, or incompetent. One challenge would lead to more. Thea was threatening to kill Xavier and forever mar his memory in shame, or, at best, she was setting him up for a lifetime of challenges and insubordination.

It was mostly an empty threat because Thea didn't believe Xavier would be made Alpha. She was sure he was using his Alpha tone to hurt other people, and she would prove it to his father to get him to strip his title. Xavier knew he wouldn't get anywhere by continuing to fight. He turned and walked out of the cafeteria, leaving a trail of blood in his wake. Xavier's younger brother sighed and shook his head. Xavier had failed whatever test this was. Maybe Thea wouldn't have to prove anything to his father after all.

“I apologize on behalf of my family,” Garret said. He had light brown hair like Xavier's, but he kept his short and tidy, unlike Xavier's shaggy style. “To you, Thea, as well as to your mates.”

“Thank you, Garret,” Thea said. “I don't hold it against you or your family. I look forward to maintaining the friendship between our packs, as long as Xavier isn't Alpha.”

“You are very gracious,” he said. His soft, golden-brown eyes looked sad. He bowed his head to them and walked away.

Thea addressed the cafeteria. “So now you all know Xavier is a piece of shit. Stay away from him. If Xavier did something to any of you, come talk to me.”

The triplets pulled Thea into their arms. They each needed her touch to calm them, and they needed to know she was safe and happy.

“Thank you,” Thea thought to them. “I like it when you’re possessive and protective.”

“Are you okay?” Conri said.

“I’m pissed at the she-wolves in here that are turned on and wanting you,” she thought.

“Their scents are repulsive,” Kai whispered in her ear. He put his nose in her hair.

“I’m on the verge of vomiting,” Conri whispered.

“Only you, always you, my love,” Alaric whispered.

Thea smiled. “I’m better now. Are you guys okay?”

“Getting there,” Alaric said. He took a few more breaths of her, kissed his mark, then took his seat. Conri did the same. Kai pulled her back onto his lap.

“You were amazing. I love it when you put people in their place,” Kai whispered in her ear.

She turned, so her lips were at his ear. “You want me to put you in your place? Under me?” she whispered.

Kai groaned. He adjusted her on his lap so she could feel his erection.

“I want to take you somewhere and screw your brains out,” she thought to him. “The way you manhandled him like he was a toddler. Caught him out of the air and held him up with one hand. You didn’t even break a sweat. I bet I could get you sweating, though.”

“You just beat him into the floor without lifting a finger,” Misty said before Kai could respond.

“Technically, they beat him into the floor. The rest he did to himself,” Thea said.

A red-headed girl from another pack approached their table. “Excuse me?” she said, barely audible.

Thea looked over, and the girl was looking right into her eyes. Not as a challenge. Her green eyes were pleading. She was trembling, petite, skinny, and dressed in clothes too big for her. Thea thought she recognized her as a junior, but she looked like she could have been in elementary school.

“Oh no,” Thea thought. “I hoped I was the only one.”

“I’ll be back,” Thea said out loud. She stood up and walked over to the girl. “Let’s go somewhere and talk.”

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Chapter 54 The Victims

“Let’s go somewhere and talk,” Thea said.

The terrified girl nodded. She was shaking, emaciated. Thea put her hand around her boney shoulders and guided her out of the cafeteria. Other girls saw, got up, and ran after them. Thea told the triplets in their minds where she was going. She kept her thoughts open to them.

Once they were outside and out of earshot, Thea turned to the girls.

“I think I know what you want to talk about,” Thea said. “Did Xavier use his Alpha tone to keep you silent?”

The girls’ faces said yes.

“Okay. You can’t say anything, but I can talk, and you can nod or shake your heads.”

They nodded. Other girls found their way over as she talked. She noticed they were all omegas from other packs. No one from her pack was in the group.

Eventually, Thea got the information she needed. Xavier had been using his Alpha tone since the beginning of the school year when he shifted. He didn't stop after he assaulted Thea or after his punishment.

"Are any of you in Xavier's pack?" Thea said.

Two girls raised their hands.

"If he becomes Alpha, you can join my pack. You don't have to stay there," she said. "That goes for anyone who doesn't want to live under his rule."

The girls started to cry. "Thank you," they said.

"Is this happening anywhere else? Is it only Xavier, or are there others?" Thea said.

The girls gave her a look. They wanted to say something but were compelled not to.

"What pack are you in?" Thea said.

"Crescent Moon," a few girls said.

"Cold Moon," another said.

"Eclipse."

"Far Side."

"Storm Moon."

"Mead Moon."

Thea felt sick. She had no idea so many packs were having this problem.

"Is it your Alphas' sons doing it?" Thea said.

The look they gave told her it was.

"I'm not familiar with the Alphas of these packs.

Are they good men, or are they like Xavier?"

"Crescent Moon's Alpha is like Xavier," the girl who came up to her in the cafeteria said. Thea learned her name was Alessia. She was from

Crescent Moon. “He mostly uses the slaves as his playthings. They don’t go to school, so he can do whatever he wants with them around the clock.”

“Ours too,” the other girls said.

Thea sighed.

“Anyone who’s being mistreated can join my pack,” Thea said. “Anyone who wants to can join my pack. No one should be afraid of the leaders that are supposed to protect them. Spread the word inside your packs, especially to the slaves. I can’t get to them inside pack lands.”

They nodded.

“There’s nothing that will fix what happened to you, but I’m not going to let it continue. If you’re afraid your family may get hurt if you leave, bring them.”

“We don’t have any family,” one girl said.

“I think that’s the other thing they look for—no one to protect us,” Alessia said.

Thea seethed. She wished she had a wolf. She’d challenge these Alphas for their packs right now and free everyone in them.

“Everyone knows not to mess with the girls in New Dawn. They know they’re protected,” one girl said.

“We were shocked when Markus and his friends tried to jump you,” another girl said. “I can’t believe Xavier tried with you, being the future Luna of New Dawn. He always goes for the girls who have no protection or power.”

“Does anyone know of anyone else being hurt? Or anyone else doing the hurting? Or anything else that’s going on that shouldn’t be?” Thea said. The girls looked at each other.

“Anyone who thinks they can get away with it does it. Warriors. Higher ranking members of the pack. They each find their own toys, so I’m not sure of all the people involved,” Alessia said.

“My older sister left our pack and went rogue to get away from the

abuse,” a girl named Jessica said. “I don’t know where she is or if she’s even alive. A lot of people have left that way.”

Thea put her hand on her shoulder and squeezed as the girl cried. “If you can get a message to her, to any rogues, tell them to come to New Dawn. To the gates. Ask for asylum under the future Luna.

They don’t have to be rogues anymore.”

The girl sniffled and nodded.

“The group of guys that jumped you used to do things,” Alessia said.

“They went for the weak or unprotected too. They didn’t have the Alpha tone, but there was no point in telling on them. The Alpha wouldn’t punish them. It would have made everything worse. But those boys haven’t done anything since the day they attacked you, and you put them all on the ground. Even when you weren’t at school.”

“That’s something,” Thea said. “If anyone is in any of their packs and doesn’t want to be, the same offer stands. I can’t protect anyone when they’re inside other pack lands.”

The girls nodded.

“I’m sorry I haven’t been at school the past few months,” Thea said.

“Maybe you could’ve come to me sooner.”

“No one else even made the offer,” Alessia said.

Thea was angry with everyone that failed these girls.

“If you think of anything, if you hear anything, if you suspect anything, come to me,” Thea said. “Here, take my phone number. You can text or call anytime. To get around any Alpha tone commands, text me, ‘let’s go to the bar,’ and I’ll know what’s going on. You can give my number to anyone who needs help. If they don’t have a phone, come to the gates of New Dawn and say those words. If they want to leave their pack, remember they have to reject it formally.”

The girls who had phones all programmed her number into them. Half the girls didn’t have a phone, but they wrote her number down and put

it in their school bag.

“You should know, New Dawn doesn’t have omegas or slaves. No one who joins our pack will retain those titles.”

The girls looked at each other, hope in their eyes.

“My brother,” one girl said. “He gets abused too.”

“He can come too,” Thea said. “Absolutely. Male or female. You need help, come to New Dawn. No one needs to explain why or what happened.”

Tears spilled out of the girl’s eyes.

“On that note, are any of you willing to come forward to Alpha Knight? I know he’s a good man. I think he’ll strip Xavier of his title and give it to his younger son, Garret, who is a far better person. Alpha Knight may need proof to do it, though.”

The girls nodded.

“I’m going to look into the other packs and Alphas,” Thea said.

“Thank you, Luna,” a girl said.

“Yes, thank you, Luna,” they all echoed.

To use that title, they were symbolically asking to be under her protection and accepting her as their leader, their ceremonial mother. Thea held back tears at the gesture. They needed strength right now, not tears.

“I’m not Luna yet,” she said. “You can call me Thea, and you’re welcome. I’m sorry it took so long for this to come out. It’ll be over soon. Tell people they can also come to any of the triplets. Use the same words, ‘let’s go to the bar,’ and they won’t ask questions. I know they’re intimidating, but they won’t hurt you. They’ll protect you.”

Thea went back to her lunch table with five minutes left before class started.

“We have a lot of work to do,” Thea said. “This is worse than I thought. It’s not just Xavier.” She asked if any of them knew anything about the

packs the girls mentioned.

“Crescent Moon is small. A lot of omegas and slaves. It’s right next to my pack,” Misty said.

“My father hates their Alpha. We don’t have a friendly relationship with them.”

“The kid who assaulted you was from Crescent Moon, wasn’t he?” Conri said.

“Yeah, the one who grabbed your chest,” Lizzy said.

Thea looked at Misty. Misty nodded. “Yeah, I remember. It was Markus from Crescent Moon who grabbed you,” Misty said.

“I told the girls if we couldn’t fix things, they could join our pack,” Thea said.

“Of course,” Alaric said, proud of her.

“If anyone says, ‘let’s go to the bar,’ to you, they’re asking for asylum. Help them. They’re being abused. Most likely, they’re saying that to get around an Alpha tone command because they can’t tell you outright that they’re in trouble.”

“Got it,” the triplets said together.

“You can tell them they can come to me too,”

Lizzy said. “Maybe I will take my dad’s Delta training after all.”

Thea looked at her. Lizzy was pissed off.

“I’ll talk to my dad when I get home today,” Misty said. “See if he’s willing to take people in too.”

“Thanks, Misty. We might want to get as many packs behind this as possible,” Thea said.

“Agreed,” Misty said.

“We’re going to need to talk to your dad when we get home,” Thea said to the triplets. “I gave the girls my number and told them to pass it out to anyone in trouble. I told them to come to the gates at New Dawn if they don’t have a phone. I hope I can follow through for all of them. First

thing first, we need to talk to Garret Knight.”

“First day back, and she’s already uncovering secret abuse and saving the victims,” Misty said.

“That’s my girl,” Kai said. He hugged Thea, buried his face in her hair, and breathed in her scent. Thea squeezed his arm.

“Did you eat enough?” Alaric said. “You need to keep up your strength.”

“Um, probably not. What do you have left?”

“Here, eat this.”

Thea wolfed down whatever Alaric handed her.

“Let’s go find Garret. Can you sniff him out, Con?” Thea said after she finished eating.

“Yeah,” Conri said.

They all got up, and a few minutes later, they came upon Garret Knight at his locker.

“Garret,” Thea said.

“Uh-oh,” Garret said.

“Yeah, it’s not good,” Thea said. “After the scene in the cafeteria, a lot of girls came up to me. Xavier’s been doing this all year long, and he didn’t stop after his punishment. The girls will talk to your dad if he needs to hear it from them.”

“I’ll tell him,” Garret said. “And see how he wants to proceed.”

“You should know, the reason you couldn’t find any others besides me is that he used his Alpha tone to compel them to stay silent. Your dad will have to use his Alpha tone to override Xavier’s.”

Garret sighed. “I don’t know how he went so wrong,” he said. He shook his head.

“There are a couple of girls from your pack,” Thea said. “But most were from other packs. I don’t know how their Alphas will react when they find out.”

Garret nodded. “We might offer Xavier up. Let them all tear him apart.”

Alaric put his hand on Garret's shoulder. "You're a good man, like your father. People know that. Xavier's sins won't follow you around."

Garret looked up at Alaric. He smiled. "Xavier was so wrong about you guys."

Triplet Alphas Gifted Luna By Samantha Doyle Chapter 55

Chapter 55 Planning

When they arrived home, Thea told the warriors working the gates to watch out for any wolves looking for asylum. Even ones that looked like rogues.

"There have been she-wolves leaving their packs because of abuse. They wouldn't have gone rogue otherwise. If anyone says 'let's go to the bar,' notify me immediately."

"Yes, Luna."

"Please inform all the guards who work the gates," Thea said.

"Yes, Luna."

"Thank you," Thea said.

The triplets and Thea went to the Alpha's office next and told him everything that happened at school.

"We'll take in anyone who leaves their pack," Alpha Ulric said. "You understand that their Alphas may want what they view as their property back?"

"Yes, sir," they all said together.

"What are you willing to do to protect these wolves and she-wolves?"

"I think it may be time to call a meeting between like-minded Alphas," Thea said. "See who is willing to be an ally. If we have enough support, when the Alphas who have slaves come to demand them back, they'll see they don't have the power or numbers to take them back by force."

"You're willing to go to war?" Alpha Ulric said.

"I am. I know I don't have a wolf to fight, but our pack is stronger,

bigger, and better trained than any other. Once these wolves join the pack, we will teach them to fight too. They've been malnourished and haven't had the chance to train." Thea sighed. "Should I ask the pack if they're willing to fight to protect these wolves since I can't?"

"No," Alpha Ulric said. "We don't live in democratic societies. Alphas are monarchs. We lead. Ideally, we lead with what we know is right. It may be a flawed system when evil people come to power, but when good people are in power, we can't let evil have influence. That's how packs develop slaves, omegas, and cultures of abuse. Soon, your word will be law. You will have to enforce that law from time to time. There will always be dissenters, people who want to rebel, take power, test limits. You can't let them. You lead. You punish crimes, which includes insubordination. One of your greatest strengths is your compassion, Thea, but there's a light and shadow side to every trait. Don't let your compassion blind you to people who need sternness. I think now is a good time to practice being stern."

"Yes, sir."

"You have my support on this, but I'm putting it all in your hands," Alpha Ulric said. "After all, you all will be their leaders soon, and you'll be their leaders for the rest of their lives. It should be you they build their loyalty to."

"We'll still need you to accept them into the pack, officially," Alaric said.

"No, you don't," Alpha Ulric said.

"What do you mean?" Conri said.

"Now that you've shifted," Alpha Ulric said. "You have your Alpha powers. Your Alpha tone will get stronger when I pass the acting title to you, but you have the magic to accept people into the pack. Do you remember the words?"

"Yes," the triplets said in unison.

"Then you're good."

“Sir, will you call the meeting of Alphas?” Thea said.

“Yes. I was planning something similar anyway,” Alpha Ulric said. Thea smiled.

“I will expect all of you to attend,” Alpha Ulric said.

“Yes, sir,” they said.

“Anything else?”

The triplets and Thea shook their heads.

“Then go put things in motion,” Alpha Ulric said.

The triplets and Thea left the Alpha’s office.

“What’s first?” Kai said.

“We need to secure lodging and clothes for them. They’ll probably be coming with nothing,” Alaric said. “They may need medical attention. To be safe, we should have everyone checked out anyway. We’ll need to notify the pack doctor.

He’ll know what to prepare for.”

Thea nodded. “Good thinking. They may feel safer sharing rooms, but we can give them that option. Maybe we set up a section in the pack house for the new members. Have a routine. Someone comes in. They get a warm meal, shower, new clothes, and room. They see the pack doctor. Give them a little time to get a feel for the place, then accept them into the pack.”

“I’ll talk to the doctor then set up the rooms, clothes, and such,” Alaric said.

“Thank you,” Thea said. “We’re going to need to build up their confidence. They were all small and weak. They’re probably malnourished. We’ll have to teach them how they’re going to be treated here. They eat with the pack. They train with the pack. Everyone needs to help them, befriend them, and go easy on them until they get meat on their bones and confidence in themselves.”

“I’ll talk to the pack, let them know what’s going

on,” Conri said. “What’s expected of them.”

“We’ll need to let the patrol know to keep an eye out both for rogues seeking asylum and for people trying to get their slaves back,” Kai said.

“Both groups should be easy to identify. I’ll talk with the warriors.”

“I want to make a stop at the apothecary,” Thea said. “I wonder if he could make a pepper spray for werewolves. I don’t like the idea of any of our

people getting hurt or dying because of this. Maybe we can give them nonlethal weapons for crowd control in case the other packs attack.”

“I love that brain of yours,” Kai said. He kissed the top of her head.

“Maybe everyone should have pepper spray,” Thea said, thinking out loud.

Alaric went to secure the rooms, Kai went to talk to the patrol warriors, Conri went to afternoon training to speak to the pack members about what to expect and how to interact with any new members, and Thea went to the apothecary, trailed by four Delta team guards.

“Mr. Garrity,” Thea said when she walked into the apothecary store.

“Luna, it’s a pleasure to see you,” he said with a bow.

“You too.”

“What can I get for you?”

“Nothing right now,” Thea said. “I want to talk to you about making something. I remember you made a concoction for masking scent. I was wondering if you could make something like pepper spray for werewolves. Maybe for witches and vampires too, but first, let’s focus on werewolves. I’d like to give our warriors nonlethal weapons for crowd control. Do you have any ideas on this front?”

Mr. Garrity nodded, thinking.

“I can see the wheels turning,” Thea said.

“Yes. I have some ideas. I’ll get started right away and come up with some initial mock-ups.”

“Excellent. If the warriors have any ideas or requests for delivery or form of weapon, could you work with them to make something functional?”

“Absolutely,” Mr. Garrity said.

“And if possible, maybe an antidote to the weapons. We don’t want to hinder our men, do we?” Thea said.

“No, Luna, we don’t. If we use wolfsbane, there is no antidote, but there are other things we can use to debilitate that have counter agents.”

“Thank you, Mr. Garrity.”

“My pleasure, Luna.”

Thea left and started toward the training field.

“Do you guys have any thoughts on weapons that could be useful for Delta team?” Thea said to her guards. “I know you’re on duty. You don’t have to answer me now. Talk to the others. Let me or Mr. Garrity know what you want.”

“Yes, Luna.”

Thea came up behind Conri as he was talking to the training group. She wrapped her arms around him and hugged him from behind. If anyone else had come up behind him, he would have assumed it was an enemy and attacked. He knew it was her because of the sparks he felt from her touch. Plus, he smelled her coming, and she was saying, “I love you, I love you,” in his mind.

He smiled and leaned into her touch as he spoke. His hands intertwined with hers. The crowd all smiled at their display of affection.

“Are we all clear?” Conri said.

The group nodded. “Yes, sir,” they said. Most of the kids who saw the scene at lunch weren’t surprised this was happening.

Thea waved to everyone, and they bowed their heads to her.

“We don’t know when we’ll start getting these newcomers, but it could

be very soon,” Conri
said. “Okay, carry on.”

The warriors who took over leading training when the triplets and Thea had to step down resumed the day’s itinerary.

Conri bent down, and Thea jumped on his back. He gave her a piggyback ride to the packhouse.

“Kai’s on his way,” Conri said. “Alaric is about finished.”

“Do you guys want to go for a run?” Thea said. She thought it to Kai and Alaric.

“Kai and Alaric said yes, but are you up for it?”

Conri said.

“Maybe if you kiss me real good first,” she said.

He whipped her around so she was straddling his front and kissed her on the steps in front of the pack house. After a few minutes of passionate kissing, Kai arrived and pulled Thea off Conri. He pushed her backward and pinned her against the wall.

“You’ve been driving me crazy all day,” Kai
whispered against her ear.

“Mmm, I plan on keeping it up,” Thea said. She kissed his neck, and her hands ran over the rippling muscles of his back. He sucked on his mark, and she melted. She kissed up to his jaw, and he met her lips with his own. “Why don’t you go get a few condoms from our room?” she thought to him.

He pulled away and looked her in the eyes. “Are
you up for that?”

The last time they were intimate was before the attack. They had cuddled and kissed, but nothing passionate since then. The doctor had forbidden it, and she hadn’t felt physically or emotionally well enough anyway.

She nodded. “I want to try.”

He was gone in a flash. Thea laughed.

“What was that about?” Conri said.

“He’s getting condoms,” Thea said in her mind.

Conri’s eyebrows shot up. He walked over and gathered her in his arms.

“There’s no rush, babe. We don’t expect anything from you. You know you don’t have to if you’re not up to it,” he said.

“I think I am. The doctor said it was okay. I feel better.” She ran her fingers through his hair and kissed him. “I miss you.”

“I miss you more, but tell us if you want to stop.”

Chapter 56 Missed You

Kai and Alaric came running out the front doors of the pack house moments later.

“Is everything taken care of for now?” Thea said.

“Yes. Maggie is getting a block of rooms prepared, a room of clothes, and she’ll be hiring additional help in the kitchens and laundry,” Alaric said. Maggie was the pack house manager.

“The doctor is on it too.”

Thea ran her hands up his hard abs, all the way behind his head, to pull him in for a kiss. “Thank you,” she said.

She turned to Kai and held out her hand. “Have something for me?”

Kai reached into his pocket and handed her three condoms. She put them in her pocket.

“Well, strip boys,” she said.

“Right here?” Alaric said.

“You don’t want to rip your clothes when you shift, do you?”

“Right.”

The boys stripped, leaving their clothes in a pile off to the side, and shifted into their wolves. They all came and nuzzled her, licked her face, smelled her hair and their marks.

“I missed you too,” she said. “Let’s get out of here.” They all laid down so she could climb onto their backs. “Okay, Caleb, you lead. Axel, I’m riding you. Damon, you bring up the rear.” She looked at Damon. “And Kai, you keep getting crazy. I want you riled up later,” she thought to him. 1

Damon jumped up, tongue hanging out of his mouth. Thea smiled and climbed onto Axel. When she was secure, Caleb took off, followed by Axel, then Damon.

They ran through the woods, Delta team guards flanking them. Caleb sniffed out a secluded spot with lots of tree coverage, and they stopped. Thea laid still against Axel for a moment, catching her breath. She felt him breathing under her. She ran her fingers through the fur of his back.

Axel laid down, and Thea slid off. She lost her balance and fell on her butt,

laughing. Her legs, arms, and abs were shaking. She lost muscle and stamina over the last month. Riding Axel took a lot out of her.

"Okay, Alaric was right. I'm still not a hundred percent," she said.

Axel sniffed her to make sure she was okay, no cuts, no blood. Damon came up and did the same.

"I'm okay. I'm going to lay down, though," she said. Axel laid down next to her, head on his

paws, looking at her.

Caleb came up and lay at her other side. She reached out to both wolves, and they nuzzled into her.

Damon paced back and forth at her feet.

Caleb and Axel shifted back to Conri and Alaric.

They scooted up against her on their sides, naked, and started caressing her.

Thea pulled Alaric in for a kiss. They were so gentle with her the past month, ever since she almost died. She knew they needed this. So did she. Even though she spent a lot of the last month sleeping, the need to be close to them was only getting more intense because of her marks. When two of them would leave for school every day, it had been painful.

"Will you make love to me, Ric?" Thea said softly.

He nodded and kissed her. "You'll let me know if it's too much?"

"I think you'll feel it through the matebond, but yeah."

"Good point."

Conri and Alaric started undressing Thea. She looked at Damon pacing.

"Damon, what are you thinking?" Thea said in just her underwear. Damon stopped and looked at her.

"He's thinking it's too soon, and we shouldn't be doing this yet," Conri said. "Is he right?"

"He can't stand the thought of us hurting you," Alaric said.

"You won't hurt me. The doctor said it was okay. I just need to listen to my body. We can try, Damon. They'll be gentle and careful."

Damon came up, nuzzled, and licked her stomach.

"He's afraid we'll hurt your chances of being able to have pups," Alaric said.

Thea put her forehead against Damon's. She scratched his neck. "I know. I'm scared too, Damon. I wouldn't do anything to hurt our chances of having a pup. Didn't you hear the doctor? We just can't try to get pregnant yet. See these?" She held up the condoms. "These will keep that from happening."

"But you just said you're not a hundred percent," Conri said for Damon.

"That's because I don't have all my blood volume back," Thea said. "I'm just tired and weak. The day has caught up to me, and I don't have the muscle strength, energy, or endurance to ride you guys yet."

"He doesn't want to let Kai out. He says he's too excited. He'll hurt you," Conri said.

"Damon, I trust Kai," Thea said. "He may be excited, but he can be gentle and

careful. You know he'll do what's good for us. Don't fight with him."

Damon sniffed and licked his and Kai's mark, then nuzzled Thea's belly. Thea pet his head.

"I want pups too," Thea said.

Damon gave one last lick, stepped back, and shifted back to Kai.

"He's really worried about you," Kai said.

"I know. I'm okay, though, I promise."

"What do you need?" Kai said.

"Maybe one at a time? Me on my back? My muscles are spent."

"Of course, darling," Kai said.

"That's easy, babe," Conri said. He unhooked her bra, set it aside, and laid down a few feet away.

Alaric got between her legs and pulled her panties off. "Are you in the mood for this?" He brought his head between her legs and hovered, looking up at her.

"Always. Gently, though."

He nodded and kissed her inner thigh, working his way to her folds. She bucked against him. It had been a while, and the sensation was new again. Sparks erupted anywhere he touched. He sucked and nibbled her sensitive nub until she was moving her hips against his mouth, moaning.

"I love doing this," Alaric said after she came.

"Really?"

"I love the way you smell and taste, and the sounds you make, but you know when you feel something, we feel it through the matebond. It feels good on so many levels to do this."

Conri and Kai nodded.

"I've missed you so much," Thea thought. "I want to feel you inside me."

Alaric sat up, grabbed one of the condoms, and put it on. He hovered over Thea, aligned himself, and slowly pushed in. He watched her face, gauging her reactions. It was pleasure and desire all the way. Everything about it felt different now that she was marked and mated. She felt him like an extension of herself. It felt like his soul was inside her. She wrapped her legs around his hips, winced, then put them back on the ground,

"That's too intense right now. Too deep," she said.

"I'll stay shallow," Alaric said.

"I think this position will do the trick. I just can't put my legs up."

"Still."

Thea ran her hands into his short hair and pulled him into a kiss.

"I love you, Ric."

"I love you too."

He slid in and out of her slowly, in small movements, and it was the slowest torture. Heat building between them. Sparks where he moved inside her. She moaned against his mouth. He brought a hand up to knead her breast. Their tongues moved against each other, and her hands moved to his back. One moved to his buttocks and followed his movements, pushing down when he slid inside her. He lengthened his movements, and her moans turned to desperate whimpers. His hand moved down to rub her clit.

Her hands went back to his face, and she positioned his forehead against hers.

"Look into my eyes when we come," she said.

He nodded. A few seconds later, they came, looking into each other's eyes. The connection was deeper. It had been too long since they were able to connect this

way. They'd never connected quite this way. Her heart was full.

"I missed you," Thea said in her mind.

"I missed you too," Alaric said.

He held her for a moment, coming down as they continued to look into each other's eyes. Then he gave her another kiss and pulled out of her. He rolled off to the side and stared at her, basking in the connection.

Conri came up next to her and laid beside her.

"How are you doing?" he said.

"Good," she said.

"Are you up for more?"

She nodded, smiling. She reached for him and brought him into a kiss.

"I want to feel you inside me, Con," she thought. "I need to. I'm ready. Just look in my eyes. I want to see your beautiful soul."

Conri reached for a condom, put it on, then got on top of her, between her legs. He cradled her in his arms and put his forehead against hers. She stroked his back up and down as he slowly pushed in.

"Tell me when to stop," he said. "When I'm too deep."

He kept thinking she would stop him, but she didn't. He buried himself to the hilt.

"We were made for each other, Con," Thea said.

Conri smiled, slid an arm under her, and held her close without putting his weight on her. He knew she was still weak, and not being able to move

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could trigger a panic attack. She felt the care and concern he had for her.

He pulled almost all the way out and pushed back in. The eye contact made it more intimate, created a deeper connection. It wasn't long before tears started spilling out of Conri's eyes. Thea matched his sentiment, tears falling from hers as well.

"I love you," she said.

"I love you more," Conri said. "More than anyone has ever loved anything."

She knew he wasn't just saying it. He believed it. He felt things so intensely, so purely, nothing impeded his feelings.

"Then I'm a close second in how much I love you," Thea thought to him.

He kept moving slowly, steadily, and a deep pressure was building, like a bowl filling with water. When it finally started to overflow, it spilled over everywhere, slowly, steadily, powerfully.

"Goddess, you make me feel things I didn't know were possible, Con," she thought to him.

He kissed his mark and pulled out of her. He rolled to her other side, spent.

Kai came and lay next to her.

"How are you feeling?" Kai said.

"Good. Tired, weak, but good. I'm up for more," she said, answering his next question.

He nodded.

"You know, this is probably one of the few times I'll let you be on top," she said.

"You may as well take advantage. Live out the fantasies you have rolling around in that head."

He smiled then his eyes turned black.

"Damon, it's okay," Thea said.

His eyes went back to crystal blue. "Safe fantasies only," Kai said. He moved between her legs and brought his head down. "Let me know if anything is too much."

"I will."

She could feel his desires. He wanted to pleasure her. He wanted her to claim him emotionally since she couldn't physically right now. It didn't take long before she was pulling him up, needing

to feel him and see him in other ways.

He grabbed the last condom, put it on, and let her pull him on top of her. He slowly pushed inside her, and she kissed him, tasting herself on him.

"I love it when you taste like me," she thought while their tongues battled.

"You're only allowed to taste like me. No one else."

"I only ever want to taste like you," he said.

"You're mine."

"I'm yours, darling."

She pushed against one side of him, and he knew she wanted to be on top. He rolled over, bringing her with him in his arms. She laid on him for a moment to regain her strength.

She propped herself up on her elbows, muscles shaking, then collapsed on top of him with a sigh.

Kai sat up and held her in his embrace. It was secretly one of his fantasies to help her. He didn't want her hurt or weak, but he wanted to support her. He wanted her to lean on him—emotionally, physically—but she never needed it. She had always been the strong one. It fulfilled something deep inside him that she was leaning on him for support.

She wrapped her arms around his neck and rested her head on his shoulder, where she had access to his marking spot.

"I know you're holding me up so I can feel like I'm on top, even though I'm completely in your control," she thought to him. "I love it. Thank you."

He kissed her mark and moved inside her. She was sitting on him in a way where her clit rested on his pelvis. When he moved, he rubbed against her. She tilted her hips forward to get more pressure.

He smelled her hair, and she felt him relax deeply.

"I've missed you," she thought to him. "I want to be everything for you. I want to give you what you want and keep you happy. I'm sorry I haven't had enough strength lately."

"I don't need to fight you to be fulfilled," he whispered in her ear. "I want to be close to you. I push your buttons to get a rise out of you because it gets you to focus on me. It's been my way of getting close to you. When you're vulnerable with me like this, I feel it deep inside me. I crave it like a drug. I feel so close to you. I want you to rely on me. I want you to trust me with all of you."

"I do," she thought. "I know you'll catch me if I fall. It's not even a question. I don't have to look behind me. I know you're there. That's what I was saying to Damon earlier. I love you so much, Kai."

"I love you too."

"Kai. My Alpha," she thought to him. He felt the meaning in the word. "My protector. My lover. My mate. I'm going to rely on you forever." 2

She kept thinking things to his mind as he moved inside her. She sucked and nibbled on his marking spot. He kissed his mark on her shoulder. It was such an

intimate position. Thea vulnerable, entirely dependent on him. Kai held her in his strong embrace, hands caressing her gently, their bare chests sliding against each other. Every

movement sent sparks everywhere.

She felt this orgasm in her heart. They connected on a deeper emotional level than ever before. Kai felt she wanted him for more than the challenge. She wanted this side of him. As he was being strong for her, he was also at his most vulnerable. No facade, just desperate need for the woman in his arms.

She felt that he saw her for who she was. He wanted to be the space where she didn't have to be strong. She savored that-knowing he wanted it, she could relax completely and let him see her weak side, and he was overjoyed. She finally understood that his dominating behavior was his way of gaining her attention. He knew her well enough to know that the Alpha in her couldn't back down from a challenge. It made her love him more. O

They came down slowly, Kai holding her, Thea resting on him. He gently laid her down on her side and spooned her from behind.

"She needs to sleep, guys," Kai said in mind link. He motioned for Alaric and Conri to join them.

They all snuggled together while she drifted off to sleep.

They woke her when it was getting close to dinner.

"You need to eat, babe," Conri said.

Alaric grabbed her clothes, and they helped her get dressed.

"Can you hold on long enough to get home?"

Alaric said.

"I think so," Thea said.

"Who do you want to ride?" Alaric said.

"I better ride Damon, so he knows I'm okay," she said.

The triplets shifted, and she got on Damon's back. He mind linked Axel and Caleb and told them to take it slow.

Back at the pack house, the triplets' clothes were where they left them. They dressed quickly.

"You guys are kind of muddy," Thea said. "Do we have time for a shower?"

"A quick one," Kai said. He picked her up and carried her up to their room, Alaric and Conri on their heels.

Triplet Alphas Gifted Luna By Samantha Doyle Chapter 57

Chapter 57 Guilt

At pack dinner, Conri gave the same speech he delivered to the training group to make sure everyone knew about the potential new pack members

Davie was at dinner. Thea sat next to him to talk shop. Over the past month, Davie visited the pack more than he ever had. He felt responsible

for putting Thea in the position to get attacked, and his guilt made him go above and beyond during her recovery. He brought her treats and gifts every time he visited.

She was adamant that he wasn't responsible, and it would've happened one way or another, probably in a worse way. He was too traumatized from seeing her bleeding out on the forest floor to believe her

Thea wouldn't let her injuries slow the plans for the bar. Davie took over the legwork, procuring the site and getting clean-up and renovations underway. A few weeks back, he brought the interior decorator, Jane, to talk with Thea. They met at the coffee shop in the pack's little village and Jane got a feel for what Thea wanted. She had been emailing her ever since with ideas to approve or disapprove.

"We're getting the decor dialed in," Thea said. "Jane thinks we'll have it finalized in the next week."

"I fast-tracked the parking lot expansion," Davie said. "Quality won't suffer, don't worry. We're just jumping the line a bit."

"If I wasn't so tired and I didn't want this so bad, I might put up a fight," Thea said.

"I know. I am absolutely taking advantage of that."

Alaric chuckled next to Thea. Conri and Kai smiled. They continued silently caressing Thea.

"It's probably time to start hiring and training staff, putting the menu together, then we can advertise the opening and events shortly after," Davie said.

"I think I want to hire security first," Thea said. "I want to know my staff and clientele will be completely safe. Then the manager next."

"There are a few managers of restaurants and bars we could poach.

They've proven they're competent and run things according to your ideals. I could discreetly talk to them and see if they're interested in making a change."

"Will we be making enemies by poaching?" Thea said.

"It's an expected part of business," Davie said.

Thea eyed him and sighed. "Okay. What about—"

"I'll look into security companies. You're back in school?"

"As of today. There's a month left."

"So meetings and interviews will need to be after school?"

"For the next month Or weekends."

"Do you have people in mind as servers, bartenders, cooks, cleaners?"

"I do, but I don't know if it will be enough to staff us completely, and they may not be ready in time, They can be options down the road." She thought the new pack members might want a job outside the pack lands. They could make their own money and begin to feel autonomous.

"Okay. If we get the manager first, he can take care of that."

"Oh, right. That's kind of the point, huh?"

Davie laughed. "Yes. He'll probably have people he wants to poach, and he'll have experience in hiring staff regardless."

"Perfect. I will defer to your expertise. I don't know that my brain is functioning optimally yet."

"I'll be in touch," Davie said, "Alphas." He bowed his head, then left

The next day at school, Garret Knight found the group at lunch.

"My father would like to talk to the she-wolves involved," Garret said. "I know they won't want me to approach them, being his brother."

"I talked to some yesterday, and they're willing to talk to your dad,"

Thea said. "Is it okay if I accompany them? You're right. The fear is strong."

"Yes. My father requested you be there. Do you think you could bring them to our pack tomorrow after school?" Garret said.

Thea thought. "They may feel more comfortable in a neutral location. Would your father be willing to come to New Dawn?"

"Can I have him call your Alpha this afternoon?"

"Absolutely. If that's amenable, we can take the girls home with us from school tomorrow, yeah?"

Thea looked at the triplets.

They nodded.

"I'm going to spread the word," Thea said. She stood up and went around the cafeteria. She sat next to each girl who said they'd come forward to Alpha Knight

"Will you come home with me tomorrow after school? It's time to get Xavier's title taken away,"

she whispered in each of their ears.

They all nodded.

"If anyone else wants to come, especially if they want to talk to Alpha Knight, spread the word. Meet me at my locker right after sixth hour starts tomorrow."

They talked to Alpha Ulric when they got home from school. Alpha Knight called shortly after. They worked out the meeting.

The next day, Wednesday, the bell rang to start sixth hour. Thea, the triplets, and Thea's Delta team guards waited by her locker. Girls began congregating around them. Several more she wolves came along with those she talked to the day before, including a higher-ranking member of Xavier Knight's pack. She recognized her as hanging around Garret Knight. Thea pulled her aside.

“You’re in Moonlit Pack, right?” Thea said softly.

The girl nodded.

“What’s your name?” Thea said.

“Brenda Bleiz.”

“Are you dating Garret Knight?”

The girl nodded, and tears poured out her eyes.

“This was recent, wasn’t it?”

Her face said it all.

“Xavier wanted to hurt Garret. Garret doesn’t know yet, does he?” Thea said.

Brenda shook her head.

“I’m so sorry.”

“Thank you for doing this,” Brenda said. “We’re all powerless to do anything by ourselves.”

Thea squeezed her shoulder. She walked back to the group.

“Is this everyone?” Thea said.

“I think so,” one of the girls said.

“We’ll wait two more minutes.”

One more girl timidly walked toward them. Thea motioned for her to join them.

“You don’t have to do anything you don’t want to,” Thea said to her.

“You can come and watch.

Speak if you feel up to it.”

Thea had the rest of Delta team waiting outside the school to escort the group to New Dawn.

On the walk there, Thea sensed someone following them. They didn’t give off a scent. They stayed out of sight, but she felt a presence. Female, she was pretty sure. She also sensed

goodness and fear in her. She figured it was another she-wolf who had been abused, heard about New Dawn, but was leery. She got some paper and a pen out from the bag on Alaric’s back, wrote her number on it, then

dropped it. She could contact her when she felt safe.

The triplets mind linked their dad and told him they'd need a bigger room than his office. He told them to go to one of their ballrooms.

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Chapter 58 Taking Up The Mantle

Alpha Knight and Garret were sitting on one side of a long table. Alpha Knight had light brown hair and golden-brown eyes like Garret. When they saw Brenda walk into the room, they both blanched.

Thea led the girls to the table.

“First, let me say how sorry I am to all of you,” Alpha Knight said. “I’m Alpha Knight of Moonlit Pack. I had no idea the depth of my son’s depravity. I will release you all from his Alpha command, but none of you have to tell me anything unless you want to. I’m stripping his title immediately.”

The girls looked at each other.

Alpha Knight used his Alpha tone and spoke the words to override his son’s command.

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The girls all visibly relaxed like they’d been on edge, holding something in for a long time. Most of them started crying.

Brenda looked up at Garret with tears streaming down her face. Garret hadn’t taken his eyes off her.

“I’m so sorry,” Garret whispered.

She didn’t see any disgust in his eyes, only love and sorrow. He wanted to hold her and tell her it would be alright.

“Does anyone want to say anything?” Alpha Knight said.

The girls in Moonlit Pack looked at Thea. She

motioned for them to speak.

“Sir, if Xavier is going to stay on pack lands, I don’t want to,” one of them said. The others nodded in agreement.

Thea thought to the triplets’ minds. “Can you ask your dad if these girls can stay here until they handle the Xavier situation? I think he’ll lash out at them like he did Brenda.”

A moment later, Kai leaned forward and nodded at her

“Everyone is welcome to stay here for as long as they need,” Thea said.

“Alpha Knight, if you need time to decide what you want to do.”

Garret leaned to his father and whispered. “He deserves to die for what he did.”

Alpha Knight nodded. “I’ll take his canines, and he will be tied to a pole until he’s dead,” he said.

The girls gasped. Having your canines ripped out was the worst punishment in the werewolf world. It’s the worst pain imaginable, worse than being rejected by your mate. Your werewolf powers fade quickly, your wolf withers and dies, then you wither and die in excruciating pain. The pole was an ancient public shaming ritual. Tied up to a silver pole, everyone knows your crimes. Anyone can take retribution at any time while you’re tied to it. The punishment was effective.

“The pack needs to witness the punishment that will befall any Moonlit Pack member who rapes someone. An Alpha blood is no exception.

What

he did was even more heinous,” Alpha Knight said. “If you will tell me what packs you’re in, I will talk to your Alphas and let them know. If there’s any restitution they require.”

“My Alpha won’t care,” Alessia said. The other girls nodded their heads.

“I’d just as soon have you not contact them at all.” More nods. They were already getting some confidence, being able to speak for themselves.

“I understand,” Alpha Knight said. “And I understand if you don’t want to come back until Xavier is dead. Thank you for your offer.” He looked at Thea. “Anyone who wants to come back with me is welcome to do so.”

He stood up. Garret copied him, and Brenda also stood. She turned to Thea.

“Thank you,” Brenda said.

Thea nodded. “Stay safe.”

The three left.

“Does anyone need to go home? Have family you need to bring? Anyone ready to leave their pack?”

Thea said.

Alessia raised her hand. “I don’t have any family, and my Alpha is like Xavier. I’m ready.”

Thea walked over to Alessia and beckoned her to stand next to her.

Alessia stood next to her and bowed her head. Thea looked at the triplets.

Alaric

got up and stood in front of them.

“What’s your full name?” Alaric said.

“Alessia Moon.”

“Have you rejected your current pack?”

“Not yet.”

“Do you know how?”

“I’m not sure.”

“You say ‘I, Alessia Moon, reject your pack’s name,’ as my pack.’ Are you sure you want to do this?”

“Yes, sir.”

He motioned for her to go ahead.

“I, Alessia Moon, reject Crescent Moon as my pack.” She felt the bond sever and a weight lifted.

“Are you ready?” Alaric said.

Alessia nodded.

“I, Alpha Alaric Valko, accept you, Alessia Moon, into New Dawn Pack.”

Alessia and every New Dawn Pack member felt the bond form. They felt the rush of life into their pack. Alessia seemed to grow taller, broaden and fill out a little. She felt more alive than she had in a long time.

“Thank you, Alpha,” she said, head bowed.

“You’re welcome, Alessia.”

Thea rubbed Alessia’s back.

“Welcome to New Dawn, Alessia,” Thea said.

“Thank you, Luna,” she said. This time it wasn’t a symbolic gesture. She was her Luna. Tears spilled over her eyes.

Thea pulled her into a hug. The rest of the girls in the room were shocked that a Luna would touch an omega.

“I’m glad you joined our pack, Alessia. You’re safe now,” Thea said.

“Let’s get you set up. Does anyone need to stay here tonight? Follow me.” A few girls got up. “On second thought, everyone can follow. Let’s get some food first.”

After getting everyone a hot meal, several went back to their packs. They had people they needed to talk to about Luna Thea. They were going to try to get as many as they could to leave and join New Dawn. Thea had a few Delta team members drive and drop them off right outside their pack lands. They couldn’t cross their borders, or they’d have to explain what they were doing there.

Thea and the triplets took the girls who were staying the night to their rooms, then showed them the showers and the room full of clothes.

“You’re welcome to whatever you need while you’re here,” Thea said to them.

“Thank you,” they said. They looked through the racks and stacks of

clothes.

To Alessia, she said, "You're part of the pack now. Your needs are going to be taken care of. This will get you going. Soon you'll get to go shopping and choose your own style."

"This is more choice than I ever had before,"

Alessia said.

"Part of joining the pack means you're going to train with the pack. Are you up for starting today?" Thea said to Alessia.

"Yes. Somehow, I already feel stronger," Alessia said.

"You girls can join too today if you want, but you don't have to," Thea said.

"Yes, please. I've never been allowed to train before."

"If you want to change into workout clothes, pick some out," Thea said. The girls looked through the clothes, went to their room that they would all share tonight, and changed. They came back out, smiling.

"Let's go," Thea said.

The triplets and Thea took them down to the training grounds. They introduced Alessia as the newest member of New Dawn and the others as friends staying with them. Several girls came up and guided the girls into the crowd. They stayed a few minutes until the girls looked comfortable. Then they went back to their room in the pack house.

"How are you feeling?" Kai said to Thea.

"I'm not as tired as I thought I'd be," Thea said. "Or as I should be. Maybe I was energized by what we needed to do today. Maybe it will catch up to me later."

"Do you feel like a soak in the tub?" Conri said.

"Definitely," Thea said.

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Chapter 59 Savior

UNKNOWN FIRST PERSON POV

Everyone knew who Thea Lyall was. She was the best at everything from an early age. All the girls wanted to be her. All the boys wanted to be with her. She was strong, confident, hard-working, gorgeous, and above all, she was kind. It was impossible not to like her. As time went on, it became something more. She inspired people to be their best. She inspired loyalty. Trust. Fealty. People followed her. She was a born leader-a

protector.

When I saw her go into that empty classroom with Xavier Knight, I knew she didn't know what was coming. No one ever tried anything with her. She had the Alpha triplets surrounding her at all times. They blocked every boy who ever thought about trying anything with her-even the nice ones who wanted to take her out on a proper date.

I'd been watching for a while. I could see Xavier's confidence growing ever since he shifted. Being one of the oldest, he got his wolf before everyone else in his grade, which meant he was the strongest guy in school.

He immediately started abusing his Alpha powers. He knew who to target too. He had to know it was wrong. Raping younger she-wolves who had no protection, then using an Alpha command to keep them silent. He just got bolder as time went by. To try it with Thea, he must have thought he was invincible.

I saw her shock and disgust when he pulled it out. What was he thinking? She would fall at his feet for the opportunity? She had the triplets. Why would she be interested in him? I was rooting for her when she elbowed his face. She was the only person who dared to fight back. When he tied her hands behind her back, she still fought. She bloodied him good too,

even though she was unshifted and he had his Alpha strength.

He was surprised his Alpha tone didn't work on her.

When it looked like she might not win, I wanted to help her. I knew I was no match for Xavier, but maybe it would give her time to run away.

I was used to that kind of treatment. She wasn't.

Then the triplets burst in and pounded him into the ground. Those boys really love her. They are well-matched.

Thea was injured badly. Concussion, dislocated shoulder, face banged up, wrists bruised. The

triplets took her home.

Xavier got up, cleaned himself up as he healed, then went to the cafeteria and bragged about bagging Thea even though she usually only likes rough gang bangs. Only he was enough wolf for her alone, the whore. O I could tell most of the people in the cafeteria knew he was lying, but why they didn't know. He still had some wounds that were healing, and there was blood on his shirt.

I was surprised when a few people latched onto what he said and kept the gossip going. People grew bold from what they heard. Another group of boys I'd seen harass and abuse younger, unprotected she-wolves thought they could take Thea on. I thoroughly enjoyed watching her pummel every one of them into the ground.

Her loyal friend, Lizzy, proclaimed her the defender of she-wolves. It was magnificent. She made friends with the girl who spread the gossip. Then she wasn't at school for months. The day she came back, Xavier made that scene in the cafeteria. His younger brother reminded him beforehand that part of his punishment and penitence was apologizing to Thea. She was too smart for his lies. He hadn't changed. I'd seen him continue to abuse his powers and hurt girls.

When she publicly outed him, I saw many of the girls he'd hurt follow her outside. The girls talked to other girls and

passed out a phone number. They told them Thea would save them if they

used the code words, 'let's go to the bar.'

The next day, those girls gathered around Thea's locker. Could it be that she was helping them? I had to follow.

Thea must have known I was following. I don't know how. I mask my scent. No one has discovered me living at the school, eating from the cafeteria at night, staying hidden in the ceiling during the day. I've gotten good at slowing my heart rate, making it barely noticeable. There are so many other heartbeats during school hours. You wouldn't hear mine anyway.

But somehow, she sensed me. She wrote her phone number down on a piece of paper and dropped it. Was she saying she would help me too? The next day, Xavier wasn't at school. Everyone was talking about what he'd done. That Thea exposed it, proved it, and got his father to punish him. He was going to rip out his canines and tie him to the pole to be publicly shamed and die in agony. His title would pass on to his younger brother, Garret. First, they had to find him.

There was one girl from Crescent Moon Pack, Alessia, who was now surrounded by New Dawn members. She didn't go anywhere without several New Dawn members escorting her. She smelled different. She smelled like New Dawn. She even looked bigger. Taller. Not as skeletal. She walked differently. Like she had confidence. How could such a change happen in only a day?

A few other Crescent Moon Pack members approached her. They were omegas like her.

"You didn't come home last night," one said. "We thought something bad had happened. Then we felt your bond break from the pack. We thought you were dead."

"No. I rejected the pack," Alessia said.

"You went rogue?"

"I joined New Dawn."

They were shocked. They didn't know what to say.

"Guys, it's amazing there. Everyone trains together. Everyone eats together. They don't have omegas or slaves. Luna Thea said anyone who needs help can join her pack. You can bring your family. Even people who already went rogue, if we can get the message to them. Just show up at the New Dawn gates and say, 'let's go to the bar.' They'll know you're asking for asylum."

"Is it safe?"

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"Luna Thea said she's ready to go to war for us. They're strong. They have more warriors than Crescent Moon, and every member has a basic ability to fight. Alpha Jett would be insane to challenge them. You just have to get out and reject the pack."

The girls looked at each other. "We could leave?"

For real? What about the slaves?"

"If you can get word to them, if you can get them out and to New Dawn—they'll have a place."

"That's over half of Crescent Moon Pack. Can they handle that many?"

"Yes."

"And they're not just looking for more slaves?"

"They don't have slaves. Look, these people are from New Dawn. They're making sure everyone knows I'm protected now."

"It's true," one of the New Dawn members said. "We don't believe in slaves or omegas, and our future Luna and Alphas told us to expect new members who would need protection."

"We didn't know how bad it was," another New Dawn member said. I thought her name was Tessa. "We didn't know what the Alphas were doing. It's disgusting. No wolf should be treated that way. We'll fight for

you. Do you know where the New Dawn gates are?” She described how to get to them from the school. “It’s not far.”

“Don’t tell the higher ranking members of your pack. They may try to stop you and lock you in the dungeons. Only tell the people you know you can trust. If you know of anyone else in any other pack who is being mistreated, tell them too. Anyone can come.”

Anyone can come, even people who have already gone rogue. I went rogue to get away from abuse. I know a lot of others who have too. A lot of them have been killed. Rogues are usually killed on sight. That’s why it’s so shocking that she would offer asylum to rogues. Just show up at their gates? But if they’re expecting it, maybe they won’t kill us on sight. I know where some of the rogues hide. I could get a message to them. But is this too good to be true? No. Thea is who she appears to be. Even with my profound distrust of authority—considering every person in power always took every opportunity to abuse me, I believe in Thea Lyall.

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Chapter 60 Weapons

BACK TO THIRD PERSON POV

The next day, Thursday, Mr. Garrity had a helper summon Thea to his apothecary shop when she got home from school.

Thea came immediately with the triplets and four Delta guards in tow.

“Alphas, Luna,” Mr. Garrity said. “I have some mock-ups to show you.”

“Excellent.”

“Let’s go outside for demonstration,” he said.

“Of course.”

He pushed a cart outside behind his shop. His helper followed behind him with another cart. Thea could sense the interest in her Delta team guards.

*There are a number of herbs and plants that are perfectly harmless when used alone. However, combine them, and they become quite irritating. Even the method of extracting the active compounds can make them poisonous or benign. I am toying around with that to tweak and find the most potent forms. This cart here, these all have antidotes. The warrior can take a simple capsule, giving protection for twenty-four hours. This liquid will temporarily blind if it comes in contact with the eyes.” He picked up a vial.

“How temporarily?” Thea said.

“Depends on the healing rate of the person, how much gets in the eyes, and potency, but anywhere from ten minutes to an hour.”

Thea nodded.

“I have it here in a solid ball, mixed with some other things. If you throw it against something, like the ground, it will explode, sending the dust into the air and likely into their eyes. I’ve done this with a few concoctions. One will make it difficult to breathe. The more they exert themselves, the more difficult breathing becomes. If they keep struggling, they’ll pass out, but then their breathing will normalize. Another will be extremely itchy. This one temporarily paralyzes the muscles. Anywhere from ten minutes to an hour, again, depending on different factors.”

Thea and the triplets nodded and motioned for him to continue.

“These are preliminary. There will be more finesse later on,” Mr. Garrity said. “Those exploding balls could be short to mid-range. For the long-range options. Bow and arrow. Arrow coated with a liquid form of the same things. As long as it nicks the skin, the toxins will get in the blood and take effect. I haven’t tested these on any subjects, so I can’t say the length of effect for sure. If a bow and arrow are too cumbersome, we could look into other long-range options. I’ve been toying around with the idea of paintball guns. Making the exploding balls paintball-sized. They are long-range and have good accuracy.”

“I say why not?” Thea said.

Mr. Garrity nodded, smiling. He moved to the other cart. “This cart has wolfsbane options. There aren’t antidotes, as you know. Maybe these are a last resort. Friendly fire is more dangerous with these. Similar applications are possible, bow and arrow, exploding powder.”

“I’m hesitant to use something that could hurt our own,” Thea said.

“We could do a dart gun where the dart automatically injects the wolfsbane when it hits. I’m playing around with different ways of extracting it, mixing it, different concentrations. Low doses won’t kill anyone, but it will keep them from shifting. That may be important in a crowd control situation.”

“Do you think you could make an antidote to wolfsbane? All the things that have antidotes didn’t originally. They were discovered. What would it take?” Thea said.

“Honestly, scientists,” Mr. Garrity said. “If they could analyze the molecular compound, they may be able to figure it out. I think it’s beyond me, though.”

Thea nodded. “How do the other herbs affect humans? Or the unshifted? Other species?”

“I’ll look into it,” Mr. Garrity said.

“I’d like the warriors and Delta team to practice with these. Feel the effects, so they know what

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they’ll do. Could we do that right now?”

“Absolutely,” Mr. Garrity said.

“Do you have enough of the antidotes made?”

Thea said.

“Yes.”

Thea turned to the triplets. “Can you mind link the warriors and Delta

team, see who can come test these out?”

They nodded. Soon, half the warriors and all of Delta team joined them behind the Apothecary store.

“We should probably take these out to a rarely used part of the woods, huh?” Thea said.

“That would be best,” Mr. Garrity said.

“Will we need a clean-up afterward? Something to neutralize the poisons?” Thea said.

“The wind will carry it away in low concentrations. It shouldn’t be a problem,” Mr.

Garrity said.

Thea nodded. “Mr. Garrity, would you do the honors of explaining what you’ve made?” Thea said.

He bowed to her, faced the group of warriors, and told them everything.

“Any notes are greatly appreciated. I can only improve them if I know how you want them to function.”

“Who wants the antidotes today, and who wants to feel the effects, be the guinea pigs?” Thea said. “We won’t be testing the wolfsbane today, don’t worry.”

“Luna,” Mr. Garrity said. “It will probably be best if you don’t test them on yourself until we know how they affect humans.”

She nodded.

About half volunteered to be guinea pigs including the triplets. The other half took the antidotes, and they went out into the woods.

Overall they were very impressed with the effects and the implications for their future battles. They gave notes on each thing They wanted more explosiveness to kick up the dust. Everyone was very interested in the paintball idea. That and the bow and arrows opened up the possibility of

non warriors to aid in fights from a distance Maybe make one pill that had all the antidotes in it. Or a

vial to drink

“I will play around with antidote deliveries,” Mr. Garrity said. “I may be able to make a vaccine. Let me play around with it.”

“Everyone, please keep this between us for now,” Thea said. “We don’t want it leaking to other packs that we’re preparing for war. We don’t need anyone suspicious of us.”

**Yes, Luna,” they said

“Thank you all for testing these today. Please help your guinea pig brothers to the infirmary.”

They helped them over where they were seen by the pack doctor. They were all fine within the hour. Thea stayed in the infirmary, walking from bed to bed. When her mates started to rouse, she held their hands.

“I think I understand a little how you must have felt being paralyzed,” Conri said. “That was terrifying, and I knew I wasn’t going to be murdered.”

Thea squeezed his hand.

“Not being able to breathe,” Alaric said. “It’s effective.”

“Gotta tell you,” Kai said. “I like being able to see. Being blind is not fun. The itching was also very annoying.”

“Are you feeling better now?” Thea said.

“Starting to,” they said.

“I’m going to make one more round. Think you’ll be ready to go then?” Thea said.

The triplets nodded.

Thea walked around the infirmary, talking to each man. She touched each one in some way—a hand to the forehead, a squeeze of their hand or

shoulder. The ones who couldn't breathe, she rested her hand on their chest. With each one, she felt a rush of emotion leave her. She wanted them to heal and feel perfectly healthy.

"Ready?" Thea said to the triplets when she finished the round.

The triplets nodded, and they left the infirmary.

Conri lifted Thea, pinned her against the wall with her legs wrapped around his waist, and kissed her hard until she was tilting her hips and rubbing against him.

"You know none of them touched me, right?" Thea thought to him.

"This Alpha jealousy claiming thing isn't necessary."

"You touched all of them," Conri said.

"Concessions, Con."

"And you have to make concessions for my and Caleb's needs."

"Okay. Okay. You're right. Honestly, I like it when you get jealous and possessive. As long as you take it out on me," she thought.

"Oh, I'll take it out on you. I can't stand to be away from you, and you're right. They didn't touch you. You touched them. You're the one who needs it." He bit a trail down her neck to his mark

"Mmm. Yeah. You know what? I do need it. Give it to me, Con."

"Where's a condom when you need one?" Conri said, frustrated

"In our room, babe," Thea thought.

Conri adjusted his grip on her and ran to their room, Kai and Alaric right behind them.

Thea and the triplets checked in on Alessia at dinner. She looked good.

"Are you eating enough?" Thea said.

"I'm eating more in a day than I used to eat in a week," Alessia said.

"Good."

“And everything is so delicious. I used to only get table scraps.”

Thea squeezed her shoulder. It was already less boney.

“Are you settling in? Anything you need? I know you didn’t get to bring anything with you from your old pack.”

“No, Luna. I didn’t have anything to bring.

Everything is perfect here.”

Thea smiled at her. “You look good.”

“I feel good.”

“There’s no pressure,” Thea said. “I want you to explore all your options and choose what makes you happy, but I sense a warrior in you. You’re brave. You’re nimble. You’re smart. If you want to go that route, you can have all the training you want.”

“It was never an option before, but I’m enjoying training so far.”

“There’s no rush. All options are open to you. If you need someone to talk to, we have professional counselors here. It could just be about career options. It could be about dealing with trauma. Whatever you need.” Thea told her where their offices were. “I’ve seen them myself for PTSD.”

Alessia looked surprised.

“Oh, yes. I almost died about a month ago,” Thea said. She showed her the scar on her neck. “I was off pack lands. A witch paralyzed me, and a rogue cut my carotid. I couldn’t move, and I was bleeding out. I was sure I would die, but my mates and my guards found me in time. The rogue injected me with wolfsbane. No wolves could donate their blood for me. It was touch and go for a while because I lost so much blood and couldn’t replenish it adequately. I’ve been so weak. There are times I don’t have the strength to move, and it feels like I’m paralyzed again, dying. I’m

having fewer panic attacks since I've been talking with the counselor. She's helped me a lot. Again, no pressure. Whatever you want to do."