

## 14-The Triplets New Mommy

Ariella's POV

I hear my mate, my real mate declaring to his sons that he is accepting me. I'm being claimed. I can't let Finch take their blame alone.

Juliet- He is ours. All ours. He is totally in! I want him in us.

Me- Can we just not have sex for one day?

Juliet- Why?

I push her away when I hear the boys start to yell. I walk in and take Finch's hand. I am wanted. Finally, I am wanted.

"Is this why we were able to sleep through the night?" Carter asks. 1

"Yes, your Dad wouldn't allow me to torture you," I answer. Finch gives my hand a squeeze.

"So, you were sleeping with the Warlock just to torture us," Anderson narrows his eyes.

"Oh, like you three weren't planning on fucking every single female you could find," I shoot back, just as angry.

"We haven't had a single female thanks to your daily torture," Carter snarls.

I smirk and Juliet pushes through to snark at them. "Maybe you three shouldn't have rejected me. Imagine the sex we could have had."

"Actually, don't," Finch interrupts. "She is your stepmother now."

"Yes, I am," I lean on Finch's arm and smile.

Juliet- We are wanted, loved, and I bet all our needs are taken care of.

"We have tried to talk to you for seven months," Finley shakes his head. "We have tried to apologize and take back our rejection."

"How can you just accept our Dad so easily?" Carter asks with desperation in every word.

I look at Finch and he looks at me.

Juliet- If ever a time was called for to be completely honest this is it, babe!

"Because every girl dreams of the mating haze and he gave me that dream," I look back at the triplets. "You three broke my heart and left me for dead. Not caring at all what happened to me."

"Oh yeah, you were broken in two. Let me guess, the Warlock's Dick is actually a magic wand that fixed you," Anderson rolls his eyes at me.

"Kale, his name is Kale," I tell them all. "And yes, in a way it was. I didn't call my father to kill you, did I?" I remind them. "I will never apologize for finding happiness and solace in Kale. He is a dear friend, and I will always love him for what he did for me."

I can feel Finch is not too happy about the loving Kale part, but he can get over it.

"I am still wrapping my head around the fact you tortured us on purpose," Finley pouts. "We tried to apologize and take you back."

I narrow my eyes at him.

"You never should have rejected me!" Juliet screams through me, making all of them jump. "None of you get to be angry about this. When Anderson rushed me, he should have rushed to kiss me. The three of you should have thrown Kale out, locked the door and marked me before dinner. We should be sharing an apartment; I might already be with a pup. Our lives would have been starting."

Finch wraps me in a hug as I start to cry.

"I hate you," I scream at the triplets through my tears. "I hate what you made me."

Juliet- It's really okay. Even Duke says they deserve it.

Finch continues to hold me.

"You three will be sedated and hospitalized when Ariella and I mark each other," Finch tells them. "We will let you know when that will be."

"If I didn't love your father, I wouldn't agree to it," I say, surprising myself. I just said love, about Finch. I met him less than 24 hours ago! What in the hell is wrong with me!

Juliet- Shut up, you know you love him. We loved him when he followed us to the apartment. We loved him when he crawled into bed with us last night. Oh, and he loves us, so you know.

The triplets seem to have caught it.

Finch is holding me tight and I can't see his face. I feel him though. I feel him through the bond. I just melt into his arms.

I look up and Anderson is looking at me. We lock eyes. I should feel something. I know he rejected me, and I accepted but I still should feel something. But I am numb, I feel nothing.

"You were supposed to love us," Anderson says, shaking his head.

"You were supposed to love me too," I whisper.

"I did," Finley says as a tear falls down his cheek. "I didn't want to reject you. I wanted you. I came back the very next morning to tell you. You wouldn't answer the door. When I tried to talk on campus, you ran away. Nothing I did could

even get you to look at me." 2

"You rejected me, Finley, you did," I remind him.

"But I didn't want to," Finley steps toward me. "I wanted you."

"NO," I scream back. "The goddess loves me enough to give me a mate who wants me."

Finch tightens his grip on me. Honestly, if he wasn't there, I would be clawing their eyes out.

Juliet- I vote for the clawing of the eyes.

"Dad, you can't be really about to mate with our mate?"

Carter looks at Finch. "You are old enough to be her father."

"But I am not her father," Finch says. "I love her too."

I close my eyes and let the realization of what he just said wash over me.

"How is that possible?" Anderson asks with a laugh.

Juliet- We are easy to love and Mate Bond!

"Because we didn't fight the mate bond," Finch answers. "If the three of you had listened to me and given yourselves over to the bond the way Ari and I have, you wouldn't question us."

I open my eyes to see all three sets of green eyes staring at us.

"You can go to the hospital tonight or you feel the full effect

of me being mated and marked," I tell them. "But I won't put my happiness on hold for you."

Juliet- YES! That's my girl!

Finch releases me.

"Go head back to your room and wait for me. We will call your family in a minute," Finch looks at me and I lean up.

We gently kiss before I walk away.

I turn the corner but can still hear them.

"We do challenge you," I hear Anderson say, freezing me in my tracks. "We challenge you for OUR mate."

"Do really think hurting me is going to make her come back to you? Is that what you think?" Finch asks them.

"Hurt you?" Carter scoffs.

"Guys, wait, I didn't agree to this," Finley tries.

"We challenge you to a match to the death," Anderson says, and I gasp.

Juliet- A triple funeral. Great!