

On The Run 98

Chapter 98

Alpha On The Hunt Chapter 23

It is late by the time we return to the packhouse, just like Axton predicted. News of a possible Strigoi has caused city-wide panic. Families requesting to leave the city, and others wanting to hunt it down. But exactly how do you catch a ghost when it could be anyone, people accusing their neighbors, their friends, their rivals? It was utter chaos, and I could tell Axton didn't know how to cope with this added stress.

"I need to shower," Axton mumbles. After helping me get the boys tucked into their crib, I watch him move toward the bathroom, locking himself in, and I sigh. Yet it makes me wonder how my father is coping with the chaos in our pack. While Axton is showering, I check in with my mother, video-calling her to ensure everything is okay back home.

She took the news of Alisha's parents and Tieriny pretty hard, as expected. "When are you coming home?"

"Tomorrow afternoon, unless you need me back there now?" I tell her, and she shakes her head. "No, it won't change anything. I really thought they left when the others did. And Tierney..."

"I'm sorry, mom," I tell her, chewing my lip, and I hear Luke call out to her. She looks away from the screen for a second.

"I need to go. I will see you tomorrow night. Give the boys a kiss for me."

"Love you." I hang up the phone just as Axton comes out with his towel around his waist. Tension rolls off him in waves as he wanders into the walk-in closet and returns a few minutes later with some boxer shorts on.

"Couch or bed?" Axton asks me, and my brows furrow.

"The bed, but I forgot your poncho," I tell him, and he half smiles.

"Damn it, we can build a pillow barrier then," he chuckles, climbing into bed. I yawn before quickly ducking into the bathroom to change, having showered quickly before we left. Coming out, Axton is watching the news, a deep frown on his face.

"One of Osiris's journalists accused me of being the Strigoi," he laughs, shaking his head, and I look at the news anchor who is reporting knowing exactly whose pack she is a part of. I move toward the bed and tug the blankets back. Climbing into the bed beside him, I take the remote and shut the TV off.

"I expect to wake up with my blood still in my veins," I tell him, and he chuckles.

"No promises," he laughs before he tenses when I move, putting my head on his chest and arm across his waist.

“Ah...Elena? You’re voluntarily touching me?” he asks.

“Shut up. It’s the bond!”

is.” He rolls, flipping me on my side and snuggling into my back as he slides his arm comfortable.” I snarl at

repeat of yesterday. These are my favorite boxers!” He laughs, and I elbow him. Axton grunts, tugging me closer, and his warm breath sweeps my neck as he

the bond.” He purrs behind

an asshole, and I’ll

Axton says, making me look at him over my shoulder, and he sits up, rolling me onto

want to merge packs or lose your packs,” he

about where he is taking this conversation, and he looks back

right now. Osiris wanted your father’s pack because it’s the second largest. You have an army behind you if you’d use it. That is why Osiris went after you. He knows the power you hold once you take over. At the restaurant, he was talking about challenging your

has been allowing access?” I ask

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will only let his men patrol his borders, but you have

your pack is the

all my pack members are trained, not just my men. But we are running double

other packs won’t fall in line while me and Osiris are at

turn, challenge

don’t

want me to take my

merges, but they won’t listen to

change of power won’t

will if

you their Alpha, giving you control over not only your pack but mine,” I growl. Axton sighs and drops

be yours,” he mumbles against

on paper.” I shake my head and he growls,

choice but to challenge your father and take your pack, Elena. I don't want to do that, but right now, we need help. If the human governments get involved, they will tear this city apart and dismantle the packs." I sigh because it has been happening everywhere. As soon as a city turns into

marking you," I growl at

Axton growls at me.

to eventually, anyway. What happens when you go into

yet. Let me think about how to deal with that when

plan originally was to force him