

16-Telling the Parents

Ari's POV

Once Anderson leaves, Finch and I sit on the couch.

"Nothing will hurt you," Finch assures me.

Juliet- KALE!

I pull out my phone and call Kale.

"Hey, you okay" Kale answers quickly.

"Hey, are you?" I ask.

"What?" He asks again. "I'm on the plane, they haven't closed the door yet."

"So you are safe on the plane?" I ask with a sigh.

"What is going on?" Kale demands.

"Carter has threatened you and I. He won't directly hurt you, but he may try indirectly." 1

"My father has been concerned as well. He set a protection charm over me," Kale sighs. "I'll be okay, Ari. You on the other hand need to watch your back. My father's coven can't protect a Royal."

"I will watch my back," I smile.

"She has me to protect her," Finch says so Kale can hear him.


"Then keep her safe," Kale warns. "I will call you as soon as we land."

I end the call.

"He is not with you anymore," Finch pulls me close. "Carter won't see him as a threat anymore."

"But he is a way to hurt me," I tell him, leaning into his chest.

Juliet- I feel better in our mate's arms.

Finch sighs deeply. 

"Will I always be competing with him?" Finch asks.

Juliet- You better tell him no. I mean it, girly.

Me- I want him.

Juliet- Take him!

I sit up and straddle his lap.

"No more than I will be competing with everyone you have ever been with," I tell him.

"Do you really love me?" Finch asks as his hands hold my hips.

"I can't believe it myself, but yes," I answer. "Same question."

Finch pulls me close and kisses my lips.

"Simply yes."

We kiss and hold each other until he pulls away.

"My guards have Carter," Finch tells me.

"What's the plan?"

"Let him stew in a cell, sedate him tonight and talk to him when the bond is completely broken," Finch tells me.

I look down and think about the time Carter tried to apologize and get me back.

"You know in the end you will carry my pup. And nothing will change that," his words ringing in my ear.

Juliet- His brother maybe, but not his pup.

"We need to call your parents," Finch tells me.

I nod and we get up.

I take a deep breath as Finch video calls my father's office.

"Alpha?" Dad answers with a confused look.

"Hey, Dad," I say, standing behind Finch.

"Ariella!" Dad almost panics. I see his eyes fill with tears. "What has happened?"

"Dad, its okay," I calm him down. "Are Mom and Caleb

there?"

Dad mindlinks.

"Ari," Mom's voice sound strained, like she has been crying, as she comes into view. "What has happened, you weren't on the plane?"

"Is she really on the phone?" Caleb runs in. "Ari!"

"What is wrong with you all?" I ask.

"Ari, where is Kale?" Dad asks seriously.

"Flying home," I answer and their faces fall.

"Ari, the plane," Dad chokes. "We thought you were on the plane."

"Ari, thank the goddess! Did you and Kale have a fight?" Caleb asks.

"I found my mate," I put my hand on Finch's shoulder.

"Alpha, are you aware of what has happened?" My father asks, brushing over the mate comment.

"No," Finch answers, shaking his head.

"The flight was out over the Atlantic Ocean and engine exploded," Dad tells us.

"Kale," I scream, going to my phone.

"S&R underway?" Finch asks, pulling me to his lap.

"Yes, we were waiting for them to find Ariella," Mom says. "She is your mate."

Finch nods.

"We were preparing to, hopefully, bring her body home. This flight just got a lot easier," Dad tells him.

"Are we going in full mourning for Ariella?" I hear Alicia's voice. "I mean, she wasn't a public family member. Shouldn't we make everything private. No need to upset the world over a princess no one knew existed. Especially, with the new Princess of the family. Nothing should outshine my own daughter."

Finch can't help the growl from his chest.

"I feel the same way," Mom answers. "We are celebrating Ariella after she mourns Kale."

"What?" Alicia asks, sounding angry.

"Only her boyfriend, Kale, died. Ariella is now the Luna of Conrad Pack," Caleb tells her.

Alicia starts to laugh. "Luna? She is a useless waste of genetic material. She should have died in that crash."

Now, Finch's growl is loud enough to be heard by my sister. I tried to soothe him, but his grip on me was tight and digging into my body.

"Oh my god!" Alicia laughs. "She got an old man! The

goddess thinks she is as much a joke as I do.”

“Alicia, you can leave my office,” Dad demands.

“Whatever,” Alicia takes another look at me and Finch. “I guess he is the best you could do.”

Mom slaps Alicia’s face.

“Get out of here,” Mom snarls in anger.

“Mama?” Alicia looks shocked and truly injured.

I’ve never been slapped by our mother, but I have seen her lay full-grown warriors on their asses with ease. When Alicia moves her hand from her cheek we can see the outline of Mom’s hand even through the video chat.

“Get out of here,” Mom says again. “Ari, we will be there soon.”

I didn’t realize how many tears had fallen until I looked at Finch’s shirt.

“Thank you,” I croak.

“I’ll have you some tea made,” Finch tells me, before mindlinking.

“Thank you, Alpha,” Mom softens. “We look forward to meeting you.”

“I was hoping for better circumstances, but we will be ready for your visit,” Finch tells them, holding me tightly.

"See you in 18 hours," My Dad says, before disconnecting the call.

"Come on, Sweetheart, I'll take you to your room," Finch lifts me and takes me to my room.

"I'm sorry, you should let the boys know they don't need to go to the hospital tonight," I croak, my voice becoming weaker by the second.

"I already did. Anderson and Finley are very sorry for Kale and you. They both asked to come tomorrow to see you personally," Finch tells me.

"I'll see," I answers.

There is a knock, and an Omega brings in the tea.

"Thank you so much," I say, and I sit up.

"You are welcome, Luna," She bows before leaving.

I sip my tea and cuddle into Finch. I can't believe Kale is gone.