



Chapter 30: The Beta

Quinton

"He captured my fucking Beta! That's how fucking strong his pack is, Quinton! MY BETA!! Strong isn't even the right word. There's no way that pack should be as strong as they are if they've fought four days in a row! It's like they're getting stronger with each battle. What the actual fuck? How the fuck am I supposed to get my Beta back?"

"We'll get your Beta back, Thomas," I say, sitting back. "Did Warren smell like he'd marked his new mate?"

"Who the fuck cares about his mate, Quinton! He has my Beta!" he snarls at me. My answering snarl causes the walls in my office to vibrate and the pictures on the wall to shift.

"Don't you dare take that fucking tone with me, Thomas," I say, sitting forward. "I said we'd get your Beta back and I meant it. But I need to know if we have to kill the woman, or if we can capture her."

I hear him breathing heavily on the phone, presumably getting his temper in check. When he's calmer, he answers.

"I could smell her on him, but not enough that he was marked," he says. "Quin, how the fuck is his pack getting so strong so fast?"

"Brady thinks it's this lady doctor, Warren's mate."

"Then she needs to fucking die," he snarls. And this is why Thomas isn't the strategist in our group either. He's too stupid to think past the moment he's in, too stupid to realize that if she's making

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Warren's pack that strong, she could make any pack that strong. She could make MY pack that strong.

If I have her, my pack would become stronger. If I have her, I could become the strongest Alpha in the region. If I have her, I could take over all the packs and everything in this region would be mine.

"I'll talk to Brady. We need to team up and attack together, go after them with everything we've got, rather than sending one pack at a time," I tell him.

"And we'll get Axel back?" he asks.

"Yes, Thomas. We'll get your Beta back."

Warren POV

"Have you eaten?" Yara asks as we walk into the room.

"No. But I'm not leaving you alone with Thomas' Beta. I don't care if he's unconscious. I don't want him waking up and hurting you."

She looks at Anna who nods, then leaves after putting the IV into the Beta's arm. A moment later, she returns with a breakfast wrap.

"Wash your hands first Warren. You're covered in blood," Yara says, nodding her head at the sink in the room.

"Are you taking care of me, Yara?" I ask, pleased that my mate is looking after me.

"No more than you were taking care of me earlier, Warren," she says and when I look, I see her smiling as she begins to wash the wounds

on the Beta's body. Arric and I hate her touching other men, but it's the job she does and it's necessary.

"Have you two eaten?" I ask my warriors.

"Last night, Alpha," they both say and I nod. I link the kitchens to bring food to the hospital. Yara's doing a great job of healing my pack, but they need to stay healthy. I have no doubt that Thomas will be back for his Beta. If anyone captured Charlie, I'd tear down their pack to get him back.

"I take it the Alpha escaped?" Yara asks.

"Yeah, the coward ran off," one of the warriors says.

"He knew he'd lost. Honestly, I'm surprised the fight was so easy," I say which reminds me that I need to have a chat with Dr. Stevens.

'Charlie, when you're done showering, find Dr. Stevens. We need to have a heart to heart,' I tell my Beta.

'On it,' he says.

'Oh, and get something to eat. I have food being sent over here, but you've just gotten out of the hospital. Believe me, you don't want Yara angry at you.'

He snorts. 'You're not the first person that's said that. Our Luna has a bit of a temper, eh?'

'Only when it comes to saving our pack, apparently,' I say, watching my mate as I eat and she begins to stitch the bleeding wound closed.

I frown, setting the food aside and stepping closer to the bed. Something feels off, but I can't figure out what it is. Arric pushes forward, feeling the same change that I do.

Yara is doing her usual mumbling about how no one seems to know they're injured anymore, Anna is looking at the monitors...

"Alpha?" one of the warriors says, just as the Beta hand snaps out to grab Yara by the throat. I'm at her side, my claws slicing through his wrist in an instant. His breathing had changed. It had taken me a moment too long to realize that's what I sensed.

He snarls, not releasing Yara's throat. "So, you're the lady doctor everyone's so hot and bothered by."

"Let go," she says, her voice deadly calm.

"I don't think so," he says and I'm about to rip his hand off when he begins screaming in pain, his hand pulling away from her.

"When a doctor has her hands inside your stomach, Beta, you don't want to piss her off," she says, remaining calm.

"Sedate him, Anna," I snarl, pushing Yara behind me. I'm impressed that she was able to get him to let go of her, but I'm not taking any chances with her life.

The moment he's unconscious, I turn to look at her.

"Warren..."

"Let me see," I growl.

I gently lift her chin, seeing the fingerprint bruises on her neck. I snarl viciously and several warriors rush into the room.

"Annika is already healing me, Warren," she says, putting her hand on mine. "Let me finish treating the Beta before he dies on my table."

"Let him die," I snarl, pulling her into my arms. I don't care that I'm covered in blood. He could have killed her. I already know I don't want to live without this woman in my life. I've waited too long to find her and she's so much more than I ever hoped to find in a mate.

"He knows about me, Warren. He's not part of Simon's pack and he knew who I was. You're right, you need to interrogate him. Why would they even care about me?" she asks and while her voice remains steady, I can feel the fear in her through our bond.

I look up at the warriors in the room. "Because you're making us stronger, Yara. The longer you're here, the stronger this pack becomes. Other Alphas would want that, especially ones who are greedy and want to increase the size and scope of their pack. That's my guess, and you're right. I need to see what this Beta knows, but he'll die for putting his hands on you. Don't fight me on that," I tell her.

I can feel her resistance, her unwillingness to let anyone die. However, her fear is stronger than her need to heal so I'm thankful when I feel her nod against my chest.

"I'll protect you, Yara," I tell her.

"We all will, Luna," one of the warriors says, and the others agree.



"Thank you. Okay, let me get back to what I do well, putting broken warriors back together."

She starts working on the Beta again, and I watch her, keeping a close eye on the Beta this time.

"How did you know how to hurt him enough that he'd let go?" I ask her, curious.

She looks up at me and then at the warriors in the room. "A doctor learns how to heal, but in the process, we learn about anatomy, what makes us strong and what makes us weak. We learn how to heal and where a person is most vulnerable if they are injured. But aside from all that, someone squeezing your stomach and liver in their hands is going to cause excruciating pain."

She turns back to the Beta as I smile, feeling the smug satisfaction from the pack at Yara's words. My mate is one hell of a badass. 1

 Cooper  Author

"You get two today."

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