

## Chapter 20 Unwanted Attention

Hunter's P.O.V.

I walk around the Palace gardens to see what they look like during the day, the first path I walk on to is made with dark grey flagstones and on both side grow flowers in a variety of colors.

There are Daylilies in every color with ruffled and double petals, there are Fanflowers along the borders in purple and white and I see African Daisies and African Lilies.

Every path I walk on is different; either in color or in stone, but they all look amazing and are crossing through flowers, bushes, shrubs and trees. Every now and then a path goes over a pond with Koi carps in them, I have gone down on my hunches quiet a few times to just stare at them.

I don't think I will ever tire of walking around the gardens, I love the peace and quiet that resides here and I wonder how they keep the shrubs and bushes in these shapes.

I have seen cones, balls and even animal shapes and not to forget the garden with it's path running in between bushes planted in the shape of a heart or a circle. There were even a few benches spread out through the garden and I know where I will be heading if I need time to myself.

As the Palace comes back in to view it is near ten in the morning and I decide it is time for my two little lovebirds to wake up. I follow Gabe's scent and I find his room very quickly, giving it a loud knock, I wait for them to open up the door.

Brent seems embarrassed that I saw him naked and I make it pretty clear that his cock isn't the first I have ever seen. I am a shifter after all and shifting is easier when you are naked, it is also less expensive if you don't rip your clothes every time you shift.

"Why are you up so early, Princess?" Brent asks and I turn to face him as I say, "What is it with people asking me what I am doing up so early? First Peter and Chris and now you. Normally I would be in school by now, it is already ten o'clock, BeeBee."

They both stare at me as they start cussing and swearing, Brent rushes into the bathroom and Gabe rushes in to the walk-in closet to get dressed. "Should we tell them that everyone else is still asleep?" I ask Justice as I watch both men running around the room.

"Nah, maybe on the way downstairs." She replies as she is rolling around in my head. I shake my head at her, but decide not to mention that the rest of the family is still sleeping.

Jayce's P.O.V.

Colt is pacing up and down my head as I wake up slowly, I scold him for waking me and I want to turn to my side to get back to sleep.

"I want to see our Mate." He whines and I shoot up straight in my bed. Fuck, I had forgotten about that, we found our Mate and today we would learn more about her.

Dad told us we would have breakfast in the King's wing and that meant that there was a lot to say that wasn't meant for others to hear. It also meant that either his or my Mate had an interesting story to tell and I can't wait to find out.

It is close to nine in the morning and I get in the shower quickly, I finish my morning routine in the bathroom. Then I walk into my closet to grab a pair of khaki chinos, a navy button-up shirt and a pair of dark brown shoes.

Every door around me is still closed, except for the one that leads to Hunter's room and I peak in to see her bed already made. Her scent is faint which means that she has been up for a while.

"What is she doing out of bed so early?" Colt asks and I have no answer for him. Walking into the dining-room I am met with silence and I don't smell Hunter's scent in here at all.

"Goodmorning, Your Highness." I hear a nasally voice behind me and now both Colt and I wish we had stayed in bed. "Goodmorning, Esther. Have you seen Hunter by any chance?" I ask her without looking at her.

She steps close to me and puts a hand on my arm as she asks who Hunter is, but I know that she is aware who Hunter is and that she is only using this as an excuse.

"Esther, I would appreciate it if you keep your hands to yourself. I don't want any woman to touch me and that includes you. Maybe you should have thought a bit harder before you rejected your Mate." I say through gritted teeth.

I know it is a low blow; throwing Adam in front of her, but I need her to understand that I know what she wants and that she is not going to get it. "If this is to difficult for you to understand, I will ask the King to reassign you to a workstation far from the Palace, is that clear."

I look her in the eye as I speak and I see her pale at my words, I just hope she won't point her arrows at one of my Brothers. I have an extra incentive to keep me far away from women, not just my upbringing, but also my Mate.

"She came to the kitchen early this morning and Adam told her he would take her to the training grounds." She radiates anger as she speaks and I chuckle as I realize she doesn't like Adam being around another woman.

I link Adam to find out where he and Hunter are, but he informs me that she left after he explained the rules on training to her. "Prince Jayce, I don't think she was to happy with what I told her. I got this feeling she was upset." He says.

I thank him for his time as I stare out the window and without thinking about it I try to link Hunter, only to come up empty. Fuck, I can't link her with her not connected to the Pack yet.

I link some of the Warriors I know went with Dad, but none of them have seen Hunter and the longer it takes the more agitated Colt becomes. "Calm down, Buddy. She is still on Palace grounds. No one would have let her leave without contacting Dad."

My words seem to calm him down, but only by a fraction and I don't blame him as I feel the same way. It is a quarter to ten when Dad and Aspen walk into the dining-room with Jax, Jason and Justin right behind them.

"Goodmorning, Jayce." Dad says as he looks around the room. "Don't tell me you already managed to piss off Hunter." He says teasingly and I hear Aspen giggle.

"I didn't piss her off, Dad. It seems that you did that already." I say with a smirk on my face. "I have been here for almost an hour, but Hunter was up rather early and went to the training grounds with Adam.

She left after he explained the rules you set for training and according to Adam she was not to pleased. I already linked a few Warriors, but no one has seen her."

Aspen asks Dad what I meant with the rules for training and as we all sit down, Dad starts explaining how the rules work for training. She looks at Dad and I see a frown appear on her forehead; she is shaking her head when Esther walks in with coffee.

Dad tells her to set up the buffet for breakfast and that after that he wants everyone to leave us alone, until he links Martha that the room can be cleaned. Esther nods her head, but I see her glaring at Aspen.

Staff is walking in and out of the room and I know that Dad is dying to find out what Aspen's reaction was about. "Jayce don't worry about Hunter. She is always up early and under normal circumstances she would be in school, right now.

If she doesn't show up for dinner, I'll start worrying and when I start worrying about my Daughter you better warn all the Warriors." She says with a huge smile on her face.