


## Chapter 0301

"No! Being with your mate is special, it just seems to really be a sticking point for you. You don't really talk with guys who aren't warriors and you don't flirt with anyone at all, like you're afraid of even the perception of being interested in someone other than your mate."

"Maybe, she's already met her mate. Have you ever thought of that?" Nickolas comes out with bottles of water for us both. "Somewhere in her subconscious, she knows her mate and it is stopping her from disrespecting that bond."

"Oh, damn! I didn't think of that! You're right, that has to be it! We have to get you like a ring to wear, like you have a boyfriend. Plenty of college girls do the long distance thing with a high school sweetheart. I mean that isn't going to stop any of them from trying to flirt and get with you, you're hot, like really hot, but it will be an excuse at least."

Why is Mina so excited about this all of a sudden? Not five minutes ago she was giving me a hard time about not flirting enough with the boys we meet, now I must know my mate and it's okay to not want to engage the guys we come across here. This whole situation has always made my head hurt. Now that we are around guys whose main goal in life is to pass classes and get laid regularly, and not necessarily in that order, it's in my face everywhere. 

We haven't been to any parties yet, but our first big one is a New Years' party that Beth invited us to tomorrow and Mina has ensured that someone will try to kiss me when midnight hits so I had better be ready for that.

"Let's just get back to practicing, I still need to get better at my ground work." I look at both of them and Mina scoffs.

"Your ground work is flawless, what the hell are you talking about? Ever since the attack you have gone non-stop with training in your free time, you need to slow down."

"NO!" I shout and it startles them both. "It's not flawless and I won't let anything like that happen to me or anyone I care about again. I realize at some point in the very near future, some douchebag is going to grab me and we are going to let him, all for the sake of finding information, but I will not be tortured for no reason. If I can get more than just myself out I will along with finding the whereabouts of this f\*cking camp. This organization has had the chance to go on long enough. Everyone says it, but no one has really done much to move forward. I have an opportunity to help stop this," I point to my sports bra clad back, "Or worse from happening to anyone else. Now are we training or do I need to go beat on the bag by myself?"

"It's all good, Midge. Take a breath. I can work with you for a little while, give Mina a break." Nickolas steps towards me, hands raised in a surrendering gesture. He's like Oliver and Sam in so many ways. He knows when I just need to

vent physically and talking about it only makes things worse. He gets that I just need to work through my thoughts with physical motion.

Hey. You know we won't let anything happen to you, right? He talks over the mindlink, melding his voice with his wolf's. They are both trying to calm us down.

You can't guarantee that and you know it. The point is to get taken, to get inside their compound or camp or whatever it is.

We are both still throwing punches and he is swiping at my legs trying to knock me down.

It doesn't make the sentiment any less. Just like you have a feeling about your mate, I have a feeling about you and Mina. I can't let anything happen to you.

We keep grappling neither of us getting and good move in, but not for lack of trying. I lost track of time, but there is no snow left on the ground surrounding us when Nickolas finally calls us to a stop.

"We will get these guys and you both will be a huge part in that, I can feel it. Let's go get some food and you can finish your high school homework before you get started on helping Mina organize her college classes.