

Mistaken

Posted originally on the [Archive of Our Own](http://archiveofourown.org/works/58435144) at <http://archiveofourown.org/works/58435144>.

Rating:	Explicit
Archive Warning:	Creator Chose Not To Use Archive Warnings
Categories:	M/M , Multi
Fandom:	Stray Kids (Band)
Relationships:	Lee Minho Lee Know/Seo Changbin , Kim Seungmin/Lee Felix/Yang Jeongin I.N , Bang Chan/Han Jisung Han , Bang Chan/Han Jisung Han/Hwang Hyunjin , Seo Changbin & Everyone , OT8 - Relationship
Characters:	Seo Changbin , Lee Minho Lee Know , Bang Chan (Stray Kids) , Han Jisung Han , Hwang Hyunjin , Lee Felix (Stray Kids) , Kim Seungmin (Stray Kids) , Yang Jeongin I.N
Additional Tags:	Omega Seo Changbin , Alpha Lee Minho Lee Know , Alpha Hwang Hyunjin , Alpha Han Jisung Han , Beta Lee Felix (Stray Kids) , Beta Yang Jeongin I.N , Omega Bang Chan (Stray Kids) , Omega Kim Seungmin (Stray Kids) , Alpha/Beta/Omega Dynamics , Non-Traditional Alpha/Beta/Omega Dynamics , Rape/Non-con Elements , Misunderstandings , Mating Rituals , Mating Run , Angst , Angst with a Happy Ending , Conflict , Polyamory , Polyamorous Pack , Polyamorous Stray Kids Ensemble , Strangers to Lovers , past trauma , Idealism , Forced Relationship , Sexual Injury , Slow Burn , Falling In Love , Healing , Mpreg , Internal Conflict , Conflict Resolution , Eventual Smut , Angst and Hurt/Comfort , Angst and Fluff and Smut , Switching , Omega Verse , Everyone switches basically , Anal Sex , BDSM Scene , Light Dom/sub , More Tags Inside , Tags Are Hard , Happy Ending , OT8 , they all fall in love , Seo Changbin-centric , mostly - Freeform , Found Family
Language:	English
Stats:	Published: 2024-08-25 Updated: 2024-11-05 Words: 45,261 Chapters: 20/60

Mistaken

by [JinAlike](#)

Summary

It was never met to happen. A mistake beyond mistakes. The rules of the world were known. An unmated omega who allowed themselves to go into heat was available and asking for a mating run. They wanted to be chased, claimed, and tamed.

Except Changbin didn't. Changbin was supposed to find suppressants and stop his heat, but fate wasn't on his side.

Instead there was an alpha on his heels and his heart hammered in his chest.

This was a mistake, but all he could do now was run.

OR

Changbin gets caught in a mating run he never wanted to be a part of, but it turns out to be the greatest mistake to ever happen in his life.

Notes

Hello and welcome to my newest story, Mistaken!!

If you are new to my stories, I have multiple long fics and I hope you will check those out as well as enjoy this one!

If you are a reader of mine, welcome back! We are off on another adventure!

This story will have tags for every chapter in the chapter summary as usual.

I will be updating this story on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

This first Chapter is being posted on a Tuesday, however, your author has a honeymoon to go on so the next chapter will not be up until the following Tuesday, but then we will have regular updates on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

Please be warned that this story does have elements of Non-con, Changbin does not want to mate Minhó in the beginning here. Minhó doesn't realize that, however. Minhó is not a bad guy, he is just mistaken (see what I did there?)

There will also be some heavy angst moments along the way in this story, but as with all my stories, we will have a happy ending and everyone will come out of all problems unharmed in

the long run! I promise there will be lots of love and amazing moments along the way to balance it all out!

I hope you enjoy reading this story as much as I enjoyed writing it.

Thank you so much!!

See the end of the work for more [notes](#)

Chapter 1

Chapter Summary

Changbin finds himself being chased, something he never wanted.

Tags: fear, panic, anger, mating runs, non-con, non-con due to ignorance/misunderstandings, wolves, wolf customs, heat, conflicting emotions between personal wants and instinctual wolf desires, smut, knotting, mating, guilt, shame, confusion,

Changbin's chest was heaving even in his wolf form. Rapidly gulping down oxygen through his open snout. He was hoping it would get into his bloodstream quick enough. Hoping his pounding heart could pump it out to his muscles fast enough to give him the advantage. He needed to escape.

After all, this was never supposed to happen. It was so simple for him to avoid this. He had done so for years. All it took was some herbs boiled into a cup of tea and all of this went away. The growling echoing around the trees of the forest, only dimly lit by the moonlight wouldn't be there. The powerful scent of lust wouldn't be cementing in his lungs. The consuming fire wouldn't be burning under his skin and fur, begging to stop this.

Except the area the herb grew in had a wildfire and he hadn't been able to find any. His heat set it almost as fast as his panic had. He tried to hide away, to not be found, but fate wasn't on his side. An alpha discovered him and he had no choice but to run.

Changbin had never wanted to be part of a mating run. He never wanted a mate to begin with. Even if he did decide to take one, it would've been through courting. It would've been slow and mutual. It never would've been from an alpha he didn't know in the slightest chasing him like prey through the woods.

He dug his paws into the earth, pushing his limits harder. He had to keep going.

He didn't want to get caught, but his inner omega did. His natural instincts wanted nothing more than to be caught and bred by this delicious smelling alpha. The slick soaking down the backs of his light sandy color fur showed that well.

Changbin was nothing if not stubborn though. Him and this alpha had been going for hours already. He couldn't believe the endurance, the sheer determination the other had. The only time he had heard of mating runs going on for so long was for royalty, when there were huge territories to gain or lose.

He sure as hell wasn't royalty and he didn't come with any land, but the alpha didn't stop. He didn't understand, but he knew he had to keep going, keep running. No one was more stubborn than him. He believed that. He believed he would escape.

Even when the moon was waning and the sun started to creep over the mountains. Changbin didn't lose his conviction about it until he jumped on a log and it crumbled, brittle and frail under his paws. He fell forward, body tumbling as the world spun, making him lose any sense of direction. He whimpered, whines spilling as he fought and struggled to get back to his feet, to get back to running, but it was too late.

In a flash of black fur, the alpha was over him. Jaws locked into the scruff of his neck and he went limp faster than he ever wanted to acknowledge. A growl, commanding and powerful enough to vibrate through his chest spoke to him.

'Shift back.' It demanded and his inner omega folded so quickly, listening with no hesitation to the alpha it wholeheartedly respected.

To Changbin's inner beast, to his base instincts, this alpha had proven himself a million times over. He had chased him for *hours*. It showed strength, stamina, dedication, and those qualities made his omega sing.

In seconds he found himself human again, naked with a snout full of teeth hanging above his jugular.

He thought about fighting, he wanted to, but the scent of the alpha so close and all around him was too much. His thinking got hazy. His whole body was flush from the chase and his heat. He was leaking so bad and the power that this alpha radiated made his legs fall open. His head dropped to the side, barring his neck and then, finally the other shifted to his human form as well.

Fuck.

It was the first and only thought Changbin really had because this alpha was unfairly beautiful. Deep and catlike eyes, a perfect nose, and red, shiny lips that looked as soft as pillows. He had a sharp jaw and just as sharp fangs that were glistening in the morning rays of sunrise. His pitch black hair contrasted his skin and he was smirking down at him now, showing all his gorgeous teeth.

"*Finally.*" He said. "I caught you."

A whimper wasn't the sound Changbin wanted to make, but it came out of him anyway.

Hands came down his body and those pillowy lips started kissing and nipping along his neck. "Don't worry, sweet omega. I'm going to make you mine."

It was exactly what he never wanted, but his body wouldn't listen in the least. He couldn't even speak.

He couldn't resist any of it, not the tender touches that sent shivers down his spine more than he wanted to admit. Not the soft kisses placed all over his neck, face, and body. Not the way the alpha slid into his body like it was made for him. Not the pleasure that convulsed through him and especially not the kisses that took over his senses like nothing ever had.

Least of all, he couldn't resist the mating mark that was bitten into his skin as the alpha knotted him, cumming deep inside his body.

He'll give himself one thing, he didn't mark the alpha back. Something that wasn't required, he was mated now regardless, but it left him less vulnerable. It kept a wall up between him and this stranger that he desperately needed. He hoped it upset the alpha's pride too, maybe gave him a sense of shame, if it were possible.

As the mating settled and the high simmered out from their orgasms, the alpha pulled his head up and stared down at him with questioning eyes.

"Did... Why didn't you bite back?"

He had to resist the urge to smile. The other was bothered, good. "I didn't want a mate." He said, voice sounding so much weaker than he wanted it to, but at least he could finally get words out.

"What?" The alpha asked, brows furrowing as he pulled back to look more at the omega. "Then why were you in heat? Only omegas who want to be chased let themselves go into heat."

He sighed, trying to swallow the lava that threatened to come out of him. "The area where the herb usually is burned. I couldn't find any in time."

"So... this... you didn't want any of this?"

Changbin shook his head, tears gathering against his will in his eyes. They only made the fire in his belly burn brighter. "No. I didn't want this."

The other covered his mouth with one hand, pulling back so he wasn't touching so much of Changbin. "I... I didn't know. I thought... thought you just ran so much because you wanted me to prove my worth. I saw how strong you are. You wouldn't settle for someone weak, someone who couldn't keep up, but... but you were really trying to escape from me."

"Yes!" He yelled, the dams of anger opening. This alpha who had just taken all his power, his freedom, acting so innocent. "You could've asked! You could've asked for my consent and you didn't! Don't look sorry now. It's too late."

"But I am sorry." He said, and Changbin hated that he could feel how real those emotions were. Why could he sense the other's emotions? He knew so easily that they didn't belong to him, but the alpha. "What can I do?"

"It's too late. You can't do anything." He answered, trying to control some of his own feelings. "Can you tell me your name? I'd like to know that at least."

“Minho.” He answered. “Lee Minho.”

“I’m Changbin, Seo Changbin.” He closed his eyes to try to calm himself. The rift between himself and his omega was tangible within him. The inner beast was so happy with Minho. So happy they had a mate, but Changbin wasn’t. It was like needles in his heart to be so at odds within his own body.

“I really am sorry, Changbin... for what it’s worth... I’ll try to be a good mate to you.” The alpha said, dark eyes looking down in shame. “If... if you want to come with me, I guess that is.”

He had wanted the alpha to look ashamed like this, but now that he was seeing it, it wasn’t so great. His crying inner omega wouldn’t let him enjoy the regret on his mate’s face at all. He could feel the storm of turmoil and emotions coming from Minho. It was obvious he was genuinely upset about this and he should be happy to let him rot in those emotions. However, his heat was flaring up, his instincts getting louder, trying to cloud over his mind once more.

He reached up and pulled the alpha back down to him, wrapping him in a hug without ever wanting to. He felt how empty he was, entrance fluttering, clenching around nothing as the haze took over again. He couldn’t really fight it. If he couldn’t resist it unmated, he surely couldn’t now that they were. The other clearly needed comfort too because Minho melted against him. The alpha held onto him tightly, licking gently over the mating bite and whispering lowly. “Do you have a pack?”

“No.” Changbin answered, voice breaking into a whine as one of his legs hooked over Minho’s body. “Do you?”

“Yeah, I do. I’m... I’m the pack alpha, actually.” Minho said softly, chest heaving as their bodies were closer. “Do... I’m confused. Changbin, you smell so good...” He felt wetness on his chest where the alpha had tucked his face in. “You’re pulling me closer, but do you really want this?”

“No.” He answered, shaking his head. “But... I need it.” He gasped, slick gushing out of him as the fever took over completely. He could barely see straight, his body begging for its mate. His alpha whether he wanted him or not. “Please...”

“Okay, I’ll make you feel better... I can do that right at least... I hope.”

It made him whimper how awful Minho was feeling inside. His inner omega was getting insecure. The beast thought it was their fault. The alpha wasn’t happy because they weren’t pleasing him somehow. The thought only drove him to get more submissive. Changbin rolled over before he knew what happened, presenting himself to Minho, shoulders as low as he could get them, ass spread and leaking for his mate.

Changbin could feel the alpha’s lust growing. All the emotions of want overriding the regret, the guilt and shame. It made his inner omega so happy, but it didn’t do the same for Changbin. This war in his own system was like poison, but he couldn’t think about it for long. Soon Minho was pressed completely back inside of him and hearing the alpha moan made happy sounds, almost purrs, escape him without his permission.

They coupled so many times after that, his body getting molded to the alpha, to his *mate* . One he shouldn't have. His inner omega didn't allow him to be upset about it. The heat was strong, controlling, and it turned him into a shameless and slutty version of himself he didn't recognize. One that begged for his alpha and whined in delight with every knot he took and every drop of cum he sealed into him. The whole affair was blurry, time no longer made sense or moved in ways he understood. He just knew he blacked out at some point towards the end of it and when he came to, it was dawn.

The dawn of a whole new life, one he didn't ask for.

Chapter 2

Chapter Summary

Changbin wakes up to his new life. He's out of heat and faced with his new reality and mate.

Tags: upsetment, awkwardness, conflict, internal conflict, confusion, regrets, communication, aggression, misunderstanding, fighting, compromise, hunting, getting to know you turns into getting yelled at and sad boy hour,

Chapter Notes

Hello! I am back from my honeymoon so I will have regular updates every Tuesday and Saturday now!!

I hope you bookmark, kudos, comment, follow along, and just plain enjoy the ride on this one!

Thank you so much!

See the end of the chapter for more [notes](#)

His whole body was sore. Being fucked against the forest floor for days would do that though. Changbin groaned, pushing himself up. As he moved, cum spilled out of him, gushing down his legs and he had never wanted a bath so badly before. Minho stirred, eyes shooting open, sitting up and looking around instinctively, making sure they were safe.

“Are you okay?” He asked and Changbin didn't really have an answer to that.

“Can we get to a river?” He asked.

“Y-yeah.” Minho said, clearing his throat. “Of course...”

He knew the notion hurt the other. Most omegas were excited to wear their alpha's scent after mating. They would do so proudly on the journey home with their new mate, but Changbin couldn't do it. He needed to be able to smell himself past Minho. He felt like he was being lost in all of it.

They got up and Changbin appreciated the fact that Minho walked beside him. Many alphas made their omegas walk behind them or would walk behind them to stare and objectify them.

His mate did neither. He kept an even pace, and kept his hands to himself. It wasn't long before a creek came into view.

Changbin has to resist the urge to run right into the waters. He didn't want to be rude. He already knew how much this was unsettling the alpha. Minho's emotions were like twisting vines entrapping Changbin's guts as much as his own. He could feel everything the alpha felt, a piece of the mating bond between them.

So he was slow, walking into the waters at a normal pace, but he stopped and turned when Minho froze on the water's edge. "Aren't you coming?"

"No." He said, voice just above a whisper.

It made Changbin's stomach turn. He looked away quickly, nodding and walking deeper into the currents. The water was chilly. They were deep enough into spring for winter's hold on the water temperatures to be mostly gone, but it wasn't exactly warm. He just ignored it. He was too focused on other things. The fact that the alpha refused to wash said so many things. Minho truly wanted him as a mate. He wanted to carry Changbin's scent back to his pack and he was going to hold onto it even if he didn't do the same.

He found a deeper pool of water and slipped down, running his hands over his skin, scrubbing until he couldn't smell the overwhelming scent of the alpha. He tried to scrub away the guilt too. His inner omega was whining within him. He was glad now that his heat was over the inner beast didn't have the power to control him. He could make his own choices again, express his real wants and desires.

Which was something he needed to think about.

Where did he go from here?

He *could* leave. He could go and send the alpha back to his pack alone, but he didn't think his inner omega would really be able to stand it. It wouldn't be long before he was mindless searching for the alpha. His body instinctively wanted its mate. There was no way around that. Not to mention he would be able to *feel* how badly it would hurt Minho. How was he going to be able to live with any kind of peace if his stomach was a tsunami of turmoil and unhappiness? It would be impossible. If he went with the alpha, they could get to some level of neutral. They could learn to be content enough to not bother one another, hopefully.

He ducked his head under the water, running his fingers through his hair before pulling head back up. In the corner of his vision, he saw Minho, a few feet into the water now, frozen in place as Changbin turned to look at him. It was easy to pick up the scared and protective emotions coming from the alpha.

"Got... Got worried, when you went under." He said, starting to step backward, walking back towards the shore but never letting his eyes leave Changbin.

He hated that he thought it was ever so slightly cute. One thing was obvious to him, Minho wasn't a bad alpha. He didn't know if he was good, but he wasn't bad. The other cared. He wasn't controlling, and he had a conscience. He didn't let pride or his ego rule his actions. He

wasn't afraid to apologize. It was why Changbin believed they could work out some kind of arrangement. Something where they wouldn't be miserable at least.

He finished washing himself and started walking back to the water's edge. He looked at Minhó. The alpha was unable to meet his eyes, they stayed downcast towards the ground.

"Do you know what you want to do from here?" Minhó asked, fear clearly tightening around his vocal cords, making the words scrap as they came out of his throat.

He nodded. "I'll come with you. Like I said, I don't have a pack. Trying to separate is just going to make things worse. We can come to some kind of agreement I think. We can live close enough to keep our inner beasts from being miserable, but I don't want a mate so we are going to keep a good amount of space between us too."

"Okay." Minhó said. "As you wish." The words came out even, not showing much, but Changbin got the mixed emotions in his belly from the alpha. He was happy Changbin was coming, but upset that there would be space between them still. It would have to do.

"How far is your pack from here?" He asked.

"Pretty far, we ran for a long time." Minhó said. "We should probably eat and then shift to our wolf forms for traveling."

Changbin nodded. "Let's just hunt as wolves. It'll be easier."

"I'll hunt for you." He said and an eyebrow raised on Changbin's face immediately. "What?"

"I've hunted and fed myself for years. I don't need an alpha to find food." He said, getting ready to walk off and shift, but a hand wrapped around his arm. A growl was out of Changbin in an instant. His head whipped back to glare at Minhó.

"Stop this." The alpha said and that only made him more angry, growling again. Minhó didn't so much as flinch. "I didn't say you aren't capable or that you need me. I *want* to hunt for you. I *want* to feed you. Can't I at least try to make up for my mistakes? I promised you I would try to be a good mate to you regardless. I can't keep that promise if you act like this."

Changbin ripped his arm out of the other's hold, turning to face him completely. There was a pleading in Minhó's dark and shiny eyes. He felt the determination in the alpha and huffed as he folded his arms over his chest. "We go together. If you can hunt something faster than me then you'll get your way. If you can't, I'll get my way."

"Very well." Minhó answered, easily accepting the challenge.

The two of them shifted and the games were instantly afoot. They took off and once they caught the scents of a pack of deer, the two of them split off. Minhó went to the left, Changbin to the right. Both of them circled on the outskirts of the field the deer were in.

Changbin was creeping closer. He knew his strength was his greatest asset and he needed to get close enough to fully use it. However, he had learned during the chase with Minhó that the alpha's greatest asset was speed. So many times the other almost caught up to him, only

Changbin's cunning use of the environment around him and his ability to jump higher and farther than Minho kept him from being caught early on.

So, really, he shouldn't have been surprised when the alpha acted quicker, when he lunged faster at the pack of deer and took one down before Changbin had the chance to strike. He growled to himself, his independence feeling like it was lessened as he watched the rest of the pack run off and his mate drag their meal over to him.

Minho looked so proud, ears up, tail wagging as he pulled the limp deer across the field and dropped it at Changbin's feet. He sat back on his haunches, tail still wagging and Changbin had to give in. He had set the rules of this game, after all. He shifted back and Minho did too. The smile on the alpha's face was blinding. The happy emotions were a bit infectious and Changbin mumbled out a 'thank you' before getting up and heading back towards the woods.

"Where are you going?" Minho asked.

"To get some sticks for a fire." He answered and the alpha shifted back to his wolf form quickly, running after him. Changbin stopped in his tracks and looked down at the black as night creature. "No. If you leave that unattended it'll get stolen from us. Go guard it. I'll be right back with supplies."

The alpha's tail drooped, but he listened, turning around and running back to their meal. He stood guard, but clearly was following all of Changbin's movements within the tree line. It was a bit amusing, how much of a worrywart Minho seemed to be. He gathered the things he needed and returned to his mate. He was well practiced at making fire from scratch, rubbing two sticks together and getting a spark going before long. Minho had shifted back when he returned, skinning the animal and Changbin had to resist fighting him for the task, but he let it go. They would have to learn to coexist. So soon the fire was going and they worked in mostly silence to cook their dinner.

All of his problems and worries seemed to vanish when he started eating. He moaned around the fresh and tender juices of the venison.

"I never thought watching someone eat could make me so happy." Minho said, a small huff of humor escaping him.

Changbin turned his head farther away, trying to hide his face as he took another bite. "Yeah, whatever... that's just instincts."

"Yes, I'm experiencing lots of new ones." Minho said, sighing softly. "We should get moving soon though. Nightfall will be here before we know it. I'd like to make it back to my pack before then."

Changbin nodded. "Yeah, just, let me finish this." He said, taking another hunk of meat off the fire.

Minho smiled again. "Please, have your fill. I wish we could bring the rest home, but some scavengers will enjoy what's left, I suppose."

“Oh, I’m sure they will.” He said, stuffing more meat into his mouth. He was starving. Between the running, the heat, and all of the physical activities he had been through this last week, he was desperately in need of food, protein in particular. “So, how many are in your pack.”

“Four, besides myself. There’s my second in command, another alpha. His name is hyunjin. We have two betas, Felix and Jeongin, and an omega, Seungmin.” Minhø easily explained.

“Are any of them mated?”

“No.” Minhø answered. “They all don’t have mates but we are all together amongst ourselves. Felix and Jeongin want to mate with Seungmin, but he keeps refusing.” The alpha chuckled.

“Ah, so I’m not the only omega who doesn’t want to mate. Well, didn’t want to, I guess. Since I am mated now.” Changbin said with a sigh. He stood up, dusting some grass off his legs where it had stuck to his skin.

“He... There’s other reasons for Seungmin’s rejection, but I guess you can learn about all of it when you meet them.” Minhø said, starting to tamp out the fire.

Changbin nodded before some of the alpha’s words sank in a little more. “What do you mean that you’re all together amongst yourselves?”

“We’re an interwoven poly pack. We all get physical and have love for one another.” The alpha answered and Changbin scoffed, shaking his head.

“Do you know how much worse that makes this?” He asked, a bite back in his tone.

Minhø’s eyebrows furrowed. “What do you mean?”

“You went and chased me when you didn’t know me at all! You mated me without consent and then on top of that your plan was to bring me back to your poly pack and make me have to be with them too? A bunch of strangers?” He was yelling by the end of it, unable to help himself.

“I’d never force you to be with them. If you didn’t want to do anything with them, you wouldn’t have to.” Minhø said. “My father met my dam this way, through a mating run. They fell in love and had a great life together. I thought that’s all I was doing, finding a mate like they did! Their pack was together, everyone loved one another and things were good. I had lots of adults to love me and guide me growing up... I just wanted the same life! Is that so wrong of me?”

Changbin was a bit shocked by the glassy look in Minhø’s eyes. He was shaking, fists clenched and chest heaving as he took in gulps of air. “It was wrong not to ask me...” He said, trying to keep his voice even. “The rest... it’s not wrong that you wanted those things. You have the right to want them, but I wasn’t the right person to have this dream with. You should’ve asked because this is a life I’d never want. I’ve been on my own for years and there’s a long list of reasons why, Minhø.”

“Maybe sometime you can explain them to me.” The alpha said. “So I can try to understand because I don’t and I... I’m quite heartbroken, if I’m being honest. I understand it’s my fault. You’re right that I should’ve asked... but this still hurts. You washing my scent off... you being so close, but so far away... all of it hurts.” A shuddered sound came out of the other as he turned away from Changbin. “I’ll try to get used to it all and take responsibility for what I’ve done... just please, try not to be so upset with me. I feel awful enough already.”

It was like a stab in the gut, all of the alpha’s words and emotions. Changbin sighed and nodded, even if the other couldn’t see him. “Yeah, I’ll try.” He said.

“Thank you. Let’s get going.” The alpha replied before he shifted back to his wolf form, and Changbin did the same. They even looked like opposites. Minho’s fur was black as night and his was soft, a light and sandy color that matched his honey blond hair. All of this was a mess. A mistake. A mismatch of colors and lives that shouldn’t have been stitched together.

Chapter End Notes

Ah, these two. Both a mess at the moment.

Next, they meet the pack!!

Thank you so much!

Chapter 3

Chapter Summary

Changbin arrives at his new home.

Tags: introductions, disappointment, jealousy, sadness, communication, bonding, adjusting, mentions of past trauma, getting to know the pack, innie being a little shit, pack shenanigans, breaking second gender roles, misunderstandings, apologizing, compromise, bonding, internal conflict

Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for [notes](#)

The sun was about to disappear completely when Minho finally slowed down. They had run for hours, Changbin following the alpha until they were higher up in a mountain. They were guided by a stream that led to a waterfall for most of the way up the steep slopes of the land. As they turned from the waterfall, they ran to the right and it wasn't long after that they slowed again.

Another alpha was approaching them and Changbin growled as soon as he laid eyes on the brown wolf. Minho shifted back though, no growling or hesitation. The brown wolf did just the same.

Changbin wasn't really expecting how beautiful he was. The brunette had long hair and green eyes. His lips were soft and he was tall and lean. "Minho, alpha. Where have you been?"

Ah. This was clearly one of his mate's pack members. He couldn't help the spike of jealousy that went through him. Had Minho touched this man? Had they kissed and laid together? He shifted back and shook his head hard enough to try to erase the thought. It was just his inner omega acting up. It didn't matter what Minho did with anyone else. Changbin didn't care.

"Hyunjin." He said softly. "I... I did a mating run and this is my... This is Changbin."

"You mated?" Hyunjin asked, a smile spreading over his face. "Congratulations, Minho." The brunette ran forward, hugging Minho with no better knowledge. Changbin tried to ignore how angry it made him to see the blatant display of affection between the two of them. Hyunjin then let go and came up to Changbin, holding out his hand. "Hello. It's so nice to meet you. I'm Hyunjin, Minho's second in command. He's truly such a great guy, he's going to be the best mate, I just know it!"

"That's not how things will be." Changbin said, looking at the other's outstretched hand and turning away.

“What?” Hyunjin sounded so genuinely confused. Minho came up beside him, a hand clasping over the other alpha’s shoulder.

“There’s been a lot of mistakes... Changbin and I won’t be together in such ways.” The pack alpha said.

“I don’t understand.” Hyunjin said.

Minho nodded. “Changbin didn’t mean to go into heat. He didn’t want to be in a mating run and he didn’t want a mate. I... I assumed too many things and I didn’t ask him... I just claimed him. Now things are like this.”

“Oh.” Hyunjin said, all excitement drained from his voice. He turned and pulled the other alpha into a hug. “I’m so sorry, Min.”

“It’s my own fault. Changbin is the one I’m sorry for.” Minho said. Changbin could feel it though, the huge amount of comfort his mate was getting from being in Hyunjin’s arms, from burrowing into his neck and breathing in his scent. It angered him, no, not him. It angered his inner omega. Minho was his.

He shook his head again. No. He didn’t own Minho, and Minho didn’t own him. That was how this would work. The only way it would. “It’s getting dark.” He said. He wanted to move them along. He didn’t want to stand here and watch these two hug any longer.

“Yes. Let’s go.” Minho said, breaking out of Hyunjin’s embrace and starting to walk. They all walked side by side. The pack alpha stood in the middle, but Changbin could feel the brunette’s curious glances towards him.

He didn’t know what he had expected, but it wasn’t a cave. Nor was he expecting a freckle-faced beta to come flying out of it. The guy had shoulder length hair that was white as snow. He jumped into Minho’s arms, wrapped all his limbs around the pack alpha and burrowing into his neck. “Alpha! I was so worried about you! It’s been a whole week!”

Minho laughed, rubbing the beta’s back. “Easy, Felix. I’m okay. I’ll always return home, you know that.”

“Yeah, because if you don’t, I’ll kick your ass.” Another person came to the mouth of the cave, an omega. He was a brunette like Hyunjin, but a softer, lighter shade.

“Seungmin.” Minho said, laughing lightly. “Is that your way of saying you missed me?”

“Who is this?” A third person appeared, another beta. He had fox eyes and dark red hair.

Minho set Felix back on his feet as he looked back at Changbin. The whole pack was watching him now, all eyes on the mystery omega. “This is Changbin.”

“Wait.” Felix said, sticking his nose back into Minho’s neck. “You smell like him. He—oh my god! He’s got a mating mark. He’s your mate, alpha?”

“Yes, but there’s more to it. Can we please go inside first?” Minho said and that got confusing looks from everyone except Hyunjin, who just looked sad.

It wasn’t easy to witness how disheartened they all looked as they got inside the cave and Minho explained things to them all. It was clear they were all heartbroken for their pack alpha, but Changbin could only wrestle with the jealousy he felt from the way they all touched one another. He hated it and he started looking all around the cave just desperate for some kind of distraction. The cave was simple. The opening to the outside world was narrow, but then it opened up to a large room. It seemed to hold most of the pack’s belongings. There were three more tunnels that led deeper into the cave, but Changbin couldn’t tell what was in them. They had given him some clothes, a simple brown shirt and tan pants.

He was surprised when Felix was the first one to approach him, the beta suddenly sitting down in front of him. “Hey. I’m Felix.”

“Changbin.” He answered. “I guess we both know that though, don’t we?”

The white haired beta nodded. “Yeah, we do, but I still wanted to introduce myself. I, um... I’m sorry for how this all happened. I can’t imagine you’re feeling the best about it all.”

Changbin sighed and couldn’t help melting a little at the other’s gentle tone and features. He was soft somehow, and Changbin didn’t know much about softness in his life. “Yeah, I can’t say it’s been the best, but I guess it hasn’t been the worst. He could be way more of an asshole.”

“He’s a good alpha. We joined his pack because of that fact.” Felix said.

He nodded. “How long have you all been pack?”

The beta hummed softly as he thought about it. “I think it’s been three years now for all of us. Hyunjin, Seungmin, and Minho grew up together. They found me and Innie three years ago. We met while traveling. We both just wanted to explore the world. We ended up doing so together for a couple years, and then we crossed paths with this pack. Both of us kinda fell for Seungmin before we knew what happened. We’ve been courting him since then... but he’s stubborn.”

“Stubborn or is he not afraid to think for himself?” Changbin asked. “Omegas weren’t just made to be mated. We are people too. We have our own thoughts and feelings. Others don’t have the right to just decide our lives for us.”

Felix’s eyes went a bit wide before he nodded. “I think it’s something you should ask him yourself. Once you’re settled in here more. I won’t speak for him. I understand his reasons. Actually, I respect them, but it doesn’t mean they aren’t sometimes hard to live with.”

It surprised him how suddenly firm the beta was. He just nodded. “Alright.”

“I just want you to know that regardless of everything, I will still treat you as pack and with respect. You’re Minho’s mate. That isn’t going to change. The way you two navigate that and live your lives is up to you both. I just want to let you know, I’m here if you need anything

the way any pack member would be, okay?" Felix said and the words touched him despite it all. They could treat him in a lot of different ways. Especially after he just snapped at the beta, Felix could've reacted much more aggressive or petty, but he didn't. He was still being understanding and being kind and welcoming. It wasn't something he was used to.

"Thank you." He said, knowing anything else would've been unfair to the beta. Felix was trying, afterall.

Those freckled cheeks lifted in a smile. "You're welcome."

"I wanted to say hello too." Jeongin approached them, sitting and joining them. They were around the campfire in the center of the cave. "I'm Jeongin, or Innie. Nice to officially meet you." The redhead's hand came out to him.

"Changbin." He said, reaching out and taking the beta's hand. He shouldn't be rude to them. He probably already was to Hyunjin, but it wasn't these peoples' fault he was in this situation. It was Minhoo's and he shouldn't take it out on them. "Thanks for coming to say hello."

"Of course. How old are you?"

"27." Changbin answered. "You?"

"I'm the maknae. 24." Jeongin said with a sigh. "Seungmin and Felix are 25. Hyunjin is 26 and Minhoo is 28."

"Ah, so he is older than me." Changbin said. He had honestly wondered about it, but hadn't had the chance to ask. He looked over and found the pack alpha in the corner, Hyunjin and Seungmin in front of him. They were talking in hushed voices and Changbin didn't exactly love the faces Hyunjin and Seungmin were making. He didn't like the rocking and unsure feelings drifting from Minhoo and into him either.

"I'm sure those two are just worried about Minhoo." Felix said. "Like I was saying, they've known each other their whole lives."

"It is all just... uncomfortable." Changbin admitted. "I can feel all of his emotions about it all. It's overwhelming."

"You can?" Felix asked and he nodded.

"Isn't that normal?" Changbin had thought it was. He had heard of mates knowing each other's emotions before. Although, he couldn't have told you where he learned it. His life had been a blur, a series of moments, collected together they could be labeled surviving at best, trauma at worst. It didn't matter now though. He was still alive. He was still continuing on. It was all he could do, all he knew to do. There had never been reason to worry about anything above shelter, food, strength, and his independence. If you had to depend on others, they would let you down and hurt you. It was a lesson he learned over and over again as a child. He grew up fast to stop being disappointed so much. He got harder, smarter, stronger. He became all he needed.

“No.” Jeongin answered. “Only true mates, soulmates, can sense emotions like that.”

Something twisted in his guts as he looked back to Minho with different eyes. Soulmates? No. It could never be. That alpha, no alpha, was ever to be his mate... even if he couldn't deny the fact that they were mated. He sighed, ripping his gaze away because there was no way Minho was his soulmate. These two weren't even mated. What did they know? “I don't think it's like that.”

He could tell Jeongin was about to argue, but Felix put his hand out, stopping the maknae. “You'll have to see for yourself over time if that feels true or not.”

Changbin nodded. He appreciated the way the white haired beta wouldn't take away his own agency in the things they discussed. “Yeah, thanks.”

“Are you hungry?” Felix asked, easily changing the subject. Changbin's cheeks turned red when his stomach answered for him, growling at the question loudly in between them. “I suppose that's a yes. We have some stew I will heat up.”

“That sounds great.” He said.

“Felix has gotten stew cooking down so it will be yummy, I promise.” Jeongin smiled. “Don't ask him to cook you plain meat though. He always burns it.”

A smack landed on the redhead's beta's shoulder just a second later. “Shut up. I don't see you even trying to cook. Without me and Minho you would starve.”

“Minho cooks?” Changbin asked.

“Oh yeah, better than any of us.” Felix said.

Changbin hummed softly, glancing back over at his mate. Most alpha didn't cook, it was considered beta or omega work. “Does Seungmin cook?”

Jeongin laughed loud enough to echo around the cave, drawing the other three's attention. Changbin was caught staring at the pack alpha, but he ripped his gaze away as soon as their eyes met. “What's so funny?”

“Seungmin most definitely doesn't cook.” The maknae said. “Did you know you could burn water?”

Changbin huffed out a laugh. “What?”

“Are you talking shit on me?” Seungmin was up and crossing the room just a second later.

“Nice to meet you, but I gotta go.” Jeongin said before taking off and running towards the cave opening.

“You little shit!” Seungmin shifted, shredding his clothes and chasing the redhead right out of the cave in wolf form.

“Ugh.” Hyunjin groaned from behind him. “I just sewed his clothes back together last week!” The alpha stood and crossed the room, picking up the tattered pieces of fabrics from the floor. “Innie needs to stop being such a shit starter.”

“Good luck with that.” Minho said, chuckling softly.

Changbin was just in the middle of the room trying to process all the chaos. Was this normal? An omega being aggressive to a beta? An alpha who sews clothing? Another one who cooks? Felix was pulling a big pot of stew out from somewhere deeper in the cave, getting it over the fire to heat it up and Hyunjin took the pieces of clothing with him down one of the three tunnels. He was starting to feel awkward, sitting in the middle of the room when Minho sat down beside him.

“Sorry about them.” He said, although there was a fond little smile on his lips.

“You’re smiling though. You don’t seem upset about it.” Changbin pointed out, trying to figure out what all these things meant.

Minho hummed. “This is very normal for them. They play and mess with each other a lot. I’m sure Seungmin caught up already. They’re probably just making out in the woods now.” The pack alpha laughed.

“But he was angry.” Changbin said.

“He was playing it up. They tease each other often to rile each other up. They like to chase one another and mess around.”

Strange. Changbin thought. He didn’t like the idea of being chased around or teased. Wasn’t that just mean? Why would you be mean to someone you want to mate? Wasn’t Jeongin and Felix courting Seungmin? No wonder the omega kept refusing them. They weren’t being nice at all. “I don’t understand that, but if they say they like it, then okay I guess.” He filed it away in his mind to talk to Seungmin about all of this though. Omega’s opinions were often ignored and pushed aside. Maybe he was just doing what the two betas wanted.

Changbin believed in protecting other omegas probably as much as he believed in keeping his own independence and freedom. All the time he had spent alone over the years was only ever interrupted by helping another omega. There had been many he had sheltered until they could get to someone they trusted or some form of security.

“Have you never been teased when someone likes you?” Minho asked and Changbin looked at him with an eyebrow raised. Was he serious? “What? Is that a strange question?”

“Yes.” Changbin answered.

“Why?”

“Who has ever liked me? No one teased me, they bullied and abused me and they definitely didn’t like me.” He said, voice hardening as so many memories he didn’t care to remember started flooding his mind. The days when he was in human towns and they beat him up. The

days when he was passed between different wolf packs as an orphaned child, all varying degrees of abusive to him. He had been outcasted, hated. Told he was ugly and weak. When he presented as an omega... all the hungry gazes. Disgusting predators.

Escaping with Jiyong was his only saving grace. He managed to never feel those hunting and vile hands who only wanted to use his body and leave him behind. Even though life was hard for two omegas on their own, he fought to get stronger and even after Jiyong left to mate with another omega, he was okay. He stayed in the tree house they had made together, hidden and well protected. He survived for years on his own, protecting and taking in other omega when they needed help, but otherwise, just continuing on to spite the world.

Minho's face fell, sadness written all over it. "Changbin... I'm so sorry."

"Why? Those things have nothing to do with you." He said. "Be sorry for your mistakes with me, not the past. My past isn't your problem."

The alpha looked at him for a long moment, nodding before looking down at his hands, clasped in his lap. "I am sorry for my mistakes with you, but I also hate that you've been through those kinds of experiences. I can't change that we are connected now. I can't change that I want to care for you and protect you. Hearing that you've been hurt, even if it's in the past, upsets me. Makes me wish I would've found you sooner and been able to protect you."

"I don't need an alpha's protection!" He growled and Minho's head snapped up, looking at the heated expression on Changbin's face.

"I didn't mean it like that." He said. "I just meant if you weren't alone... maybe I could've helped. I don't know. I'm sorry. I just... forget it. I clearly don't know what I'm talking about."

The way he backed down made the anger leave Changbin immediately. "Sorry." He whispered, so softly he didn't know if he really even said it, but Minho clearly heard it, daring to look up again. "When you're in the position to protect people who can't protect themselves, you should... Back then, I couldn't really protect myself so maybe you're right, but I can now. I've gotten strong enough to handle myself and I've been the one protecting others when I can. So... maybe it's my pride, but I don't like being thought of as someone who needs protection."

The pack alpha didn't answer right away. The moment hanging before he finally spoke. "There is a difference, though, between someone who needs protection and wanting to protect someone because they're important to you."

The words hit deeper than he wanted them to. He had always been the first half of the statement when he was young. He needed protection. He was weak and couldn't defend himself from anyone or anything. He had worked so hard to make sure he would never be like that again. He would never need someone's protection again. However... Was it okay if someone wanted to protect him? Just because? Minho knew he was strong. Their chase had proven that. He didn't know if he was okay with it. He didn't want to give this alpha permission to be protective over him. He didn't want to get pushed into a box of being a docile and obedient omega. "I'll think about that." He said instead of anything else.

“Please do.” He answered, a sense of relief filled Changbin’s stomach and he knew the other was glad they didn’t get any more heated about this than they already had. “Do you want to see the rest of the den?” Changbin was curious about the rest of the cave so he easily nodded. “Follow me.”

Minho stood up and held his hand out for Changbin. He hesitated for a moment before sighing and taking it. The happy bubble he felt come from the alpha almost made his eyes roll. It was only three seconds their hands had touched, but apparently the acceptance meant more than anything else. The alpha still hadn’t bathed either. He smelled heavily of their mixed scents, even now that he was in shorts and a shirt. It made him feel a bit guilty still for washing it off, but it was what he needed to do. Minho could try to hold onto it, but they wouldn’t be together the way the alpha dreamed. It wasn’t going to happen. They went down the first tunnel and it split off into many other tunnels and chambers.

“This is where the cave goes on for a long while. It can be confusing and it goes deep underground. We only use a few rooms here. We have our wood supply, food storage, all of that. You can explore it sometime if you’d like, but just be careful. It can be confusing like I said.”

“How far does it go?”

“Honestly we haven’t ever mapped or gotten through all of it. We know the way for maybe half a mile or so through those tunnels that break off, but it keeps going. It’s been a good shelter and home to us for years. The one place you will definitely need to learn is if you go to the left most opening.” The alpha pointed. “You follow it down and take the second right turn, it’ll bring you to our bathing pool. It’s not a complete hot spring, but something keeps the water warm enough to enjoy a nice bath.”

“Oh, that’s lucky.” He said and Minho nodded.

“One of my favorite things about our den.” He smiled and turned back, leading them to the second tunnel. This one broke off into two rooms at the end. “That’s Hyunjin’s room.” He pointed to the left. “And that’s Seungmin’s room. Sometimes it’s also Jeongin and Felix’s, but those two often just sleep out in the living room if Seungmin wants space or we are all cuddling. We all sleep together in the main room pretty often.”

His stomach turned at the idea of all of them snuggled up together beside the fire in the living room. His inner omega ranting that Minho was his and shouldn’t be touched by the others. Changbin swallowed the feeling down. The pack alpha could do whatever he wanted. It didn’t have anything to do with Changbin. “Gotcha.”

Then they went to the third tunnel and that ended with a single round space that smelled heavily like Minho. There were furs to sleep on and some books stacked in a pile. “Then this is my room... you, um, you can sleep in here. I will stay out with the others, but I figured you would want some privacy. You can just have the room really. I can stay in the living room from now on or find another room in the deeper tunnels. It’s not a problem.”

“I can find a room in the tunnels, this is yours.” Changbin said, shaking his head, but the alpha just mirrored the motion.

“No. I want you to have it. This room is best for you.” Minho said, something vulnerable in his dark eyes. “Please. It’s the least I can do.”

He nodded, giving in to the pleading look. He supposed the alpha did have things to make up for. “Okay. Thank you, then.”

Minho smiled. “I’m used to sleeping in the living room with them anyway.”

Changbin had to stop himself from demanding Minho find his own room. He hated how much it bothered him to think about the pack alpha sleeping with the others. “Yeah, I’ll bet.” He said, something grating in his tone as he turned away from his mate. “Can... Do you mind if I have some space to settle in then?”

“Oh.” Minho stood up straighter at the statement. “Yeah, of course. I’m sure you’re tired. I am too. It’s been a long week... Should—should I call you when the stew is ready?”

“Yeah.” Changbin said. “That would be perfect.”

“Okay. Yeah. Alright.” Minho nodded, turning and starting back out of the tunnel. “I’ll see you in a little then.”

“Yeah.” Changbin said, short and holding his breath without even realizing.

He sighed loudly once the alpha was gone and let himself collapse down to the floor. He laid himself across the furs and wanted to growl with how happy his inner omega was to smell Minho so strongly around them. He just shook his head, trying to ignore it as he closed his eyes. He was tired and there were entirely too many thoughts bouncing around in his head. He just wanted to forget them for a while. He decided napping until the food was ready was surely the way to go.

Chapter End Notes

Well, Binnie has officially met the pack!!! And for those wondering, Chan and Jisung will show up later in the story, but they’ll be here, don’t worry!!!
Thank you so much for reading!

Chapter 4

Chapter Summary

Minho talks with Felix and reflects on what has happened.

Tags: guilt, regret, self-anger, mentions of the non-con events from chapter 1, crying, emotions, shame, comfort, love, pack bonds, pack dynamics, longing, Minho's a bit of a hopeless romantic, fear, worry, danger, snuggling, panic, confusion, mistrust, aggression, defensive behavior, jealousy, possessive behavior, frustration, good betas,

Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for [notes](#)

Minho sighed as he sat down on one of the stumps around the fire, watching Felix stir the stew he was heating up. He had just left Changbin in his bedroom, his body longed to curl up against his familiar furs with his mate, but that wouldn't be happening. The blond omega had made that clear.

“Are you okay?” Felix asked and Minho looked up at the freckle-cheeked man in front of him.

“I don't know. Honestly, I don't.” He said. There were so many emotions tossing and turning within him. He didn't know what to make of all of them.

Felix gave him a sad smile. “This has to be really hard.”

Minho nodded. “It's my own fault though.”

“How were you supposed to know, Min?” The beta insisted. “All wolves are raised with the knowledge that if it's heat season and an unmated omega goes into heat then that means they want to find a mate. Everything about the situation made you believe he wanted to be chased and mated. He submitted to you, didn't he? He didn't fight or tell you no, right?”

Minho shook his head. “He didn't fight, and physically he submitted, but that wasn't him, it was his instincts. His omega submitted and said yes, he didn't. I didn't ask him. I just followed his omega. You know we don't always agree with our inner beast. I know that. I didn't realize that I should ask, but I wish I would've known better. I wish I could've asked. Then things wouldn't be like this... I—” A choked up noise escaped from his throat. “I basically raped him, Lix... he didn't want it. Even if his body did and his omega submitted, he didn't. He had to endure all of that...”

Arms were around him a moment later, Felix pulling him into a tight hug. “Oh, Min... you didn't know. You thought you found your mate. You can't believe that about yourself. You're

a good alpha. You just didn't know. It was a series of accidents and mistakes. You didn't do this with malice. You wanted to find your mate to love and have a family with."

Minho's chest heaved. He tried to take in the words, but it was hard. He felt so guilty about all of this. He burrowed his face in Felix's neck and let himself cry. "The worst part, Felix... I like him so much. He's so beautiful. He's strong and... he's good. I can see so much goodness in him. He's been hurt so badly. I want to kiss every wound he has and yet I just hurt him maybe more than anyone ever has..."

"Alpha..." He said softly. "Maybe things will get better with time. He... Changbin told Innies and I that he can feel your emotions."

"What?" Minho asked, looking up at that freckled face. "Really?"

Felix nodded. "Yes. He can. That means he's your soulmate. Do you think if that's the case that he will really keep you at arms length forever? With time you could win him over. You two still have a chance if you stay patient. If you're open and loving, well, anything can happen."

Minho grabbed tighter onto Felix's shirt, nodding into his chest. "I hope so, Lix. Thank you. I want to do right by him. Even if we don't ever become more... I want to be someone good in his life. I don't want to just be the alpha who chained him down and forced him into a mating."

Lips pressed gently against his forehead. "You'll be more than that. You're a good person, Minho. I know you'll treat him right. He's... defensive, but those things can soften with time."

"He is firm in his beliefs." He said, pulling back to wipe his face clean of his tears. "It just makes me like him more though." He laughed. "Ah, I'm hopeless."

"Yeah, maybe a little." Felix teased, reaching out and pinching his cheek. "But I just think that's cute."

"When do you think those two will be back?" Minho asked, shifting the subject to Seungmin and Jeongin.

"Soon I'm sure. They both have to be hungry by now." Felix chuckled.

He knew the two of them had probably worked up an appetite. "Good. It's dark out now. I don't want them out all night."

Hyunjin came back into the room, humming softly with the two halves of Seungmin's shirt and a needle and thread in hand. "Is food ready yet?" He asked.

"It will be soon." Felix answered.

"Where's Changbin?" The other alpha asked.

Minho glanced towards the tunnel that led to his room—well, Changbin’s room now. “He’s resting in my room. Which will be his room from now on. I’m giving it to him.”

“Where are you going to sleep?” Hyunjin asked.

“Out here, with one of you.” He shrugged. “I’ll probably get some more furs and clean up one of the rooms deeper in the cave to be mine at some point.”

Felix was grinning. “You can snuggle with me and Innie out here as much as you want.”

Hyunjin laughed. “And when Seungmin actually lets them into his room, you can come sleep with me or if those two are hogging all the covers.”

“We’re probably going to be hogging all the covers.” Felix didn’t even hesitate, but it just made Minho laugh. His pack always warmed his heart.

“Looks like I’m moving in with you, Hyunjin.” Minho said, deadpanned to hide his amusement with the whole conversation.

“No, you have to cuddle with us a little at least!” The beta said, pouting instantly.

Minho stood up, wrapping a hand around Felix’s neck and pulling him closer. “You gonna make it worth my time?”

The cheeky smirk he got in return was sexy in a brand only Felix could pull off. “You know I always do.”

“Whores.” Hyunjin said and it broke the moment entirely, making Minho roll his eyes.

“Like you have any room to talk.” Minho leaned in and kissed Felix’s gently. It occurred to him this was the first time he was kissing someone else while mated. It... it felt a bit odd. It was comfortable and familiar as it ever was to kiss Felix, but it made him feel guilty somehow. He hadn’t really talked about all of this very clearly with Changbin. He tried to push his seemingly endless thoughts lately to the side. “You know I’m always happy to cuddle with you and Innie, no matter what.”

The beta jumped into his arms, snuggling him close and Minho smiled, hugging back. They came apart, Minho sitting again and Felix stirring the stew when Seungmin and Jeongin came running into the den, chests heaving. Their eyes were wide, the scent of fear wafted into the cave. The pack alpha was up in an instant. He dashed across the room and wrapped them both in his arms. “What’s wrong? What happened?”

“Bears.” Jeongin said. “We were, ya know, fooling around and two bears came. They were pissed. We must have been near their den.”

“Scared the shit out of me.” Seungmin said, tucking deeper into Minho’s neck, breathing in his scent. The omega didn’t scare easily. He was so strong and had been their whole lives, but Minho knew if Seungmin let his guard down and then something scared him, it was never pretty. He was sure the brunette was probably fully relaxed with Jeongin and then the sudden appearance of bears must have been terrifying.

“Well, I’m glad you’re both okay. Did they follow you?” He asked.

The maknae shook his head. “No. They stopped once we were out of what must have been their territory.”

“You’ll have to show me the area so we can avoid it.” Minho said and they easily nodded.

“We can.” Jeongin said.

“Are you really okay?” Minho asked them both. The maknae easily agreed, stating he was fine, but Seungmin only curled into him harder.

Minho rubbed his back gently. “Do you want to snuggle for a bit, baby?”

“Yes.” Seungmin said, answer short, but he didn’t miss the slight tremble on the word. He nodded and guided them over to the nest of furs they had in the corner. They laid down and Seungmin wrapped around him like a koala. He smiled at the unusually soft behavior from their outspoken and strong willed omega.

The scent of fear launched him out of bed. Changbin was standing before he knew what was happening. Where was he? It took him a second to acclimate, to remember he was in Minho’s den. That he was with a pack now and that he had a mate he didn’t want. All the information was pushed aside though. What was that scent? Why was there so much fear in the air? He crouched down and started slinking out of the room and down the tunnel. He kept his footsteps light, something he had practiced over the years. He needed to know how to stay quiet, for his own safety and to be a good hunter. He stuck close to the cave wall and as he got to the opening he peeked his head around the corner.

Felix was standing at the stew, stirring it with Jeongin and Hyunjin sitting next to him, huddled together around the fire. His eyes scanned the room, looking for Minho and the other omega, Seungmin.

He couldn’t explain the fireball he choked on in his throat as he found them in the corner, snuggled close, bodies entangled on a nest of furs. Their clothes were on, but that hardly seemed to matter to his inner omega. The beast rose up, his vision tinting red as he had to force himself to look away. If he kept staring his inner omega might actually take control and that was the last thing he wanted.

He pressed himself against the cave wall, letting the sharp edges of it dig into his skin because he needed to ground himself. He had to come back to himself.

“Changbin?” Hyunjin’s voice was suddenly right beside him. He realized he had closed his eyes and as he opened them and saw how close the alpha was to him, he growled. It echoed against the stone as he jumped back, crouching and ready to attack. He felt too on edge, too threatened.

Hyunjin's hands went up, stepping back from him. "I'm sorry. I didn't mean to startle you. I just didn't know if you were okay."

Minho was suddenly there and the effect of seeing him away from Seungmin, from that other omega was insane. He dropped all the tension in his body, falling to his knees even as he hated it. The pack alpha ran to his side, putting a hand on his shoulder but the scent of Seungmin wafted across the small space between them. He growled again, shoving at Minho's chest to get him away.

"Changbin? What's wrong?"

"That—that scent." He backed away more, shaking his head as he wrestled with his inner omega and his own emotions all at once.

"What scent?" Minho asked. "The fear? Jeongin and Seungmin were chased by some bears so they were afraid, but they're fine. I'm sorry if that scared you. Everything is okay."

"No." He snarled. "On you!"

"Me?" Minho looked down at himself, seeming like he was completely lost when Hyunjin spoke up.

"You smell like Seungmin." The brunette said. "That's another omega... it might be upsetting him."

Minho's face flashed through many emotions as the realization hit him. "Oh... I... I'll go bathe and we can talk about this more clearly, I hope."

Changbin nodded, turning away from them both and running back into Minho's room. He needed space. He needed to get himself under control. This was ridiculous. His inner omega shouldn't have this much say or control over him. It wasn't right and he'd never been so unstable before. This stupid fucking mating. He punched into one of the pillows in Minho's room. It calmed him so much more than he wanted to admit to be in a room that only smelled like his mate. At the same time, it just made him angrier too.

He did a lot of staring holes into the wall until Felix came down the tunnel, tapping his knuckles on the stone to draw his attention. "Do you want to eat with us or would you like me to bring you a bowl of stew in here?"

"In here." He answered, voice much more even than before. "I... This has been a lot—."

Felix put his hands up in front of him and smiled. "You don't need to explain. Rest and relax tonight, alright? I'll be right back with the stew."

"Thank you, Felix. Can you tell Minho we can talk tomorrow?" He asked and the beta nodded easily.

"Of course. I'll let him know."

Changbin was glad for the time to himself. He enjoyed the stew and decided he needed sleep more than anything else after that. He curled up in the furs and begrudgingly let Minho's scent lull him to sleep.

Chapter End Notes

They are a hot mess expresssssss.

Thank you all so much for reading and commenting! Means so much to me!

Chapter 5

Chapter Summary

Changbin and Minho talk some more.

Tags: communication, internal conflict, negotiating, guilt, remorse, apologies, forgiveness, crying, pleading, bonding, acceptance, friendship,

Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for [notes](#)

Changbin almost didn't know what to do with how amazing he slept that night. The security of the cave was a factor. There were no drafts or odd shifting noises that set off his internal alarm and woke him up. There was darkness, quiet, and the scent of his mate that was more soothing than he ever wanted it to be. He stretched and wondered what time it was. There was no good way to tell from this deep into the den.

He stood up and took a deep breath before walking out to the main living room. He was expecting the whole pack to be there, but Minho sat by himself beside the fire.

“Good morning.” He greeted, smiling and patting the seat next to him for Changbin. “I have some food ready for you.”

He almost bit back at him. He naturally wanted to tell the alpha he didn't need him to prepare food for him, but after last night's aggressive behavior, he wanted to try to start off on a better foot. “Thanks.” He mumbled before sitting down next to his mate. “Where are the others?”

“They all went out for the morning. I... I asked them to be out so we can talk properly.” Minho admitted.

Changbin honestly appreciated it. There were so many things left unspoken and unsure between them. “Probably for the best.”

“Eat first.” Minho said, picking up the plate of meat that had been kept warm beside the fire and handing it to him. He nodded and they sat in silence as he ate his breakfast. It was odd, but it didn't bother him. He was used to silence more than he was used to anything. He's done things alone for years. He'd eaten alone, hunted alone, cleaned alone, cooked alone. In fact the part that was strange for him wasn't the quiet, but the knowledge that Minho was next to him, someone else was beside him. It wasn't some wounded omega he was helping for a while. No, it was an alpha. One he was mated to, no less.

He finished the last bite and Minho took the plate, setting it in a basket that had a pile of dirty plates stacked inside it. “So, what do you want to talk about first?”

“Can you explain to me what exactly happened last night?” Minho asked. “When you got upset in the tunnel.”

Changbin sighed, his chest tightening as he remembered the image of Seungmin and Minho curled up together. “Yeah.” He took another breath. He needed to stay calm. “I fell asleep, just a nap, after you left me before dinner. Then the scent of fear drifted into the room and I startled awake. It was alarming especially since I’m in a new environment. I was being cautious. I stayed quiet, snuck down the tunnel and then peeked into the main room...” He hated how his inner omega was metaphorically stomping its feet within him. “I saw you and Seungmin together in the nest. It... my inner omega was really upset about it. I was trying to calm down and regain control. I had my eyes closed and then Hyunjin was suddenly there. I was startled even more. Then you came and at first my instinct was to be happy you came to me. That you were worried and away from Seungmin. Then you got close to me smelling like him though. It made my inner omega even more mad.”

“That was a lot of what your omega felt, but what about you? How did you feel?” Minho asked and Changbin couldn’t explain how much the two questions meant to him. The alpha had learned he had different feelings from his baser instincts and he was valuing them. That was important.

“I was just mad that my omega was getting so mad.” He said. “I don’t care what you do with the others. It isn’t any of my business, but that’s not how my omega sees it at all. He’s very jealous apparently.”

Minho took a slow breath in as he nodded, considering Changbin’s words carefully or maybe his own. “That’s going to be difficult... I’ve been with Hyunjin and Seungmin for years, basically our whole lives. Felix and Jeongin have been with us for several years now too.

Changbin had to hold in a scoff. “That’s even more reason why you shouldn’t have done a mating run for a mate. Bringing someone into a poly pack isn’t easy. There’s plenty of omega who don’t want that. They want to only be with their mate and their mate to only be with them.”

“Is that how you think things should be?” The alpha was looking down, starting at the floor between his feet.

Changbin ran his fingers through his hair, frustrated with the whole situation. “I didn’t want a mate at all. I never really thought about if I would want to be with just them or in a poly pack. I never thought about having a mate to begin with. I thought I’d spent my life alone.”

“I’m sorry.” Minho whispered and Changbin deflated.

“Yeah, I know. It’s already done. No use crying over spilt milk. We’re here now. So what are we doing?” He asked.

“I can try to keep things out of your view, but it’s not going to always be easy. This pack can be very touchy and outwardly loving.” Minho said. “I can’t say you’ll never see any of it.”

His blond hair shifted into his eyes as he nodded, having to push it back once more. “That’s fine. I’ll deal with it if I do see it. I can’t promise I won’t get angry and I might run away, but just let me have the space to calm down.”

“Alright.” Minho said. “What about ruts and heats? How are we handling them?”

“I will find more of the suppressant herb and I’ll be taking it.” It was the obvious answer, avoid his heats all together.

The alpha hesitated for a moment. “I don’t really wish to suppress my ruts... I’m used to going through them with the pack.”

Changbin had to swallow down the fire that threatened to come up from his inner omega. “Then just keep doing that... As long as you stay away from me, I don’t care.”

“Okay.” Minho’s tone was clipped, trying to hide the pain of rejection that had been stabbing into Changbin’s stomach this entire conversation. “Can... Can we do some things together? I don’t mean anything sexual... just, can we go fishing together or hunting? Can we take walks or just spend time together?”

While Changbin was defensive and protective of himself, he wasn’t heartless. Seeing the alpha’s pleading eyes, begging for time with him was enough to soften his armor just a little. He nodded easily. “Of course we can. I don’t hate you, Minho. I’m angry this happened, but it’s obvious to me that you were just being naive. You wanted to believe in the fairytale your parents had and find that for yourself... I’m sorry you didn’t, but I’m sorry to myself too. Neither of us should be in this situation.”

The other nodded, head dropping again. His shiny black hair covering his eyes as his shoulder shook a little. The salty scent of tears was unexpected. “I really want to apologize for... for forcing myself on you. I... I basically raped you.”

Changbin could feel the guilt in his mate like a wrecking ball crushing everything in its path. He reached out and took the alpha’s hand, clasped it between his two palms. “Listen to me, Minho.” It took a few seconds before the other dared to look up, one eye peering through the messy strains of black hair. “I don’t want you to think of yourself that way. I understand this is tricky and complicated. I didn’t want it, but my body did. It was a mess, but it was the mating I didn’t want more than anything. The rest of it... well, nature led the way on that. I was in heat. You are an alpha. An alpha is the best thing for a heat. You know what you did wrong. It’s over now and I told you I needed you for the rest of it. I agreed to everything except the beginning and that can’t be changed. You’ve learned from all this. That’s obvious so don’t think of it all that harshly. We can’t undo it. So, let’s just move on from it.”

He had never heard an alpha cry before, let alone sob. Minho dropped to his knees on the floor, back bending as he put his head submissively in Changbin’s lap, hands holding onto his calves for support as Minho’s tears fell and made dark spots in the fabric of his pants. “Thank you... I have learned from this. I—I’ll be better. I’ll do better. I promise... please just stay near me. If you’re close... At least I can have that, please.”

Changbin let his fingers gently comb through Minho's hair. "I'll stay." He whispered and the hands around his legs held on tighter as relief radiated off the alpha. "I've never seen an alpha cry like this."

Minho made a whining sound that was also a first for his ears. "I usually don't... I try not to cry, but this, you." He picked his head up slightly, smearing his tears with his palms. "You're my mate and even if I've fucked everything up... that connection to you means more to me than I can express in words or the ways I usually would."

He understood, in his own way. He had never had a connection so solid to anyone. Even if there was tension and so many things were strained. The fact that he could feel the strain was proof in itself of the tether between them. "Let's try our best to make the most of it all. We can be friends, right? I've had very few in my life, but I've never been against having friends."

The hope that was lit in Minho's eyes made his heart flutter a little, although he would blame his inner omega for it. "Yeah? We can be friends?"

"We can." Changbin said, letting a smile settle on his lips. "So no more crying, alright?"

Minho nodded and started swiping the remnants of his tears away. "No more."

He grabbed the alpha's arm and pulled him off the ground, getting him seated on the log beside him once more. "You said about fishing, do you want to do that today? I haven't had fish in a while."

"We can!" Minho said, standing up right away. "I'll go get the rods. We can go right now." The alpha suddenly stopped. "Unless you want to go later? It doesn't have to be now..."

Changbin laughed. This alpha was... weird. He settled on. He was a bit weird. "We can go now. I don't mind."

"Now. Got it!" He was moving like lightning once again, scurrying off into the deeper tunnels. It didn't take long for him to return with two fishing poles, a net and a bucket. "Shall we go?"

"Yeah, let's do it." Changbin stood up, taking the bucket and net from the alpha and walking out of the den.

Chapter End Notes

Ahhh, progress is beautiful even if it isn't perfect. They're going to be friends!!

Chapter 6

Chapter Summary

Minho and Changbin go fishing together.

Tags: bonding, start of friendship, communication, pack dynamics, getting to know you, pack history, jealousy, hope

Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for [notes](#)

Fishing with Minho was more fun than he thought it would be. Especially when the alpha tried to stand on a rock in the center of the stream and proceeded to slip and bust his ass. Luckily it was a warm and sunny day and the water wasn't entirely freezing. They had a bucket of fish by midafternoon when Seungmin appeared from the woods.

“Why are you wet?” The brunette omega asked, eyeing Minho’s soggy state.

“He slipped and fell on a rock.” Changbin chuckled.

Minho shrugged. “Was kind of worth it because I got to hear you laugh.”

The words made him snap his head over to the alpha. The other wasn’t looking, casually casting his line into the waters. He was still standing in the middle of the stream, having found some solid footing now. Changbin had been fishing from the shore, only going up to his ankles in the water.

“I wish I could’ve seen you bust your ass.” Seungmin said, chuckling softly as he walked up to the edge of the stream.

Minho smirked. “You would’ve loved it.” The alpha started to head a bit farther down the waters, saying something about seeing some fish jump down a ways. It left the two omegas alone.

“He’s a weird alpha.” Changbin said. He was curious about the other omega. His inner beast was less curious and more cautious, but Changbin himself was trying to be open minded. He wondered what Seungmin would say.

“Oh, for sure. So is Hyunjin, but they’re better that way.” Seungmin said. “The typical alpha sucks.”

Changbin easily agreed with that, chuckling. “Yeah, that’s true. From what I hear, you have beta trouble though, not alpha trouble?”

“Those two idiots already told you they’re chasing me like lost puppies?” Seungmin said, something fond-looking in his brown eyes even as his words were harsh.

“Yeah, they did. They said you keep rejecting them.” Changbin added. He still wanted to know what the other omega would say about it all.

Seungmin chuckled, a grin spreading on his face. “Well, I guess that is the truth.”

“Why are you letting them court you if you’re rejecting them?” He asked. “Do you not want to mate?”

“No. I want to mate them very badly. Those two are everything I’ve ever wanted and more, but I won’t mate them yet.” Seungmin said and Changbin was starting to wonder if all of them were a little off in the head.

“Why not?”

“I want Hyunjin and Minho to have mates first. We’ve been together our whole lives and I want us all to have mates before I go through with it.” The omega glanced over at the pack alpha.

“But he mated me already.” Changbin said. “Isn’t it kind of wrong that he mated someone and you’ve been waiting all this time?” It made the whole situation seem even worse to him. Why would Minho do that?

“No.” Seungmin said. “I gave him permission to. I said if he found someone or wanted to chase someone in a mating run he could. I wanted him to be looking for a mate. I have mine figured out. I’ll mark them up once these two alphas have their lives figured out.” He chuckled. “It’s just something in me. I can’t feel good about mating until the two of them are settled... I’ve taken care of them for a long time.”

That made Changbin’s inner omega twist in irritation, but he shoved it down. Seungmin had every right to protect and love Minho and Hyunjin. He had known them for years and he was open to them in a way he never would be. It was good that Minho had Seungmin, realistically. He should have an omega to spend ruts with. Seungmin being around ensured that. He just wished his inner omega wasn’t so jealous about it all. “You’ll still take care of them after they mate though, won’t you? Since you are all together in this pack.”

The brunette smiled and nodded. “Yes. I will always be here for them, but they deserve to have good mates of their own.”

Good mates. The sentence felt a little bit like passive aggression. He wouldn’t ever be a ‘good mate’ for Minho. He would be a constant reminder of the mistakes the alpha made. They could have a good friendship, but being real and good mates wasn’t going to happen. “Maybe you’ll never mate then. Since me being here makes that reality impossible for Minho.”

Seungmin didn’t say anything for a beat or two too long in Changbin’s opinion. The silence that hung between them felt thick before the other spoke up again. “I’d like to have hope that

isn't true."

"I really don't want a mate, Seungmin." He said clearly. "I never wanted this."

"But you're here." He countered.

Changbin sighed, tugging at the rod in his hands. No fish were biting anyway. "I'm here because I know it would be too much to try to be apart. Mates can't stand too much space. We'd both just lose ourselves wondering about the other. There's no point in trying to escape that reality. So yes, I'm here, but I'm not willing to be anything more than a friend to him."

"A good mate is a good friend. That's certainly not all of it, but it's a big portion of it. You can still be good to him. You two may have a chance to find your own form of happiness."

Changbin looked down the stream, watching Minho reel in a fish, smiling as he pulled it up out of the waters. "Maybe. I guess only time will tell."

"Indeed. Who knows if Hyunjin will ever find someone either." Seungmin said, suddenly rolling his eyes and shaking his head. "That man is such a hopeless romantic. He's met different omegas and betas and he always goes off about how he didn't get that 'magic feeling' sparkling in his chest. I think his dam read him too many fairy tales."

Changbin snorted. "People really believe in that?"

"Oh, Hyunjin does. More than little kids even, I think. He says he's had a sense about everyone in his life and he can always tell if they're meant to stay long term or not. He says he'll *feel* it when he meets his mate." Seungmin sighed. "I don't know if I commend his commitment to his beliefs or if I think he's the biggest idiot on the planet, or both, but he's true to himself I guess."

"I guess." Changbin shook his head. "How could someone know that another person was meant to be in his life long term or not?"

"I mean, he's never been wrong so far." The brunette shrugged. "Anytime people have come around our whole lives, he's been able to tell if they would stay and get close to us or not."

He raised an eyebrow. He didn't know how much of that he believed. "Really?"

"Yup. He's always called it. He knew when this guy joined our pack for a bit that he wouldn't stay, sure enough the guy left. He knew Felix and Innie would stay, and they did. All kinds of examples of it since we were kids. I always trust Hyunjin's judgment about these things."

"Wow... I don't know how that is possible, but it sounds interesting."

Seungmin looked over at him, smirking softly. "Want to know what he said about you?"

"Me? We've known each other for less than a day." Changbin scoffed lightly. "How could he know anything about me?"

The other omega shrugged. "He just knows these things."

“What does he know about me then?” He asked, having to hold back from rolling his eyes. The whole thing just sounded so unfounded.

“He says you’ll stay with us forever.” Seungmin replied.

Changbin waved his hand, brushing it off. “Well yeah, I guess. That’s kind of obvious. I’m Minho’s mate now. As I said, he and I won’t really be able to handle being apart from each other so of course I’ll be sticking around. I have to.”

The brunette hummed. “If you say so.”

“What is that supposed to mean?” Changbin crossed his arms over his chest.

“Nothing. You don’t have to believe in Hyunjin’s people reading. It doesn’t matter, as you said, you’ll be here anyway.” Seungmin said and he didn’t know why he felt like there was something more the brunette wasn’t saying. He wouldn’t ever know though, so he let it be.

Both their attention shifted when Minho came back up to the stream, the fish he had pulled up in one hand and the fishing pole in the other. “I got another good one for cooking!”

“He does look good.” Seungmin answered, an easy smile taking over his face.

“Told you I saw fish down there.” Minho grinned at Changbin. “You should move down there with me.”

He nodded, picking up his rod. “Alright, let’s do it.”

“Have fun you two.” Seungmin suddenly said. “I’m going to head back up to the den. It was nice talking with you, Changbin.”

“You too.” He said, waving lightly as the brunette turned and started walking away.

Minho looked between the two of them. He waited until Seungmin was out of view before he spoke up. “Everything okay between you guys?”

Changbin nodded. “Yup. He agrees with me that you’re weird.”

“What?” Minho asked, a laugh bubbling out of him. “That’s what you guys talked about? Me being weird?”

“Yeah, and Hyunjin being a magic fortune teller or some bullshit.” Changbin added, chuckling and grabbing the bucket of fish once Minho added his most recent catch to their bounty.

“He kind of is. It’s freaky.” The alpha said and Changbin rolled his eyes instantly.

“Not you too.” He said. “This is exactly why I think you’re weird.”

Minho laughed. “If you say so, but he’s never been wrong so I can’t help but believe him.”

“Never once?” Changbin asked.

“Never.” The alpha smiled. “And I’ve known him since he was two so I think it’s a pretty solid score in his favor.”

“Wow, you really have known each other your whole lives.” Changbin said. He didn’t know why he had imagined they met as kids, age eight and ten, maybe, but not since they were basically born.

“Yeah. I’ve known Seungmin since he was born, actually. There were three packs in the area I grew up in. Hyunjin came from one and Seungmin the other. We were all close and grew up together. Hyunjin’s pack came a little later, that’s why he was two when we met. Not that I really remember much of that. We were all so little.” The alpha explained.

“When did you all go from friends to more?” Changbin asked, partly because he just wanted to know more about the alpha and partly because his inner omega was so jealous about all of it.

“Well, Hyunjin and I sort of fell into fooling around as teenagers. We were both horny and didn’t really have anyone besides one another. At that point Seungmin would avoid getting involved with anything like that. We kept it away from him, but then Seungmin presented as an omega and, well, we didn’t exactly stand a chance. He went into heat with only the two of us around. We had all been out camping together. It all just sort of happened.” Minho shrugged.

Changbin felt the hairs on the back of his neck stand up. “So you just took advantage of him?”

Minho’s eyes flashed with worry as he looked over, probably easily reading the anger on Changbin’s face. “No. He asked us to help him. I swear. We offered to bring him back home. He said he trusted us and he wanted us to take care of him.”

The tense feeling in his shoulders released a bit. “Good. I was about to be pissed at you all over again.”

Minho nodded, his whole body looking pinched and tense. “I understand... honestly he admitted he had seen us fooling around and was jealous that he wasn’t involved with us too. He wanted it, I promise.”

Changbin nodded, trusting the alpha’s words. There was an awkward pause between them. Minho casted his line back into the water to fill in the space. He did the same beside him. They stood shoulder to shoulder. Changbin didn’t want the conversation to stop completely though. He was still trying to learn about this alpha he was mated to. “It’s kind of strange to me that the three of you didn’t become mates.”

Minho hummed. “It’s a bit strange to me too.” He admitted. “I think it’s honestly what our families thought would happen. We just, I don’t know. It’s like we knew we would always be beside one another, but mating didn’t quite fit us either. We knew we wanted a bigger family too.”

It was hard to restrain the irritation his inner omega felt every time the alpha referred to them as 'us' and 'we'. There was so much of Minhó's life that would never belong to Changbin's inner beast and that unsettled it. "I guess you do have a bigger family now." He said.

"Yeah." Minhó smiled and just seeing it made Changbin feel better about all of it. He knew this mating made things more complicated. It made so many things impossible for the alpha. "Felix and Jeongin were and are an amazing addition to the pack and they make Seungmin really happy. You are amazing too, even if things aren't perfect. I don't want to see you or think of you as a bad thing. Whatever is difficult is my own fault. It doesn't mean you're not good within yourself. I'm happy you're here with us, despite everything." He said. "And I'm hoping Hyunjin will find a good mate to bring into the pack as well, eventually."

"When he gets his magic sparkling feeling?" Changbin chuckled, remembering his conversation with Seungmin.

"Seungmin told you about that, I'm guessing?" Minhó said, echoing his laughter. "He's truly a hopeless romantic."

"Apparently so." There was another pause between them, more of a distraction when a fish bit Changbin's line. He reeled it in, adding to their collection. They were both hovering over the bucket when he looked up at the alpha. "Thank you for what you said, by the way."

"What do you mean?" Minhó asked.

"About me being here. That you're happy I'm here." He whispered. Despite all the things he'd been through, Changbin could admit one thing to himself. All his years alone hadn't bothered him, but he sort of always hoped that maybe someday he could belong somewhere that wasn't so isolated. He didn't want a mate, but a pack did sound nice. The idea of one at least. So many packs he had seen were bad. They treated their omegas terribly or were just the dictatorship of a douchebag alpha. Changbin had avoided them, but sometimes he used to dream of a pack that wasn't bad. One he could stay with and have some sense of community. From what he had seen so far... maybe this pack could fulfill that dream for him. "I never wanted a mate... but sometimes I dreamed of having a pack."

"This pack is yours as much as it's mine now, Changbin." Minhó said, reaching out and putting a hand on his shoulder. "I know things are complicated, but you are my mate and you can be this pack's luna as much as you'd like to be. I'm not the type of alpha to be big headed and not consider my pack's opinions and feelings. Yours matter to me just as much. This can truly be your home now."

"I don't know how much of a luna I would ever be, but I hope we can feel like a real pack, a good one." Changbin said.

"I'll work hard to lead us well." Minhó smiled. "I promise to do my best for all of us."

Changbin nodded, holding onto the alpha's words with a shred of hope. "Should we head back? I think we have plenty of fish."

“Yeah, let’s go cook them up.” His mate smiled the whole walk back to the den, to Changbin’s new home. He did hope things could be good here. So much of Changbin’s life had been bad... Maybe he could get something positive out of this mess. He wanted to believe it was possible at least.

Chapter End Notes

Binnie has dreamed of a pack and now he has one!!! Eeeeeee! hehe. Even if it is complicated!

Thank you so much for reading!!!

Chapter 7

Chapter Summary

Changbin sees something he wasn't meant to.

Tags: embarrassment, jealousy, accidental voyeurism, anger, aggression, loss of control, internal conflict, alpha voice, forced submission, relief, happiness, grateful, worry, fear, confusion, trust, growth, arousal, awkwardness, jerking off, fantasizing,

Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for [notes](#)

It was crazy how fast a week went by. Changbin didn't expect how easily he would slip into the pack. There was plenty of awkwardness. Angry or jealous feelings from his inner omega were a constant battle, but Minho had kept his word. He had worked to keep his contact with the other pack members out of his sight. He had cleaned out a room in the deeper tunnels as well. The alpha slept in there instead of in the living room with any of the others to keep the possibility of Changbin finding them together off the table. He was sure they were probably sneaking into the pack alpha's room or he was sneaking into theirs at different points, but Changbin didn't have to see it so his inner omega couldn't act up about it.

That couldn't be said for the current moment though. It wasn't that he caught Minho with one of the others, it was actually that *they* had caught Hyunjin and Jeongin.

Changbin and Minho had come back from a hike. They had gone higher up the mountain and seen some amazing views of the valley that laid out below them. He had to give it to the pack, they had found a great place to call their territory. It had been an easy afternoon with the alpha. The two of them got along well, overall.

Unfortunately moments often tainted it. Minho would feel guilty about Changbin being forced to mate him or Changbin's inner omega would act up at a story from Minho and the others. They navigated around most of them. The pack had been welcoming to him too, but finding Hyunjin balls deep in Jeongin set off a list of problems for him.

One, he had never walked in on anyone before so the experience was embarrassing as all hell. Two, both of them were problematically attractive in a way he didn't know what to do with. Then three, the instant look and smell of arousal on Minho set off Changbin's jealousy by ten fold.

They were smiling, blindly walking into the cave when Changbin had heard the moaning.

"Fuck, Jinnie." Was gasped out, alarming him and Minho. They looked up, Hyunjin was under Jeongin, his hands on the beta's hips. The maknae was straddled over him, head thrown back as he rode on top of the brunette alpha. He was bucking up, pounding hard enough now

that he didn't notice the two mates who had walked in on them. Jeongin was too lost in pleasure as well, hips grinding down to meet every one of the alpha's thrusts.

Changbin froze, stopping dead in his tracks. The scents of the two of them were strong, sending something tingling right down his spine.

Minho stopped a second later, looking between Changbin and the others.

"Oh, shit." Jeongin said, ending in a moan before covering his mouth and smacking Hyunjin's shoulder.

"What?" The alpha asked, breathless, voice lower than usual. The maknae started frantically pointing towards them and when the other alpha looked back he gasped too. "Oh, shit." They started to scramble and Minho was suddenly in front of Changbin, blocking his view, pushing him back out of the cave.

"Just finish up!" He yelled back at them. "We'll come back in a while!"

As he was being walked backwards and into the open air, the next issue became apparent. The scent of arousal was strong on Minho. Changbin recognized it easily from the days of his heat. The prue desire was strong and a growl was out of him as soon as it was in his nose. His inner omega rose up, angry his mate was so attracted to someone that wasn't *him*. He shoved Minho, the force of it pushing the alpha back into the mountain. He gasped as his body slammed into rock and curled in on himself, crouching to the ground from pain.

"What the hell?" He asked, looking up and eyes going wide.

It was all a red blur to Changbin. His omega had taken control of him. He charged at Minho when the alpha tried to stand back up, holding his hands out probably in an attempt to stop things from escalating, but it didn't help in the least. Changbin pressed him back against the stone surface as he grabbed ahold of both Minho's hands. He easily overpowered him. All his mate could do was hopelessly struggle. His two hands were pinned against the mountain, trapped under Changbin's strong grip.

It was hard to watch himself, like a spectator in his own body as he kissed Minho roughly. The alpha melted at first, giving in and kissing back. He couldn't blame him. The other would naturally want his mate. Their tongues collided in a battle that Changbin easily won. He was stronger and for once, he wished he wasn't. He wished Minho could stop him as much as he wished he could stop himself. He didn't know where this would go, how far it would go.

His inner omega led them to Minho's neck, kissing it and sucking on it roughly. Changbin could hear Minho gasping. The smell of arousal pouring off of both of them now.

He hated it. This wasn't how this was supposed to go. They were supposed to be friends.

Then Changbin heard something he never thought he'd be grateful to hear. A rough and low tone that was all new to him left Minho's mouth. "Enough!" An alpha voice, the commanding nature of it stalled his inner omega's movements, but even that didn't fully end

it. He still wouldn't let go of the other. "Changbin." He tried and the grip loosened, but didn't break. Minho sighed. A quiet 'I'm sorry' coming out of him before a thunderous command. "Omega, submit!"

Changbin crumbled to his knees, but he was so happy about it. He didn't want to be out of control. He didn't want his jealous inner omega to make decisions for him. The chains of his biology and this mating were a lot to bear at times. Minho doing this, subduing it, actually made him respect the alpha more than he thought he could. It would've been so easy to let that continue. He could've had his way with Changbin, could've said he was the victim and he didn't have a choice. He could've gotten away with that, enjoyed it all the way through. He knew the alpha wanted him in all the ways mates usually do, and he chose to stop it instead. Minho knew Changbin wouldn't have wanted it. As his eyes cleared, the red haze disappearing, he grabbed onto Minho's legs. He hugged them tightly, tucking his face safely on the outside of his mate's thigh.

"Thank you... Thank you so much, Minho."

The alpha seemed baffled for a moment. "You... you're not mad... I used an alpha voice on you. I—I forced you to submit."

"No, you forced my omega to submit. You set *me* free of my own stupid instincts." Changbin explained, looking up to his mate. "So thank you."

The alpha's eyes were shiny with emotion as he reached down and pulled Changbin up to stand face to face. "I know you don't want that with me... as much as that information hurts sometimes, I won't make the same mistake again and hurt you more than I already have. How shitty would I be to let you do that when I know *you*, the real you, doesn't really want it? You've clearly explained how you and your omega want different things. I'm just happy you know that is why I used my alpha voice. I was worried you would think I was trying to control you... that I was abusing my power as an alpha."

Changbin's heart was pounding in his chest as he reached down and grabbed Minho's two hands, clasping his own around them. "I..." This wasn't easy to say. It felt like it was against everything he had ever known and taught himself, but the alpha had proven something big to him that afternoon. "I give you permission to use that voice on me if I'm out of control like that. If my omega has taken over, you can use it to stop me, but only if and when that happens. Can I trust you to follow this?"

Minho squeezed their connected hands. "I promise."

"I'm sorry I can't control myself better. I'm trusting you to help me." He looked into his mate's dark eyes.

"I won't let you down again, Changbin." He said softly.

He smiled at his mate and squeezed their connected hands one more time before pulling back and getting a bit shy. His eyes found their way to the ground. "So... those two."

Minho laughed. "Yeah, I'll tell them not to fuck in the living room again."

Changbin nodded, his cheeks hot as he remembered all that he saw of them. The smell of arousal was still in the air and he honestly thought he was probably pent up, something that definitely wasn't helping the situation. "Yeah... I've never seen anything like that before."

"It's commonplace amongst us. Which is probably why they weren't thinking and just did it right in the main area." The alpha said softly.

He nodded and turned away, trying to get some fresher, less pheromone-filled air into his lungs. "I think I'm going to go for a walk down to the waterfall."

"Yeah, we can do that." Minho said, but Changbin only looked down, face getting more red. Truth be told, he was fighting the hard-on stirring in his pants and the slick starting to leak out of him.

"I, uh, I was going to go alone... for some privacy." He said, voice weaving slightly with shyness.

Minho cleared his throat suddenly. "Oh. Yeah. Of course, go ahead. I'll—I'll see you later then. These two shouldn't be much longer... Should be fine whenever you want to come back."

"Yeah, okay. Great. Thanks again, Minho..." He said, scurrying off before it could get anymore awkward between them.

He took off running once he was a bit away from the alpha. He was overwhelmed by the desire that started to run through him. One thing that had changed from all of this was the fact that he didn't live alone anymore. Changbin was used to being able to jerk off or get off whenever he wanted to. That hadn't been the case for this past week. It was probably making his inner omega more on edge too. He got to the waterfall and jumped up into one of the trees. He always felt safer when he was up off the ground. He opened his pants up as soon as he got comfortable on one of the big oak's branches. It only took one stroke for his cock to be at full attention. He moaned, head falling back as he started stroking himself. *Fuck*. It felt so good.

He closed his eyes and that was probably dangerous. His mind easily conjured up images that probably weren't a good idea to think about, but he was too horny to care. He remembered his heat, Minho on top of him, bending his legs back and splitting him open on his honestly *big* cock. The way the alpha stroked him, making him a crying, whining mess as he came all over himself for the millionth time it had felt like.

He remembered Jeongin, head thrown back, eyes dazed with pleasure as he took every thrust from Hyunjin. The brunette alpha's long hair sticking to his forehead with sweat from the effort he put into fucking the beta. They had looked so good together.

He remembered Minho's lips on his own, the way the alpha was powerless to him against the mountain wall for those few minutes. Something about it made Changbin weak in the knees. He had never had the upper hand on an alpha like that, even if it had been his inner omega running wild.

“Fuck.” He mumbled to himself, stroking faster, getting closer. He could feel the pool of slick building up underneath him and he wished he was back in his home, sprawled out on his bed when he could stuff himself full of his fingers. However, this would have to be enough for now. He gasped, the memory of Minho’s knot stretching him more than he ever had been suddenly overran his brain. He couldn’t stop it or the cum that flew out of him, splattering all over his shirt as he moaned, sliding in his own slick as he squirmed from the tingling euphoria that washed over him from head to toe. “Fuck.” He gasped, moaning softly before he opened his eyes and groaned. Cum was a splattered mess all over his shirt. “Shit!” He groaned. This was going to be embarrassing.

He decided lying was the best move. He threw himself in the stream, washing off all the cum and claiming he had slipped and fallen in. No one needed to know anything else.

Chapter End Notes

Always Hyunjin when there's sexual chaos in my stories, I swear. hahahahahaha.
Jeongin doesn't help. lmao. Hope you all enjoyed!!!

Thank you so much for reading and commenting!

Chapter 8

Chapter Summary

Changbin is learning how to play cards with the pack.

Tags: pack bonding, friendship, respect building, settling in, banter getting to know you, admissions, domestics, sleep deprived

Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for [notes](#)

Changbin was laughing loudly from his seat at the table. He was learning how to play cards with the whole pack. They were in the living room, all in a circle around the slightly crooked table Jeongin had made two years ago. He was relishing all of their shocked faces. It was his first game and he caught on way faster than they expected. He managed to beat all of them and the pack was in complete disbelief that had him laughing hard enough that his sides hurt.

Things had been good with the pack. Better than he really could've expected them to be. Him, Hyunjin, and Jeongin had an awkward conversation after the whole 'caught them fucking' business. They apologized for not thinking about him being around to find them like that. It was a constructive conversation and it made him respect Hyunjin as an alpha more. He had bent in half, bowing fully to Changbin in a way that stopped him in his tracks. He wasn't used to being treated with so much respect, but he welcomed it. He was starting to feel seen as a person more than his secondary gender or anything else about him.

Jeongin had bowed right alongside him and the beta was bright red but sincere as he promised to be more mindful too. Changbin easily forgave them. He was imposing a lot of changes into their lives by being in the pack now. Even though it was Minho's fault that Changbin was here, the pack could've been much more resentful. They could've hated him for restricting their lives and the relationships between them, but they didn't. They were kind and compassionate. They treated Changbin like one of them. It moved his heart and he had to admit he was really starting to like it here. It had only been a few weeks, but this place didn't feel foreign anymore.

His room in the den no longer smelled heavily of Minho. The furs held onto his own scent now and Changbin knew he was going to have to admit that it was making it hard to sleep at some point. His inner omega was upset enough about having so much space between them and losing the alpha's scent while he was sleeping had affected him more than he thought it would.

The last two nights he had tossed and turned, pressing his nose into the pillows and furs to try to pick up a hint of Minho. It was frustrating and would be a problem needing to be

addressed soon, but it was forgotten as he played cards with them all.

“How—how did you just do that?” Felix said, jaw hanging open.

“Yeah! It took me like two months to figure out that move!” Jeongin added and Minhø joined Changbin’s laughter about it all. His mate was seated beside him, then Hyunjin on the other side, Seungmin next to him, followed by Felix, and then Jeongin was on Minhø’s other side.

“These two did suck at this game when they first got here.” The pack alpha said, grinning with amusement.

“You were terrible when I first taught you too.” Seungmin said, huffing with humor.

“We were kids.” Minhø countered.

Seungmin pointed across the table at the pack alpha. “You were older than us!”

“Jinnie wasn’t good either.” Minhø argued.

“Better than you though.” Hyunjin smirked and shrugged his shoulders. “I think the fact is that Binnie is smarter than all of us.”

“I don’t know about that.” Changbin laughed. “I only did a few years of school. I had to read so many books to get myself the knowledge I do have.”

“You can read?” Felix leaned in, eyes wide.

“You can’t?” He asked and the beta shook his head.

“Nope, not really. Like a little bit, but I never really learned. My pack growing up was very, what’s the word?”

“Primitive.” Minhø said.

“Yeah, sure, that.” Felix easily agreed. “I can tell you the footprint or sound of every animal in the forest, but reading wasn’t something they cared much about. We would tell stories about our history through songs.”

“That’s really cool.” Changbin said. “I’ve heard of cultures like that.”

The white haired beta hummed. “I really like it about us for sure.”

“I could teach you more about reading if you want.” Changbin said with a shrug. “I had to teach myself a lot. Ah, that makes me miss my books. I have—had a big book collection at my house.”

“We could go get some of them.” Minhø said. “If you would like.”

“Really?” Changbin smiled. “That would be great. I have a lot of things there I would like to get.”

The alpha nodded. "We can definitely do that sometime soon."

Changbin smiled with the knowledge that he would get to bring some of his belongings here. It would make it feel more like home for sure.

The rest of the night passed smoothly, more easy banter and bonds building between them as they played round after round of cards. Changbin was yawning badly before anyone else was, the sleepless nights catching up to him.

"Are you tired?" Minhø asked him as Seungmin shuffled the deck of cards for the next game.

"Yeah, I am... I haven't been sleeping well." He admitted in his sleepy haze.

Instantly the alpha's eyebrows furrowed. "Why not?"

Changbin blinked, seeing the way the alpha was bothered by the notion of him not sleeping well. "I... I, uh." He felt his face getting warm. "Can I tell you when we're alone?"

Minhø blinked a few times before nodding. The cards started to get passed around and the alpha spoke up. "Let's call it a night after this round."

Jeongin instantly soured. "Aw, come on! I was getting close to beating Hyunjin!"

The brunette alpha stuck his tongue out at the maknae. "You'll never catch me now."

"Just you wait and see." Jeongin easily countered.

Seungmin rolled his eyes as Felix smiled fondly at all of them.

"That's fine with me, anyway." Seungmin said. "I'm craving a bath and then bed."

"I just might join you for that bath." Felix said, leaning his head over onto Seungmin's shoulder.

The omega didn't object to the notion, instead everyone focused on the game. Minhø managed to win the round, making the entire pack pout or talk shit, or both to the pack alpha. The whole thing had left Minhø in good spirits as he followed Changbin down to his bedroom. He had gestured for the alpha to come with him so they could talk in private once cards were finished. Minhø was chuckling as they entered the space.

"They're too funny. They can beat me for ten rounds, but I win one and they act like I've accosted them."

Changbin smiled, amused as well by the pack's antics. "They're truly unique. I mean that in the best way."

"Indeed." Minhø's humor left his face now that they were alone. The alpha's expression being replaced with worry and curiosity. "So... why haven't you been sleeping well?"

“It is a bit embarrassing...” He mumbled, scratching behind his neck and looking down to the rocky floor. “You know this room smelled a lot like you before.”

“Of course, it was my room before.” Minho replied.

“Well.” Changbin sighed. “My omega really liked that it smelled like you... now that smell is fading and it’s making it difficult to get myself to relax. My omega keeps protesting that I should only be sleeping if it’s safe. If your scent is around...”

It took a long moment for the words to sink into Minho. “Oh. Oh! I see... hm. Do—how should I help with that?”

Changbin felt his cheeks getting more red. “Can... Could you scent the furs and stuff again? If it’s not too weird.”

“It’s not weird.” The alpha reassured him right away. “It actually makes me a bit happy. Sorry if it shouldn’t, but it does...” It was his mate’s turn to have red cheeks.

“No. I understand it.” Changbin said. “It’s just the instincts and everything.”

“Yeah.” Minho answered as he went to get down onto the furs. He stopped, kneeling and looking back up at the omega. “Would you maybe do the same to the pillow and furs in my room? It would probably help me too...”

Changbin was shocked for a second at the question, but quickly realized that Minho was probably longing for his scent too. It was only natural since they were mated. “Yeah. I can do that. Sure.” He said.

“Maybe we should just switch bedding every couple weeks.” The alpha suggested.

Changbin easily nodded. “Yeah, That would probably be the easiest way to go about it.”

“Should we do that now?”

“Sure.”

That was how they were seen too. In the living room, Minho with a bundle of his bedding and Changbin with a bundle of his own. Hyunjin and Jeongin watched with one raised eyebrow each as they swapped the beddings between their rooms. Changbin tried to ignore their stares, knowing that this was just part of dealing with their estranged mating.

Changbin was laying the bedding down in his room, kneading at it to get it just right when Minho walked back in again. He didn’t think he’d see the alpha again that night. He figured his mate would be too embarrassed but he was there, even if his cheeks were a bit red.

“I just wanted to say goodnight. Also, I need to do some hunting and get more firewood for the pack but then we can go to your home and pick up some things. Probably in a few days.” Minho said, smiling gently.

“Okay. Awesome. I’ll help you with the hunting and wood too.” Changbin easily offered. He did almost all the chores alongside the alpha. The two of them hunted together, fished together, chopped wood, cleaned, almost anything. He let Minho cook alone though. He was much better at it than Changbin was.

Jeongin and Hyunjin would hunt with them too. It was often a group activity. He learned the brunette alpha liked climbing trees as much as Changbin did. That had been a fun bonding moment. Jeongin was always keen to come fishing with him and Minho too. Changbin started gardening with Seungmin and Felix as well. It was nice to be settling into the pack with all of them. He cherished the mundane tasks they all did together. He never had others to rely on before.

“Thank you, Changbin. Goodnight. I’ll... I’ll see you tomorrow.”

“See you tomorrow. Night.” He smiled and waved as his mate retreated from his room. His inner omega rose up, whining and wanting to chase down the alpha and drag him back to bed. Changbin pushed it down as best he could, turning and shoving himself face first in the pillow. The scent of Minho was strong, a moan he couldn’t help leaving him.

His inner omega and his whole body relaxed immediately. He was so tired. The lack of sleep had caught up to him. It didn’t take long for his eyes to drop shut. The calming scent of his mate surrounding him was the ultimate lullaby, sending him right to his dreams with ease.

Chapter End Notes

Ahh bonds are forming, scents are being traded.

They’re forgetting about something though...

Hehe.

Thank you for reading!

Chapter 9

Chapter Summary

Hyunjin goes to spend some alone time with his pack alpha.

Tags: pretty hopeless Minho, communication, bonding, trust, alpha x alpha, handjobs, smut, neediness, horny Hyunjin, power bottom, subby top, scents, fantasizing, nipple play, slight belly inflation, realization, fear, panic, mentions of abortion, comfort,

Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for [notes](#)

Minho hadn't expected Hyunjin to slip into his room after he had said goodnight to his pack. Seungmin took Jeongin and Felix into his room that night and Hyunjin looked like he was going to relax in the main room for a while longer, but apparently his plans had been to come and find Minho.

"Do you want to sleep in here tonight?" The pack alpha asked, assuming that was why the other was here.

"I came for other reasons." He said, smirking softly.

"Oh?" Minho asked. "What reasons are those?"

The brunette came to kneel down beside Minho on the furs. The room smelled so heavily of Changbin and something in him didn't want Hyunjin to tarnish the scent. It must have shown on his face because the other was chuckling at him. "You are a bit tragic, Minho."

"What is that supposed to mean?" He sighed.

"You haven't actually slept with any of us since he came. You feel guilty, yet he doesn't want you in those ways and we do. You get bedding that smells like him and you're afraid I'll taint it. You're the definition of tragic one-sided love at the moment." Hyunjin reached out, cupping Minho's cheek. "But I've always loved you, even when you're being like this."

Minho melted a bit, he knew Hyunjin wasn't insulting him. He was just stating the emotions he knew wouldn't come out of the pack alpha easily. "I don't know what to do, Jinnie. I do feel guilty to be with you all... how can I not? I know it upsets my mate, well, it upsets his inner omega. Changbin himself doesn't care... but I can tell. It's obvious. It makes it feel wrong."

"It's not wrong to let yourself be loved by the pack you've been with for years, Minho." Hyunjin said, leaning in closer. The brunette climbed into his lap, straddling him as he laid

back in bed. “But it’s not wrong that you love your mate either. I understand it, but you can’t keep yourself distant and locked away forever. Let me show you how you can have us and pieces of him too.”

“Is that possible?” Minhø whispered, truly afraid it wasn’t.

Hyunjin smiled, stroking Minhø’s cheek with his thumb. “Of course it’s possible. You are already close to him. You two do almost everything together. Maybe it won’t ever evolve past that, but you get to have him by your side. You have pieces of him and you’ll always have us, you’ll always have me, Minhø. I love you. I always have, and I always will.”

He couldn’t hold back from the other alpha after such beautiful and devoted words. He leaned up, kissing Hyunjin deeply, letting himself bask in the warmth of his familiar touch. “I love you too, Hyunjin.” He said, lips ghosting together before he dove back into the other’s mouth. Their tongues tangled and the younger rolled his hips, grinding them together.

“Alpha.” He moaned, wrapping his hands around the back of Minhø’s neck to get more traction. He used it to glide their bodies against one another. “Want you, alpha. Please.”

“I don’t have any lube in here.” Minhø said and then suddenly a bottle was in his hands, making him laugh.

“In case you need more, but I’m already prepped.” Hyunjin said, a cheeky smirk on his face.

Minhø mirrored the expression back to him. “Really missed me, didn’t you, baby?”

“It’s been weeks.” Hyunjin groaned. “I knew you needed some time... but you can’t leave me hanging forever.”

Minhø chuckled, leaning up to kiss the brunette once more. “I suppose you have been very patient.”

Hyunjin easily nodded in agreement before capturing Minhø’s lips once more. “So don’t make me wait anymore, alpha.”

Hands went under his shirt, pulling it up and off of the brunette. “Then get these clothes off.”

Hyunjin was all too happy to comply. He stripped down to nothing, getting naked in Minhø’s lap while he pulled his shirt off. He couldn’t really get his pants off with the other on top of him, but apparently Hyunjin didn’t care. He just got Minhø’s pants down his legs enough to free his cock. The brunette slotted them together, their lengths getting wrapped up in his hands, stroking both of them. Minhø’s head fell back so easily. It had been way too long since he had gotten off. A moan slipped from him and Hyunjin just chuckled. “You always look so good like this, Minhø.”

“Fuck, Jinnie. Please... it’s been too long.” He whined. It wasn’t a sound he was afraid of. He wasn’t one of those alphas who couldn’t submit, couldn’t show weakness or was constantly worried about his pride. No, he had been taken apart just as many times as he had taken any of his pack members apart. They had seen so much of each other. There was a trust and

vulnerability between them that Minho cherished deeply. He was so grateful to Hyunjin right now. The other knew he needed this. He needed someone to come and break him out of his guilt over all of this.

“Gotta stop avoiding us, darling.” Hyunjin said, thumbing over the tip of him and making his chest arch as another moan escaped him. “We always make you feel so good, make everything so much better, don’t we?”

“Yes.” He answered easily. “Love you... all of you. Always so good. Fuck.” Minho answered, falling apart so quickly beneath the other alpha.

Hyunjin chuckled and Minho whimpered when he let go of their cocks and stopped stroking. “No... please.”

“Easy, Min.” The brunette whispered gently. “I’m going to take care of you, just relax.”

He nodded, trying to listen, letting himself settle back down against the furs. The scent of Changbin wrapping around him was making him feel even more insane. The omega had driven him mad when he was in heat. The scent of him was so good, so inviting. He followed it like his life depended on it through the forest, chasing, running, determined to catch that smell and bottle it forever as his own. He supposed he did... even if the cost was high. Changbin was beside him now. He got to have him next to him every day and right now he got to breathe in his delicious scent as Hyunjin started to sink down on his cock. It pulled a needy moan from his throat.

“Ah.” The brunette gasped, ass clenching as it adjusted to the intrusion splitting him open. “Ah, alpha. It has been too long.”

“When...” He was panting, much too on edge already. “When was the last time you bottomed?”

Hyunjin’s face scrunched in concentration as he took the last few inches, bottoming out as his ass hit Minho’s thighs. “Not since you... like a month ago now? Whenever that was.”

“That was so long ago.” He said, panting as the other alpha nodded.

“The others wanted to be topped. You were gone for a while when you mated Changbin, then you haven’t been sleeping with us. I’ve been doing all the work.” Hyunjin said, a pout on his lips. “Gonna make it up to me?”

Minho let out a huff of laughter. “Yeah, I’m gonna make it up to you.”

“You better.” He said, squeezing around him and bringing a loud moan out of both of them.

Minho moved his feet, planting them against the ground and fucking up into Hyunjin once. He was testing the waters, wanting to see how much the other alpha could handle yet. The brunette gasped, but then moaned, hips circling to try to get more. It was all he needed to see. He grabbed Hyunjin’s hips and once he started thrusting this time, he didn’t let up.

Hyunjin fell apart to it all so quickly. “Ah... ah, Minho—alpha. Oh my god.”

The noises only encouraged him. He gripped harder, pulling the brunette down to meet his thrusts. “Ah... Jinnie—yes. So good.” He was grunting with effort, but he didn’t care. He chased the passion higher until Hyunjin put a hand on his chest, pressing it down as he reached for one of the hands on his hips, making the pack alpha pause.

“Min, Min. Ah.” Hyunjin said and he stopped his movements all together.

“Are you okay?” Minhø asked, worry seeping into him, but the other just nodded.

“I’m good. Fuck, so good.” He said, chest heaving as he tried to catch his breath. “You made it up to me, but I still promised to take care of you, to show you how you can have both things you want.”

Minhø nodded, easily relaxing. He was tired, body letting go of the tension from keeping such an intense pace up for as long as he did. Hyunjin smiled as he saw it, the younger composing himself a bit before he started petting Minhø’s neck and chest.

“That’s it, you did so good fucking me like that, darling. Now it’s my turn to make you feel good, yes?”

“Yeah.” He answered without hesitation, letting himself sink into the other alpha. He had done well and made Hyunjin feel good, nothing else mattered to him right now. He let himself be at the brunette’s mercy, watching with awe as his stunning body rolled, starting to ride him with long, fluid motions that worked his cock so perfectly. Fuck, Hyunjin always felt so good. He knew every little movement that Minhø loved. The other alpha knew how to get him off almost faster than anyone. Hyunjin knew his body inside and out. Years of time together, exploring each other since they first figured out what sexuality and orgasms were gave them vast knowledge of one another.

Which is why he whimpered helplessly when Hyunjin teased his nipples between his fingers as he continued riding his cock. He shuddered, squirming like he always did as the other alpha teased the small brown buds. He whined, unable to hold still as he was played with. Hyunjin chuckled above him as he lifted his hips faster. “Like that, darling? Always makes you lose it when I do that, doesn’t it?”

“Yeah...” He whimpered, cock twitching inside of the other. He was getting closer and closer to losing it. “Hyunjin...”

“You can’t cum yet, Hyung.” He said, pulling away from his nipples, leaning over. The younger’s green eyes were sparkling with something, teasing him more and he hadn’t even said anything else. “There’s something else I need you to do for me.”

“Anything.” He whispered, so hard and desperate at this point, he would do anything.

Hyunjin smirked and reached up grabbing one of the pillows, the one that smelled the most like Changbin. “Close your eyes and breathe this in.”

“What?” Minhø asked, confusion leaking into him.

Hyunjin smiled at him, leaning down and kissing Minho deeply, the pillow squished between them, the distinct scent of his mate drifting into his nose. “Breath in his scent, Minho. Close your eyes and imagine what you need to. Think of him, of filling deep inside his body.”

“But—but I... it’s you. I don’t want to use you like that—I love you too, Hyunjin. I don’t need—.” A finger was pressed against his lips.

“I love you too. I know you don’t need it. I could make you cum from staring at me alone if I wanted to. I want you to do this. I want you to have this. I can give you the illusion of him. You deserve something of your mate, Minho. I told you I will show you how to have pieces of him, at least.” Hyunjin explained. “So close your eyes and take what I’m offering.”

Minho looked at the brunette's face for a moment longer. He looked hard for any signs of discomfort, but found none. If Hyunjin wanted him to do this, then there was no way he would be able to hold back. The offer was too tempting, after all. He let his eyes fall shut, bringing the pillow closer to him, right under his nose, a moan falling out of his mouth.

“That’s it, hyung. I’m not going to talk anymore. I just want you to feel, imagine it’s Changbin and cum whenever you want to, alright?” Hyunjin said and he nodded.

As soon as those hips rolled again, he was slipping into a fantasy. The memories of his mate’s pleasure filled face when they had gone through his heat together were instantly at the front of his mind.

Changbin was so beautiful when they had been together, those pouty lips panting as his head fell back, moans echoing over the forest. The omega hadn’t rode him when they were together, but it wasn’t hard to imagine it now. Instead of Hyunjin he dreamed of Changbin’s strong thighs gripping around his body, his soft kissable stomach rolling as he worked his big and gorgeous ass down Minho’s cock. He pictured those big arms caging around the pack alpha’s body as he leaned over him, throwing his ass back to swallow Minho’s length again and again.

His grip tightened around the pillow, dragging it closer, imagining that he was pressing his face closer to his mate’s neck, breathing in his deep and consuming scent. He whimpered, the pace building as he got more and more lost in the fantasy of being rode into the sunset by his mate. He’d be so good for Changbin. He’d let himself be a leashed dog if that’s what the omega wanted. He would submit and lay at his mercy, letting his mate use him like a dildo for pleasure. He’d do anything if it meant actually getting to be with the other like this.

Whines spilled out of him. “Bin—mate—ah!” He was crying out, back arching. The walls around his cock were clenching, trying to milk him for all he was worth and with the image of Changbin being the one on top of him, he was racing towards the end.

‘Breed me, alpha.’ The phantom and invented voice of his mate bounced around in Minho’s mind. ‘Be good and fill me to the brim, come on.’

Minho was cumming as soon as the thought finished. He gasped, hips sputtering as his knot swelled faster than he knew how to process. Hyunjin cried out, the voice jarring in the moment. He opened his eyes and watched the other alpha split himself open farther on his

knot. The brunette's head fell back as his cock twitched, cum landing across Minhø's stomach as they both crashed over the edge.

His brain was foggy, the fantasy of his mate mixing with the incredible images of his lover on top of him. He imagined the two of them switching back and forth, taking turns on his cock and Minhø just moaned, cumming even more inside of Hyunjin. The other was panting, holding himself up as he was filled more and more by Minhø. It had been too long since he had cum and there were tons of his seed pouring into the other alpha.

"Fuck, Min. Feels like you're really trying to breed me or something." Hyunjin said, laughing lightly as his hand came down to his stomach. When the pack alpha looked he could see how the other's stomach was distended slightly from how much he had been filled already.

It made his eyes roll back. Shit. It was too sexy an image to fully process. "Good it's you." He said softly. "Might've actually knocked Changbin or Seungmin up if it were one of them."

"You know Seungmin takes contraceptives regularly." Hyunjin said, chuckling softly. The moment was relaxed, they were locked together and both blissed out from orgasms.

The peace shattered when a realization struck like lightning through Minhø's body. His eyes flew all the way open and he sat up as much as he could, grabbing Hyunjin's arms. "Fuck! Jinnie! Fuck!"

"What? What?" The other alpha asked, confusing etching into his face.

"I doubt Changbin was on a contraceptive! I bred him so many times during his heat, Hyunjin!"

The brunette's face got pale. "Oh shit... what if he's?"

Minhø whined, a terrified noise escaping him as he curled his head into Hyunjin's chest. "He's going to hate me if he is... I'm pretty sure he never wants to have children... fuck. I should've thought about it! Should've asked him about it. I could've tried to get him something to stop it from taking, but now? It's too late now... If he is and he doesn't want it the only option is..." He couldn't even say it. The idea of terminating his and Changbin's pup was heart wrenching, earth shattering, and completely unthinkable to him.

"Breathe, Minhø. Please." Hyunjin said, arms wrapping around him. "He might not even be pregnant. It doesn't always take... Let's try not to freak out. You need to stay calm and have a conversation with him about it, okay?"

He nodded, trying to soak in the other alpha's words. "Yeah... yeah, you're right."

"So just breathe, love. In out, come on."

He listened, syncing their inhales and exhales until some of the panic settled a little. Hyunjin was right. He needed to talk with Changbin and maybe nothing would end up happening at all. The omega hadn't shown any symptoms yet, afterall. That was a good thing.

They stayed tangled up in each other until his knot went down. It took some maneuvering but they managed to not spill cum all over the furs seeing as he didn't want to drown out Changbin's scent. The two of them snuck down to the springs together and took a bath. The warm water was good for him, relaxing him enough that he fell asleep with no problem that night. Between the mindblowing orgasm, the bath, and the scent of his mate he was out like a light despite the fears in the back of his mind.

Chapter End Notes

And that's what they forgot!!

Oh boys!

Thank you so much for reading and commenting!!

Chapter 10

Chapter Summary

Changbin wakes up to a series of abrupt occurrences.

Tags: settling, protective behavior, realization, panic, self-anger, anger, mention of abortion, comfort, instincts, snuggling, overwhelming emotions, protective alpha,

Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for [notes](#)

Changbin opened his eyes the next morning and jumped at the silhouette hanging over him. His fists flying up as the shadows hands went up in surrender.

“It’s me!” Minho’s voice stopped him from punching as he sighed loudly.

“What the hell are you doing? You scared the shit out of me...” Changbin shook his head and sat up, running a hand over his face.

“Sorry.” The alpha answered. “I just... There's something we need to talk about. It can’t wait.”

He could feel it now that he was paying attention. There was a tension tight in his mate’s stomach, radiating nervous energy from the other. “What’s going on?”

“I can’t believe I didn’t think about it... that we didn’t even talk about it or anything before.” Minho said, voice getting heavier, tone getting stretched even thinner.

“What is it?”

“We didn’t use any protection.” He spat it out. “No contraceptives or anything. What... what if you’re pregnant?”

Changbin was an idiot. An absolute raging idiot. How had he not thought about this? He had been so caught up in being upset about being claimed it never crossed his mind. “Fuck.” He said. “Fuck. That’s so—fuck. Minho. What the hell are we going to do if I am?”

“I... I can’t make that decision for you.” The alpha’s voice came out weak, a tremble in his words.

Changbin had his fist wrapped in the alpha’s shirt a second later, growling and pulling him in closer just to bare his fangs in his face. “What the fuck are you implying? You’re okay with

just killing our pups?” His eyes were trying to bleed red, anger rising in him faster than the pressure within a volcano.

“No!” The alpha yelled, a glassy look suddenly in his eyes. “I hate it... but if that’s what you want... it’s your body, Changbin. I can’t—won’t make you.”

The words sunk into him, his outrage falling back as he looked at the emotions clear as day on his mate’s face. “You’d fight for them, wouldn’t you?” He asked, voice so opposite of a moment ago. It was feather light, drifting in the air between them.

“Yes.” Minho answered. “I’d want them... It’d break me in two if—.” He couldn’t even say it.

Changbin nodded, tugging the alpha closer, pulling him into his lap. He needed the contact, unable to question it at all. He tucked into his neck and nodded, breathing in his mate’s scent to try to calm the storm within him. “I’d never.” He said, not wanting to even say the words. “I’d never hurt them. It wouldn’t matter what I want. Our pups would need me to be strong and bring them into this world. So if I am... we’ll deal with it.”

Arms and legs wrapped around him tightly, Minho holding onto him as if the world depended on it. “Thank you, Changbin... mate. Thank you.” He said, lips moving against the skin of the omega’s shoulder, sending a shiver down his spine.

They stayed like that for a long while, neither moving. Their instincts to be close were too strong to override in that moment. “I haven’t felt anything, though.” He said after a while.

Minho nodded. “When we go to get your things, maybe we can go to a healer and see.”

“Good idea.” Another stretch of silence fell over them. It took a while, but finally Changbin pulled back, separating them. “We should get something to eat.”

“We should.” Minho echoed.

They were awkward as they pulled apart, neither saying much. What was there to say? They needed some space. They needed to get out of the enclosed bedroom and embrace the separation they had grown accustomed to. They made their way to the mainroom and only Felix was there. The beta was reading a book as he laid alongside the fire.

“Morning you two.” He said, eyebrow raising slightly. It dawned on Changbin that it looked like they woke up together.

“I, uh.” Changbin started, something like flight or fight taking over. “I’m gonna go for a walk!” He dashed to the cave opening faster than anyone could even react. He just kept running for a while, heading all the way out near the waterfall. He fell to his knees, chest heaving by the time he got there. His heart was beating out of control as he told himself it was just because of the running, not anything else.

Minho’s glassy eyes wouldn’t leave his mind. The alpha’s trembling voice and his clingy affection made Changbin want to comfort him in a way he never had felt for anyone else before. He had never been a fan of alphas in general. Their egos and attitude were repulsive

to him, usually. His mate wasn't like that. He was soft spoken much of the time. He would listen to others around him. He wasn't weak. The fact that he had chased and mated Changbin was proof enough of that, but he was gentle.

"It'd break me in two if—."

That was so telling on its own. An alpha admitting that anything happening to their pups would break him. They were never supposed to be breakable in their stereotypical roles. He ran a hand through his hair and sighed. What if he was pregnant? A hand made its way to his stomach, feather light touches caressing his own skin.

He never wanted pups before. He always figured even if he did for some reason that he would have mated another omega and they would be the one to carry their pups. He had never thought of himself round with them before, feeling them grow and kick while housed inside his own being.

The thought of it wasn't as horrible as it used to be. Minho would be a good father. They could grow up well here. It wouldn't be the horrible world Changbin grew up in. He could do better for their babies. Another sigh left him. What was wrong with him? It almost sounded like he wanted them, like he wanted to be pregnant. He shook his head.

No. He wouldn't think about it anymore until they saw the healer and knew the truth. He would ignore the flicker of excitement and hope that came from his inner omega and maybe even a small piece of himself.

He shouldn't have been surprised when Minho appeared from between the trees, a bundle held in his palms. "I brought you some breakfast." He said as he got closer, holding out the bundle. Changbin took it, opening it to see a breakfast sandwich still warm inside for him.

"Thank you." He said before taking a bite.

"I told Felix I had just woken you up to talk about something. That there wasn't anything else going on..." The alpha said, taking a seat in the grass beside him.

He nodded, glad it was cleared up, but also annoyed it felt like they had to explain themselves. "It isn't his business anyway." He said, taking another bite.

Minho nodded. "True, but I don't like to hide things from my pack. I told him the truth about our... situation. I hope that doesn't upset you."

He sighed, but no anger hit him. "It's fine. It will be their reality too if I am pregnant."

Minho nodded. "Thank you."

"Don't mention it." He said, shoving more of the food into his mouth just to distract himself.

"I'm going to start on the firewood." Minho said. "If you want to just take some space today, that's okay. I can do it or get Innie to help."

"No, I'll help." Changbin said.

The alpha hesitated. “But what if you’re... wouldn’t that be too strenuous?”

“Even if I am, I’m not going to sit around on my ass. I’ll pull my weight like everyone else.”

Minho gave him a stare, clearly not pleased with the answer, but Changbin didn’t care, not looking at the alpha’s face any longer. “What if you go fishing?” He said.

Changbin gave him a side eye, but the alpha stepped forward, lightly touching his wrist. “What?”

“Please. I don’t want to put anything at risk. You can still help out by fishing. We need to get some food stored up for the pack while we are gone.” Minho said and he sighed.

He crossed his arms, pulling back from where their limbs touched. “Fine. I’ll go fishing. I’m bringing Seungmin with me too.”

“I’m not sure where he is.” Minho said and Changbin shrugged.

“Find him.” Changbin answered, starting to walk back off towards the cave to get his fishing supplies. He had enough alphas or even betas. He didn’t want to be alone, not if he was possibly pregnant, but he needed space that he thought Seungmin would actually give him.

Chapter End Notes

And the rocky road is bumping them along! Thank you so much!

Chapter 11

Chapter Summary

Changbin and Seungmin go fishing.

Tags: bonding, pack dynamics, emotions, communication, getting to know you, curiosity, fantasizing, acceptance, guilt,

Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for [notes](#)

The two omegas were sitting on the shore bank. Seungmin was a few feet from him and Changbin was grateful for it. Neither of them had said much. The two of them just casted their lines and caught fish without much else between them. He was grateful for the quiet. He needed it. The sounds of the creek soothed him and after breathing in the open air for a while, he felt calm. It had been a jarring way to wake up. Not to mention the complicated emotions that were always around when Minho was beside him. His inner omega pulled one way as he pulled the other.

“Thank you.” He said eventually.

Seungmin smiled lightly. “No problem.”

“I just got a bit overwhelmed.”

“You’ve gone through so many changes so quickly. It’s not really surprising.” The brunette omega said. “You’ve been constantly around Minho since you got here pretty much too. You’ve gone from strangers to glued at the hip.”

Changbin nodded. “I’m used to being alone for weeks and weeks without seeing anyone. Now like you said, he’s always around. If he’s not, the pack is. I haven’t had much time to myself.”

“Why did you invite me out here then?” Seungmin asked, raising an eyebrow.

He put a hand to his stomach, staring down at the pebbles and sand that made up the riverbank. “I could be pregnant. We don’t know. So I wasn’t okay with being alone out here. The thought put me on edge... I figured you would actually give me the space I need, but I wouldn’t be alone.”

“Good choice.” Seungmin chuckled. “Maybe Hyunjin would’ve left you alone, but Jeongin would’ve gotten bored and started bugging you ten minutes in. Felix would’ve been too worried about you being quiet this long and would’ve started hitting you with a million questions to try to help by getting you to talk.”

Changbin chuckled, yeah, he could easily see that. “Glad I went with you then. Plus, being around another omega is always simpler for me.”

“Why’s that?” Seungmin asked.

He hummed softly, reeling his line back in. Nothing was biting and he was getting too lost in thought anyway. “I’ve helped a lot of omega. My house became somewhat of a safehouse. I’d find them in trouble or someone would tell them to come to me and I’d hide them away and protect them until they could get somewhere safer. I’m used to being around omegas. Honestly, I thought if I ever did end up mating it would be with another omega.”

“That’s amazing that you did that.”

Changbin shook his head, waving a hand dismissively. “It’s just the right thing to do. People helped me when I was helpless. I only want to pass that kindness along.”

“You’re a good person, Changbin.” Seungmin said.

He shrugged. “I’m just trying to survive like everyone else.”

“No.” Seungmin insisted. “So many others step on anyone in their path while trying to survive, but you haven’t done that. You’ve gone out of your way and helped people. That’s honorable. Minho told me how you reacted about the possible pregnancy as well. That you will sacrifice your wants to protect any potential pups. I can’t think of many people who would do that in your situation.”

“It’s just my instincts. Why would my omega allow me to harm pups growing inside me? It would never happen.” He said.

Seungmin leaned closer, a seriousness in his chocolate eyes. “Yet it has happened, so many times.”

The notion turned his stomach. He couldn’t imagine doing that to his pups personally. A hand went to his belly. Maybe he just had more protective instincts than most. “Still. I don’t think it’s that uncommon, the way I feel.”

“Perhaps.” Seungmin said. “I would probably be the same way if I were you.”

“See.” Changbin said and the brunette laughed.

“You’re quite skilled at avoiding compliments.”

“Thank you.” He retorted, a cheeky smirk on his face.

Seungmin rolled his eyes instantly. “Oh, but you’ll accept *that* as a compliment?”

They both laughed and Changbin was grateful for the change in atmosphere. Everything had been too heavy since he woke up. “What were you doing when Minho found you?”

“Getting an awesome blowjob.” Seungmin stated plainly. “And I have to admit I’m still a little salty about being interrupted.”

It wasn’t an answer he had been expecting at all. His cheek turned red as he scratched the back of his neck. “Sorry about that…”

Seungmin laughed, shrugging and leaning back against the earth. “Those two will happily blow me later.”

“Which two?” He didn’t know why he was asking, blinding curiosity he supposed.

“Jinnie and Innie.” The other answered.

He didn’t know why his mind decided to conjure the image of it. Maybe it was the way Seungmin was reclined in that very moment. He could easily picture Hyunjin and Jeongin hovering above him, making out sloppily around the head of the other omega’s cock. He shivered and ripped his eyes away to look anywhere that wasn’t Seungmin. Why the hell was he even thinking about that? Maybe he needed to sneak off somewhere and jerk off again. He shook his head and tried to change the topic. “I guess Minhoo and I will leave in a few days to go see a healer and then go back to my home to pick up some of my things.”

“He mentioned that.” Seungmin said. “I’m sure it will be nice to bring some of your own things here.”

Changbin nodded. “I miss my books.”

“Plus, getting answers from the healer will be good. We need to know if we have to start planning for little ones or not.” Seungmin said and he took in a slow breath. Yes. He needed to know if he was or not. Where things went from here would be decided on it. “I wonder if you would have more than one.”

“No idea.” Changbin answered. “I never knew any of my family. I don’t know if multiples were common for them or not.”

Seungmin sat back up, looking over at him more intently. Changbin could see the movement in the corner of his eye, but he was still staring out at the treeline on the other side of the creek. “It doesn’t sound like you had a great life growing up.”

He shook his head. “No. I was passed around from place to place like a letter constantly being delivered to the wrong address. Then once I presented as an omega, well, I was just seen as an object, a toy to pass around. That’s when things went from bad to worse. Luckily, Jiyong, another omega, helped me escape it all. Then I found my place in the forest.”

“I’m glad you were able to escape. That life sounds awful. I’m so grateful I never went through that. So many omegas are treated so shitty.”

“What was it like?” Changbin asked. “Growing up somewhere nice.”

Seungmin smiled a bit sadly at him. “I’m sure you’ve heard by now how there were three packs, my family, Hyunjin family, and Minhoo’s family that shared lands where we grew up.”

“Yes, Minho told me some things about it.”

“Well, anywhere you went in our lands was safe. Alphas did what they were supposed to. They protected us. They were honorable and didn’t boast their power or fight with one another. They worked together. The betas filled in any role they needed to, making our little society run smoothly and the omega took care of making homes and spreading love. They ruled things probably more than the alphas really. The day to day decisions were left to them. I was raised to be strong and have good opinions on how to run a pack and keep a family together. Nothing was forbidden for us to do though. There was no ego if an omega wanted to learn to hunt and there was no mockery if an alpha loved to cook or sew. It was beautiful.”

“Why did you three leave then?” Changbin found himself asking.

Seungmin smiled. “I wanted to.”

“Why?”

He hummed. “I wanted to see more of the world. I wanted to expand our ways of life and have a pack that was my own, not just an extension of my family. Minho and Hyunjin refused to let me go alone. The two of them followed me like lost puppies.” He chuckled. “So the three of us left. We go back and visit here and there, but it’s been good for us to get out and establish our own pack.”

“So it was really you who led them here.” He said and the brunette nodded.

“Yup. Both of them were more than happy to go though. They’re still two alphas at the end of the day. They wanted freedom and to establish their independence. I think we’ve done a good job of it. Finding Innie and Felix was great for us. Now we have you too. Our pack is growing and that’s great.”

Changbin hummed. “Minho said as his mate I could claim the spot of pack luna, but I feel like that’s you, not me.”

Seungmin smiled. “We can do it together.” He suddenly stood up, holding out his hand. “What do you say?”

He stared at it for a long moment, his heart thumping against the carefully constructed armor he had built around it over the years. Seungmin’s blind and complete acceptance of him affected him more than he could put into words. Never had he felt so embraced in his life. Minho and this pack wrapped their arms around him in a way no one ever had. It made him feel guilty. He was truly only causing them problems and hardship. He made their lives complicated and yet, there was an open palm in front of him, inviting him closer, deeper into their world, their pack.

He slipped his fingers into Seungmin’s and nodded gently. “If you say so.”

“I do.” The other omega pulled him up to his feet. “And I say we should head downstream more because we haven’t caught shit up here.”

Changbin laughed and agreed easily. “Yes, let’s go.”

Seungmin hadn’t let go of his hand, but he didn’t fight it. They picked up their things with their free hands and walked down the riverbank in search of more fish.

Chapter End Notes

Omega bonding time is cuteeee. I love spunky but sweet omega Seungmin.

Thank you!!

Chapter 12

Chapter Summary

Minho and Changbin leave for their journey.

Tags: nervousness, hope, bonding, getting to know you, travel, some Ateez members appearance, twice member mentioned, babies, domestics, friendship, there's only one bed, trust, vulnerability.

Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for [notes](#)

It had taken a few days to get everything ready for their departure, but soon Minho and Changbin were waving goodbye to the pack and heading towards a healer.

He was nervous. He didn't know at this point if he was nervous at the possibility of being pregnant or not being pregnant. He had spent days thinking about it all. The more he thought about it the more he realized that it might actually be nice to have a baby. Minho would be a good father. He believed that easily. Maybe they would have something to focus on then. They could raise them together and bond over the love of their child. It would direct the focus off of one another.

Even though Changbin did not want a mate, the more he thought about it, the idea of a family and a pack was something he *did* want. His hand went to his stomach and he found himself hoping for something he never thought he would want.

The forest was active, birds and critters scurrying around everywhere. It had rained the day before they left, something else that had delayed their departure, and now it seemed nature was making up for time lost to the storms. The sky was beautiful, crystal clear and vibrant blue, the way it was only after a big rain storm.

“Watch your step.” Minho said, and Changbin had been so busy looking up at the vastness above them that he almost stepped into a muddy puddle.

“Oops.” He laughed. “That would've sucked.”

“Wouldn't want you having to walk with a wet foot the whole journey.” The alpha chuckled. “We should be able to get to the camp where the healer is by nightfall and then we can see her in the morning.”

“Sounds good.” He answered. “Is there somewhere we can sleep in the camp?”

“Yeah, they have some cabins for visitors.”

Changbin nodded. The idea of staying outside, exposed, with a possible baby in his womb unsettled him.

“You said your house is to the southeast, correct?”

He smiled, thinking about returning to his treehouse for his things did excite him. “Yeah. It’s outside the town of Easton.”

“The healer is east so we will just have to head south from there.” They fell into comfortable silence after that. They had gotten quite used to being beside one another. There was no tension in the air between them anymore. The first week had been awkward, but he got used to the alpha’s soft spoken ways. He rather liked that he was that way. It made the words Minho did speak more meaningful to him. “What’s your home like?”

“It’s in the trees.” He answered.

An eyebrow raised up the other’s forehead. “In them? How?”

“Jiyong Hyung and I built it that way. We found a tree with a good shape that was big and strong. Then we built a platform and made walls and a roof from there. That way it’s well hidden and away from predators on the ground.” Changbin smiled with pride. Minho knew who his Jiyong Hyung was by now. The older omega who had rescued him from his rocky life in society.

“Then it is truly a safehouse.” The alpha hummed. “Tell me more about it.”

Their conversation flowed after that, back and forth about different things. It was funny how fast time seemed to fly when he was with the alpha. Maybe it was because they were mates. He could feel all of the alpha’s emotions fluttering in his own stomach. It made it easy to get invested when Minho felt so excited or intrigued. Soon the blue sky was turning golden, vibrant rays of orange, yellow, red, and pink began to stroke across the heavens. As it did, a camp came into view, many tents and cabins, probably a mixture of sixty or so of them scattered around in rows that formed make-shift streets.

The scent of many people started to mingle into the air as they wandered up to the camp. An alpha was instantly in front of them. He had fierce eyes and a sharp jawline. His hair was shaved on the sides, and longer on the top. It was blond like Changbin’s own, but lighter, icier in tone.

“State your business.”

“My mate and I are here to see the healer.” Minho said. “We would like somewhere to sleep for the night so we can visit the healer in the morning.”

The alpha looked them over cautiously. “You don’t appear to be in need of a healer.”

Another voice suddenly chimed in. “Minho?”

Changbin watched his mate turn his head towards the voice, face lighting up. “Seonghwa!”

An dark brunette omega came scurrying over to them, smiling and bowing politely as he got up to them. “Minho! It’s been so long!”

“You know him?” The blond alpha asked.

Seonghwa nodded. “Him and his family were one of the ones who would come and sell their goods at the market my parents run.”

“Pretty sure my parents are still selling their things there.” Minho chuckled.

The brunette omega nodded. “I’m sure they are. How have you been? Oh, and who is this?”

Minho smiled and the deep and loving emotions that swelled in Changbin’s belly from the alpha were a bit overwhelming. The alpha undeniably cared for him. “This is my mate, Changbin.”

“This is my mate.” Seonghwa said, pointing at the blond alpha. “Hongjoong is his name.”

“Sorry for not being overly welcoming. I have to make sure I’m not letting anyone shady into my home.” Hongjoong said, bowing politely to them. “But if you’re a friend of Seonghwa then nice to meet you and your mate, Minho, Changbin.”

“Nice to meet you too, Hongjoong.” His mate said and he smiled at the other pair of mates.

“Nice to meet you both.” Changbin said.

“They said they’ll be spending the night.” Hongjoong said to the brunette omega.

“Come stay at our house.” Seonghwa said. “We have so much to catch up on anyway! I just made dinner. Come eat. I’m sure you’ve been traveling all day.”

“We have.” Minho said, smiling and beginning to follow Seonghwa deeper into the camp.

“Thank you.” Changbin smiled.

Hongjoong waved them goodbye. “I’ll be home in a bit. My watch is almost over!”

“Sounds good! I’m going to pick up Juyeon from Momo now.” Seonghwa said over his shoulder.

“Juyeon?” Minho asked.

The omega smiled, seemingly getting shy and looking down with rosy cheeks. Something that made Changbin’s inner omega spike with jealousy. “My son.”

The alpha gasped. “Your son? You have a son!”

Seonghwa nodded. “He’s six months old.”

“Congratulations.” Minho and Changbin said in sync. He didn’t want to be mean towards this omega, even if his inner beast was getting jealous. Seonghwa and Minho had history. They

knew each other and the information didn't sit well with his fickle inner omega. He tried to supply reasonable facts, like Seonghwa was mated and had a baby. There was no way he had any kind of romantic connection to Changbin's mate.

"Thanks." He giggled, the sound inflicting another wave of jealousy he swallowed down. "I was out picking berries with some of the others this afternoon so he's been with Momo. She's one of our babysitters here."

"This community has always been nice. That's why I'll always come here for a healer." Minho explained and Seonghwa looked over his shoulder at the two of them with concern.

"Are you here for a healer? Do you need to see them now?" He asked, worry warping his smile into a frown.

The alpha shook his head. "We can go in the morning. We, um..." His eyes fell on Changbin, silently asking if it was okay to talk about it.

"We want to see if I'm pregnant or not from my heat." He supplied.

"Oh my gosh! That's so exciting!" Seonghwa grinned as they walked up to a building. "One second!" He disappeared inside and Minho turned to Changbin.

"I had no idea Seonghwa ended up here." He said. "We used to play together as kids when we would go to market to sell our goods. Like he said, his parents run the marketplace. Hyunjin and Seungmin are going to be so excited to hear he's doing well. We were all friends."

"A small world." Changbin smiled. "I think he saved us from Hongjoong being overprotective too."

Minho nodded. "I don't think it was overprotective. An alpha should be like that about strangers coming to their home. I don't know when he got here. I haven't been here in years now, but he obviously cares a lot about this place being safe for his pack and family. I respect that."

He hummed softly. "I suppose that's true. Would you be like that if someone came to our den?"

"Absolutely." The alpha answered without an ounce of hesitation. Something about the confidence of the statement sent a shiver down Changbin's spine.

"Good to know." He whispered, shyly looking back at the door of the cabin Seonghwa dipped into.

A hand came over his shoulder. "I have very precious people inside that den, afterall."

Changbin felt his cheeks getting warm when Seonghwa appeared again, a bundle wrapped baby in his arms.

"Meet Juyeon!" He smiled, holding out the baby boy.

And if Changbin melted beyond words, well, he tried to keep that to himself.

Honestly, he hadn't had the chance to have many babies or infants in his life. Even the few he had seen were when he was young as well. Being an adult, having the possibility of a baby in his own life, and looking at little Juyeon really hit him hard. The baby's fuzzy brown hair, round and adorable eyes, pudgy cheeks and pouty lips were the most precious thing he'd ever seen. His tiny fingers, clenching in a tiny fist he was waving in the air as he kicked his feet and giggled sent him over the moon. He felt hearts in his eyes as he stepped closer.

"He's... he's so cute."

"Hopefully you'll have one on the way too!" Seonghwa smiled.

Minho kept his face neutral, but Changbin could feel the swirling of complicated and conflicting emotions in the alpha. He felt guilty if Changbin was pregnant, but he couldn't look at Juyeon and not feel intense longing for a family and baby in their life. He wanted a baby as much as he didn't want to make Changbin do something he didn't want to do.

"He's adorable, Seonghwa. I'm so happy for you." The alpha said and the other beamed.

"Thank you, Minho. I'll be hoping for the best with you two as well."

Changbin felt the storm only get more raging inside his mate. He decided to speak up, hoping to calm it. "I'm hoping too." He said, still staring at the small baby between them. "I know Minho would be an amazing father."

A burst of pure affection shot from Minho to Changbin. He wasn't surprised when the alpha grabbed his hand, squeezing it before seeming to realize what he was doing and pulling back. "I would try my best."

"You'd be amazing! Changbin's right." Seonghwa said. "Come on, let's get home and have some dinner."

They did just that. Seonghwa's stew was great, but Changbin couldn't get over Juyeon. He spent most of the night with the infant in his arms, melting as he chewed on his own fingers, making a slobbering mess but only endearing Changbin more. Hongjoong came home and he was actually extremely nice and interesting to talk to once his guard was let down.

He almost hated having to give up Juyeon when his parents decided it was time for everyone to go to bed. Changbin and Minho were given a futon for two, and a set of blankets and pillows and told they could sleep in Juyeon's room. Hongjoong and Seonghwa said they would keep him in their room. It was then it dawned on him they would sleep together in the same room.

The other mates had no idea about the strain in their relationship. They didn't know the distance and space kept between them.

"I'll sleep as close to the wall as I can. I'll just use the blankets. You can have the futon for yourself." Minho said once they were alone in the room. "So you can have space."

It wasn't exactly a large room and the baby's crib and rocking chair took up a lot of the floorspace. He appreciated the gesture, but it wasn't exactly worth it. "Just sleep here, Minho. It's alright. I know you won't do anything I didn't approve of. I trust you." He admitted because it was true. He trusted his mate at this point. Minho had kept every promise and been respectful of everything he'd asked since their initial rocky start.

"Are you sure?" The alpha asked and he nodded.

"Yes."

They rolled out the futon a bit awkwardly before they laid down side by side. Their shoulders pressing together as they both stared up at the ceiling. It was quiet for a while, clearly neither of them really trying to fall asleep. Then a small voice broke the silence. "Did you mean it?"

"What? That I trust you? Yes." Changbin said.

"Not that. Thank you for trusting me, but that wasn't what I meant." Minho said.

"What is it then?" He asked.

The alpha's voice only dropped lower, getting to a full whisper. "That you're hoping you are pregnant?"

He inhaled slowly before nodding. "Yeah... I am."

"What changed your mind?" His mate asked.

"The more I thought about it, the more I wanted it." He said. "Then seeing Juyeon today... Well, that just made me want it more."

"You were adorable with him." The alpha admitted.

Changbin felt his cheeks getting warm. "It would give us something to focus on too. It would fill some of the space between us I think."

Minho nodded. "That's true. Whatever happens, Changbin. I'll always be beside you now. Not just because I owe you that and more, but because I really want to be. I... I know you don't want to be true mates with me and that's okay. I just, I really do care about you no matter what. Please know that."

"I care about you too, Minho. Even if it's not romantic. You're important to me too." He said. It was easier to admit it in the dark of the night in little whispers than it would ever be during the daylight.

"Thank you for that." He said and Changbin easily agreed.

Silence fell back over them and with it came the call of sleep, finally. They had traveled all day, it was bound to catch up with them eventually.

Chapter End Notes

Oh these babies. 🥹 I love them so much.

Chapter 13

Chapter Summary

It's time to go to the healers.

Tags: instincts, snuggling, awkwardness, friendship, nervousness, bonding, twice member appearance, Jihyo because she's in all of my stories for some reason, medicine, hope, fear, anxiety, regret, past trauma, traumatic memories, mentions of rape, memories of violence and stabbing, vulnerability, avoidance, angst, break down, hurt/comfort, care, complicated feelings

Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for [notes](#)

Changbin woke up with warmth cradled around every part of him. The scent of Minho was intense too. It made his face scrunch with confusion. How did the alpha's scent get so strong? His eyes fluttered open and he saw pale skin. He pulled back, realizing he was completely tucked into his mate's neck. *Fuck*.

Their bodies had intertwined in the night, legs tangled together, arms wrapped around one another. He couldn't really blame his inner omega for reaching out and clinging to Minho. It was instinctual for them to be this way. He cleared his throat and gently shook the alpha who unconsciously wouldn't let go of him.

He groaned. "Five more minutes..."

"Minho." He said gently. "Please wake up."

"Huh?" He suddenly startled, eyes peeking open, blinking repeatedly as he obviously tried to take in the scene in front of him. "Changbin?"

"We, uh, ended up cuddling." He said, clearing his throat again and looking down shyly.

The alpha recoiled, pulling back and letting him go. "Oh, sorry... I didn't mean—"

Changbin cut him off, shaking his head. "I know. I'm not upset. It's our instincts."

"Yeah." He said softly before forcing himself to sit up. "We should probably get up anyway. We should see the healer and get on our way to your house." He was rubbing at his eyes, trying to jump start his body more than it wanted to be.

Changbin rolled up too, sitting beside the alpha. "Yeah. We should."

They cleaned up the room a bit robotically. Neither knew what to say as an awkward tension filled the space between them. Changbin was grateful when they made their way to the main room and Seonghwa was waiting with breakfast for them. Juyeon was giggling and adorable all over again. It was the distraction he needed. He played with the baby, ate his food, and then it was time to go. Time to see what the future would hold for them.

“Thank you for everything.” Changbin said, a smile on his face.

“Yes, it was great to see you again, Seonghwa. I’m glad you’re happy and have found a good mate. I wish you and your family much happiness.” Minho said and Seonghwa nodded, his lips upturned.

“It was my pleasure. I wish you guys luck with everything as well. It was great to see you again and to meet your mate.”

They waved goodbye and walked side by side to the healer down at the far end of the settlement.

“Nervous?” Minho asked.

“Yes.” How could he not be? He wanted this now. There was no taking that back. He watched the alpha’s hand twitch, clearly wanting to reach out, but holding back. Changbin moved instead, clasping their hands together. “We should act the part anyway.” He said, shyly looking away, staring at anything that wasn’t Minho as they grew closer to their destination. Honestly, he couldn’t ignore his inner omega’s longing for comfort as nerves crawled higher and higher up his throat.

“Yeah...” The alpha said softly, another bout of silence falling over them as they walked hand in hand to the healer’s.

They were at the door to the cabin before they knew it. It was marked with a red cross above the door, just as Seonghwa had told them it would be. The alpha reached up and knocked on the wooden structure, only seconds later a beta woman opened the door.

“Hello, are you Minho and Changbin?” She asked and they nodded easily. “Hongjoong stopped by earlier and told me to expect you both. Come in! I’m Jihyo, the town healer.”

Minho smiled, leading the way inside. “Ah, thank you. Nice to meet you, Jihyo. Are you new to this place? I remember an older woman being here.”

There was a sadness that darkened the beta’s brown eyes. “Lady Ara is no longer well enough to practice medicine. She’s coming towards the end of her days, sadly. I have trained with her since I was a little girl. I hope my skills will suffice though.”

“I’m sorry to hear that.” Changbin said.

“Yes, Lady Ara was very nice when I saw her before. I hope she finds some peace in these days and if you were trained by her, I’m sure you are very skilled.” The alpha said and Jihyo bowed slightly.

“Thank you. I appreciate your faith and kindness.” She straightened up and smiled, heaviness lifting from her eyes. “How can I help you two today?”

“We want to determine if I’ve conceived or not.” Changbin said, feeling his cheeks get red just saying it.

She hummed softly. “Alright. When was the possible conception?”

“My heat was about a month ago now.” He answered.

She nodded. “Have you been experiencing any symptoms?”

The nerves only grew the longer they were there. “Not really, but not everyone gets a lot of them, right?”

“That’s true. Some people have no idea until they start showing.” She smiled. “It’s good you came here to find out for sure.”

“That’s what we thought was best.” Minho said.

It was best because Changbin thought he would go insane if he sat around wondering if he was or wasn’t for much longer. His stomach was anxiously turning his breakfast around inside of it. Did that count as a pregnancy symptom?

“Yes. Well, let’s have you lay down on the table here and I’ll do an examination.” She said, pointing to the table covered in a cloth with a small rounded pillow for his head. Changbin went to let go of Minho’s hand to walk to the table, but the alpha wouldn’t let go, following him like a shadow instead. He knew by the ball of anxiety he could feel from Minho that the other was just as nervous and desperate for comfort. So, Changbin didn’t make a fuss. He kept their grips locked together and laid down on the table, taking a deep breath. No turning back now.

“I’m beside you no matter what.” Minho whispered.

The beta smiled at the two of them and it made Changbin’s face get redder. It felt like they shouldn’t even be crossing these lines and it really felt like no one should witness it if they did. “Alright, if you could lift up your shirt. You’ll probably feel some warmth and you’ll see my hands glow blue, but don’t be alarmed. It’s just the magic used to detect pregnancy.”

“Okay. Thank you.” Changbin said as he pulled his shirt up. Soon warmth was floating over his stomach. A soft blue glow radiating from Jihyo’s hands as she closed her eyes and started looking for their answers.

He stared intensely at her face, trying to get any hints. He was pretty sure he stopped breathing all together, but he couldn’t help it. Her face twisted slightly and he didn’t like it. He shouldn’t have gotten his hopes up. He shouldn’t have dreamed about this. All of this was a mistake.

“Do you sense anything?” Minho asked, voice shaking slightly at the end. The sound of it made it all so much worse. Now he knew Minho wanted this. If he wasn’t... he was letting

Minho down too. He had been stupid to admit he wanted this. It was all too risky.

Her hands stopped glowing and she pulled them back, an emotionless expression, a mask, sealing away her feelings as she opened her eyes and looked at them. "I'm very sorry. There's nothing. I am quite certain you are not pregnant."

Suddenly he remembered the time he was stabbed. Two alpha assholes we're trying to rape this omega who was small, skin and bones, starved, really. He was crying and helpless, but Changbin hadn't bulked up for no reason. He remembered the fight with them, the crash of his fist against one of their jaws. Then he remembered the cold steel blade that wedged into his side, slicing him open. It was the worst pain he had ever felt and this was entirely too similar. Just as cold, just as cutting. He steeled him, pushing himself up.

"Thank you, Jihyo." He got up.

"This can be delicate information to take, but it often takes multiple tries to conceive. Please don't be too hard on yourself, Changbin." She said, tone gentle.

Except there was so much she didn't know. There wouldn't be a next time. He and Minho weren't mates like that. They never would be. He pulled his hands out of the alphas as he stood up from the table. "I'll try." He whispered before he felt tears in his eyes. He didn't cry in front of people. He didn't show weakness like this.

So he took off running, right out the door of the cabin and into the woods. The sweet forest that had hidden him from all the world and all the pain for years and years. Nothing had ever been such a friend, such a comfort. He heard Minho yell out his name, but he ignored it, only running faster. It didn't matter if the alpha had already proven he could catch him. He just needed to run. It made the tears rolling down his cheeks feel less solid. They couldn't carve deep paths in his skin if they flew off from the intensity of his pace.

"Changbin!" Minho yelled again and it only made him cry harder. His vision was getting blurry and he couldn't see clearly anymore. He didn't see the root sticking up out of the ground and his foot caught, making him collide down to the earth faster than he could comprehend. He groaned before a whimper left him. A noise he would typically hate and protest, but there was no stopping it now. He curled in on himself, smearing dirt into his face even worse. He landed mostly on his shoulder and face. He tasted blood and it felt like his lip was split. Another whine left him when he heard Minho again. "Changbin!"

The alpha was dropping beside him just seconds later. "Alpha..." The word came out without his permission again, but he couldn't care.

"Oh, Changbin..." Minho cupped his face gently. "Where does it hurt? I'm here, please. Let me help you. Tell me where it hurts." Except the physical pain couldn't outweigh the spiked and painful feelings that had wrapped around his heart like thorn filled vines. He pointed to his chest. "Your chest? Like your ribs or your collar bones? I need you to explain it to me, Changbin."

"My heart." He said, a shuttering gasp of air being forced into his lungs as he started to cry all over again. Here was Minho, more worry and care on his face than Changbin deserved. He

knew their relationship was messy. It shouldn't have started, but he couldn't bring himself to regret that he was here. That he had this alpha in his life. Now he had let him down and he had let himself down. Was there something wrong with him? Is that why he didn't conceive? Jihyo's words not to be hard on himself came to mind, but he didn't know how to not beat himself up over this. "I really wanted..." He couldn't say it, but Minho understood. The alpha wrapped him in a hug. Calming pheromones started to fill the air around them as he was tucked into his mate's neck.

"Shh, Bin. I know this is painful. I know you were hoping."

"So were you." He whispered softly.

"It's not about me. Yes, it would've been amazing to raise a baby with you, but I am happy to have you in my life regardless. Despite everything, the beginning, the mistakes, the atypical mating we have, all of it doesn't matter to me because I still have you in my life. That's plenty. More than enough." The alpha said.

It only made Changbin cry harder because had anyone ever seen him as enough?

No. The answer was no. At least, not until Minho. The alpha who seemed to accept him completely. It didn't matter where he was, what he was doing, he was just allowed to be himself. He pushed farther into his mate, burrowing into his neck and fisting his hands into the other's shirt.

"Thank you." He found himself saying. He lacked any other words. No one had ever been so tender with him when he was so broken.

"There's no need to thank me. I told you I'll be beside you no matter what."

And every day that went by Changbin believed that a little more. He nodded against the other's skin and took in another deep breath of his scent. Minho caressed his back gently, humming softly in his ear until his tears ran dry and all of the tension dissipated from his body. He ended up limp against the alpha. It was something he should be afraid of, but he couldn't be when it felt so safe and warm in that moment.

"Bin." Minho whispered softly after a while.

"Hm?" He answered.

"I don't want to rush you, but if we are going to travel to your house today, we need to get moving. If not, we need to set up some form of camp. We can't just stay out in the open like this." The alpha spoke softly, clearly giving him the choice. Minho was right though. They should get moving.

"We can get moving. I'm going to need help." He said, getting embarrassed all over again. "Standing up is going to be hard with how much my instincts took over..."

"I'll help you. Don't worry."

They got him to his feet and it took a little but he got himself moving again on his own. His shoulder was aching from his fall. His jaw and lip weren't much better, but he told Minho he was fine. It wasn't anything that would kill him. In a few days he would be good as new.

"I'll lead the way." He said and Minho easily let him take command, another thing that made him admire the alpha. The list was getting longer and longer. It made Changbin feel like his life was getting more and more complicated.

Chapter End Notes

Shall we cry in the comments together?

Thank you for reading!!!

Chapter 14

Chapter Summary

Minho and Changbin arrive at the omega's cabin only to find it occupied.

Tags: travel, surprise, friendship, getting to know you, bonding, bonds, connection, comfort, snuggling, peace,

Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for [notes](#)

The last rays of sun were disappearing when Changbin saw the familiar shape of the tree his home was built in.

“It’s just up there.” He said, pointing and holding in a hiss of pain because he really shouldn't have pointed with his left arm, moving his injured left shoulder.

“Good.” Minho said. “It’ll be pitch dark before long. We probably shouldn’t have traveled during the new moon.”

“Probably not.” He echoed, knowing how intimidating a moonless night in the woods could be. They got to the base of his tree and as he looked up, he saw light, just barely visible in a crack between two slates of wood. “Wait.”

“What is it?” Minho asked and he pointed up, with his right arm this time.

“Light.”

“Why would there be light?” He asked.

“There shouldn’t be. Someone must have discovered it and is in there.” Changbin started to sniff around. His nose rarely led him astray. He smelled an alpha first, the alarms in his head blazing before he caught a second scent. One that was familiar and belonged to an omega.

“Chan?” He questioned.

“Who?” His mate asked.

“I smelled an alpha, but also an omega I housed here once when he was in a bad situation. His name’s Chan. There’s no distress in the air though.” He paused and maybe it wasn’t the smartest idea, but he yelled up. “Chan? Is that you?”

There was rustling and then silver hair, curly and a mess as usual, came into view. Chan’s blue eyes sparkled even in the low light. He was smiling down at them when the alpha he had

smelled appeared. He had wavy ginger hair and he was slim, especially compared to Chan. “Changbin? Is that really you?”

“Yes. What are you doing here?” He asked, reaching for the hidden lever of the tree base that released the rope ladder to climb up into the house.

Chan laughed. “Ah, well. You know me. Got into trouble. Couldn’t think of anywhere safer than here. We’ve been here for two weeks. Where have you been? And who’s this?” He pointed down at Minho.

“We’ll come up and I’ll explain.” He said. After all, they were yelling back and forth about twenty or so feet apart. “Follow me.” He directed the statement to Minho. The alpha followed him up the ladder and soon the four of them were inside the one and only room of Changbin’s home. It was pretty spacious, all things considered. He always had kept the main floor open. His bed was shoved in the back left corner. There was a nest in the back right corner that had shelves and piles of books surrounding it. Towards the front right corner was a low table with pillows to sit on and in the left front corner was the kitchen, a wood burning stove with burners on top and a table to work at as well as a basin of water. He still remembered how heavy it was and how many ropes and tries it took to hoist that stove into the house, but it was there. It had kept him warm and fed for years. “I can’t believe you’re here.” He said, coming up and hugging Chan automatically. The two of them had lived together for the better part of a year. Chan was the person he had gotten the closest to in his adult life, really. One of the few people he considered a real friend, maybe even a best friend.

“Ah, well. I can’t just do what I’m supposed to, so.” He shrugged. “What the heck happened to your lip?”

He had forgotten about how he must look. “Ah, I tripped on a root. I’m fine, but what do you mean you can’t do what you’re supposed to?” Changbin asked, head tilting in curiosity as he looked at the other omega.

Chan scratched the back of his neck and sighed. “Well, you remember when I left here, my family and I had come to an agreement.”

Changbin easily remembered. Chan had been a runaway omega. His family was trying to force him to mate with an alpha he didn’t like. While running away, Changbin found him. Guilt had gotten to the silver haired omega and he started setting up meetings to see his family and try to come to an agreement. Changbin had attended every meeting, making sure they didn’t just take him or force him to do something he didn’t want to do. Eventually, they agreed that Chan would give a different alpha from a strong family a chance to court him. If he didn’t like him he could refuse, but then he would have to agree to another courting him. He decided it was good enough. He got to know the alphas and had a choice at least this way. Before they were trying to mate him off without even a single date or meeting.

“Yes, you were going to let alphas court you until you found one you liked from their list of candidates and then you’d pick one of them.” He said and Chan nodded.

“Yeah, well, then I went to the castle of one of the alphas. He was pretty nice. We were getting along okay. I had free range of the castle, but you know I like to be in the woods and

all of that. I kept going to the stables to take out horses and then I kept going to the stables to talk to the sweet and spicy stableboy..." Chan's eyes drifted to the ginger alpha. "Then maybe I fell in love with him and mated him and pissed my entire family off and had to go on the run again?"

"Maybe you did that." Changbin said, laughing despite the situation.

"Yeah, so this is my mate, Jisung." He said, face red and spreading in a smile.

Changbin turned to the ginger and smiled. "Nice to meet you, Jisung. You must be special if you got him to finally settle down."

The other laughed and shrugged. "Must be, but I think he's the special one really. Those royal alpha idiots don't know how to see someone's actual worth. They just see babymakers and that's bullshit."

Changbin was glad to hear it, even if the thought of making a baby sent a twinge of pain echoing around his chest cavity. "Glad you know he's more than that." He said.

"So are you going to introduce this dark and handsome alpha behind you or what?" Chan asked, gesturing to Minh.

His mate had stayed quiet this whole time, just observing politely, but now he stepped forward, putting his hand out. "I'm Minh. Nice to meet you both."

"He's..." Changbin stared deeply at the black haired alpha. His slight smile and kind brown eyes. He's someone irreplaceable, he thought. "He's my mate, actually."

"Really?" Chan gasped. "You actually mated, Binnie?"

How many conversations had he and Chan had about how he never wanted to mate. He wasn't exactly surprised by the other omega's shock about it all. "Yeah. It... Well, it was a misunderstanding, but I did."

"What does that mean?" Chan asked, eyes flitting between the two of them. Changbin was sure his split lip and injured appearance wasn't helping the image. He wanted to explain it all delicately, but he wasn't sure how.

Then Minh put a hand over his shoulder. He didn't want to make the alpha look bad, but he didn't want to lie to Chan either. He didn't know what to say when his mate spoke up for him. "It was my misunderstanding. Changbin had gone into heat and I chased him without knowing he didn't want a mate."

"Why were you in heat?" Chan asked.

"The whole area where the herb grows to the west burned in a fire. I went into heat before I could get to another place where it grows. Minh found me and thought I wanted to be chased. So he chased me." He said. "He's been great though. We are keeping things platonic between us, but even so, he's been a very good alpha and friend to me. His whole pack has embraced him, really."

“Oh, you have a pack?” Jisung spoke up and Minho nodded.

“Yes, I do. Another alpha, two betas, and another omega.” Minho explained.

“Are you the pack alpha?” Jisung asked.

“He is.” Changbin answered, a smile pulling to his lips despite the split in it. “And a great one at that.”

“Wow.” Chan said, reaching out and taking Changbin’s hand gently. “That must have been a lot. When did that happen?” The other omega was pulling him towards the nest. It was so easy to follow. Many nights the two of them curled up in this nest when they lived together. Sometimes they were quiet, just reading beside one another, other times they talked for hours until all the words in the universe seemed used up.

“It’s been about a month now.” He said.

“Not that long ago then.” Chan said as the two of them sat down. He watched Minho and Jisung take a seat at the table, the two taking the hint that the omegas wanted to talk amongst themselves.

“No.” He said, finding himself easily melting into the nest. He had missed this place a lot more than he even realized. After everything that happened, the familiarity of it and the comfort were like a balm on his emotionally weary soul. “But of all the alphas in the world, he has to be one of the best I could’ve ended up with. He respects me, my space, and my wishes. It isn’t ideal, but I’m at peace with it. I’ve been happy to be in a pack, actually.”

“I could see you liking pack life.” Chan said. “You act like you like to be alone, but you actually love being around people.”

Changbin smiled because he felt good to be understood so easily. Him and Chan had been really close when he stayed with him. Honestly, if there was someone he had thought of mating, it was Chan. The other omega was so sweet and caring. He was very dedicated and hard working. Everything he did made Changbin respect him more. It hadn’t been very easy letting him go back to his family, but he couldn’t do much about it.

Having Chan suddenly return into his life again made him happier than he could say. He didn’t want to be apart from him again. Maybe they could come stay with them... would Minho allow that? Would that pack be okay with that? He didn’t know, but he wanted Chan and his mate to stay close to them if nothing else.

“You still know me so well.” He said gently.

The other hummed, dipping his head into Changbin’s shoulder sweetly. “Of course I do. You’re still the best friend I’ve ever had, you know?”

It made his heart beam, reaching out and running his fingers into the mess of Chan’s silver curls. “I think you’re one of the only friends I’ve ever really had.”

“Aww, Binnie.” Chan closed the space between them, burrowing into a snuggle. He didn’t care what either of the alphas across the room thought about it. He wanted to treasure this moment of reuniting with Chan. “I missed you.”

“I missed you too.”

After everything that had happened since he left the cave with Minho, with the ache of his disappointment about not being pregnant, he couldn’t imagine something he needed more. The comfort of the other omega being by his side again was a balm to his soul and he found his eyes fluttering shut before long. He was exhausted and being inside his own nest with someone he trusted and loved dearly was exactly the medicine he needed. It wasn’t long before he heard Chan’s soft snoring and then both of them were fast asleep.

Minho watched as Chan and Changbin got closer and closer in the nest. The two eventually ended up falling asleep. Silver curls were tucked under Changbin’s chin as he had an arm draped around the other omega.

Him and Jisung had been chatting for a bit now. Random getting to know you questions, but Minho was surprised how easily the conversation flowed between them.

“It must be really hard.” The ginger alpha suddenly said, both of their eyes now resting on the two omegas. “I can’t imagine my mate actively rejecting me.”

“He spends a lot of time with me. We’re together a lot. We hunt, fish, hike, whatever I’m doing, he’ll come along. That’s been the only thing keeping me sane. I have him in my life in ways that outweigh the gaps, well, mostly, at least.”

Jisung reached over and pat his shoulder lightly. “You’re a good alpha. Not many would respect his boundaries the way you are. I really respect you for it, even if we just met.”

Minho smiled. “Thank you. I feel so bad it happened in the first place without his consent... it never should’ve been like this. Is it bad I regret the pain it caused him but not the fact that he’s in my life now?”

“No.” Jisung said. “I would think less of you if you regretted your mate himself. Especially since it wasn’t his fault. The whole thing was just a bad roll of the dice, really.”

Minho nodded. “Yes, but he’s not bad. I’ll never think of him that way. He’s... he’s too precious.” He suddenly felt shy, face feeling warm. “Sorry. I probably shouldn’t be dumping all these things on you. We just met, after all.”

“Nahh.” Jisung said, waving a hand. “I’d rather have this. This is real and considering our omegas seem completely content in their nest together, I’m thinking we might want to really get to know each other.” He laughed lightly. “I’ve never seen him cling to someone like that.”

“Neither have I.” Minho echoed the statement.

Jisung smiled. “Chan’s talked a lot about Changbin in the time I’ve known him. They have a special bond, those two. It might be best not to separate them again.”

Minho stared into the other’s dark chocolate eyes. There was something more in the layers behind those irises, but he didn’t know what. He found himself wanting to find out, however. Jisung was interesting. He was laid back, but Minho somehow knew it wouldn’t be pretty if you crossed him. He glanced over at the two omega and had to agree. It seemed like separating them would be a bad idea, but he also hated the flare of jealousy he felt seeing Changbin snuggled with someone else. He didn’t get the privilege of laying with his mate in a nest. Well, he supposed they got to sleep next to each other last night, but that was out of necessity, not desire. “To keep them together you’d have to come with us.” He said instead of any of the more complicated thoughts in his head.

“Would you be against that? We don’t have a pack and I’m getting more and more worried the longer we stay here.” Jisung admitted, toying with his fingers idly. “His family knows Changbin’s house was somewhere in these woods. It’s probably only a matter of time before they find us.”

“If Changbin is okay with it, I don’t mind. You can stay with us until you both figure out what you want to do. If we all get along then maybe you two will join us, if not, that’s okay too.” Minho said, shrugging casually.

“Those two are going to want to stay together, I’m pretty sure.” Jisung said. “Honestly I thought me, Chan, and Changbin would end up living here together as a pack for a while at least so I already had that in mind.”

Something about that stirred jealousy in him as well. The idea of his mate being around or a part of another alpha’s pack didn’t sit well with him. He cleared his throat, looking around at nothing in particular just to be free of the thought. “Like I said, if he’s okay with it, so am I.”

Jisung hummed softly. “That made you jealous, didn’t it? I’m sorry. I didn’t mean anything like that by it.”

Minho looked up and wondered how this man he had met not even two hours ago could read him so well. “Ah, I figured you didn’t mean it like that. I wasn’t going to say anything. It’s just... difficult with the space between us.”

“I’m sure it is.” Jisung said. “Plus not having anyone to be intimate with must be really difficult.”

“I have my pack.” Minho said. “I suppose I didn’t mention we are a poly pack. Three of us have been together a long time, and then two more for three years now. The five of us are together though. Just Changbin isn’t.”

Jisung hummed. “Isn’t that really hard on him?”

Minho sighed, letting his head drop down on top of his arm on the table. He looked up sideways at Jisung. Maybe it was too submissive a gesture, but he found himself very comfortable with the other alpha. “I’m sure. We try to keep it out of his face though. I don’t

want to be disrespectful of him. He, well, his inner omega gets jealous. He says he doesn't mind if I'm with the others, but his inner omega will get jealous and act out. It happened a few times already."

Jisung nodded. "It's rough for you both, it seems. A constant war within yourselves, but I think it's amazing you're still being respectful of each other and making the best of the situation."

"I'm trying." He said, eyes trying to flutter closed.

"You're tired though. I can tell." The ginger said gently. "We should sleep."

"I'll just sleep here." He said half heartedly.

"No. Go get in the bed." Jisung said, pushing at his shoulder, something that should've alarmed him, but didn't. He just smiled slightly and pulled his head up. He couldn't figure out why he was so comfortable with the other.

"Then what about you?"

"I'll just sleep on the floor or whatever. It's not a big deal." Jisung said.

Minho reached out and tugged the ginger's wrist. "The bed's big enough. Come on."

The two of them laid down without another word, a respectful space between them as a yawn escaped Minho.

"We can talk to them tomorrow about it all." He said and the ginger nodded.

A yawn stretched Jisung words as he started to speak. "Sounds good. Night, Minho."

"Night."

And before long all four of them were fast asleep.

Chapter End Notes

FINALLY WE HAVE CHAN AND JISUNG TOO!!!!!!

Whole pack coming together!!!

Thank you!!

Chapter 15

Chapter Summary

Changbin wakes up the next morning and it has to go through his emotions.

Tags: fondness, comfort, reflection, crying, sadness, grieving, care, bonding, curiosity, communication, honesty, decisions, excitement, hugs, bashfulness, introductions, drama, fainting,

Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for [notes](#)

Changbin woke up before the others. He smiled as he was greeted by Chan's sleeping face. It got even wider when he found the two alphas sharing his bed. Minho was squeezed on the thin edge of it and Jisung was starfished out across the rest of the space. He laughed to himself and carefully untangled himself from Chan. He got up, stretching and walking out to the deck of the house. It felt so good to be in a familiar place. His feet guided him by muscle memory as he sat down, his legs dangling off his balcony as he looked out into the trees. The sun was glistening through the green leaves of the trees all around him and he found his hand going to his stomach like it had for days now.

He inhaled slowly. The emotions crawled up his throat, tickling it with a sense of sickness. His hope of a child hadn't been around for long, but it had been deep and real. It hurt that he wasn't pregnant, but he had to figure out how to let it go. It wasn't meant to be. He sat in the familiar silence of the forest and let himself cry. His tears fell gently, no violent sobs or chest heaving this time. Just a quiet release of the sadness in his chest. As the sun rose higher, it warmed his face, drying his tears to his skin.

He smelled Minho before he heard the door to the treehouse open behind him. The alpha came out onto the balcony, shutting the door behind him. He didn't say anything at first, just taking a seat beside him. "Do you want to talk about it?" He asked after a while.

"I was just grieving and letting go of the what if, the possibility." He answered. "But I'm okay. I promise."

Minho hummed softly. "There are ways to achieve that goal without us having to, you know." He gestured between the two of them. "If you really wanted."

Changbin looked over to the alpha and wondered which part of him fell out of heaven. It couldn't have been all of him. He wasn't perfect, but he was so good, so kind and caring. "Maybe someday, but I don't think I'd be up to getting my hopes up again anytime soon."

The other nodded. Silence fell between them again when the alpha's palm came into the corner of his field of vision. It was open, face up, revealing the intricate lines that uniquely

decorated the flesh. It was a quiet invitation, resting in the morning air on top of Minho's thigh. Changbin stared for a moment before lifting his own hand, placing it on top and letting their fingers interlock around one another.

This is what was happening, after all. He was weaving his life together with this alpha. He couldn't think about it more deeply than that. The can of worms was too big, too daunting. He was glad when Minho gave him something else to focus on.

"Jisung and I were talking for a while last night. Even after you two fell asleep." He said.

"Oh?" He turned his head to look at his mate. He was surprised when the other gave a small and almost bashful little smile.

"Yeah. I don't know what is about him, but I feel really comfortable with him. It's like I've known him for a really long time or something. It's weird." He shrugged. "Anyway, we were talking about the two of you. You and Chan seem very close. Jisung said Chan has talked about you a lot, but you've never really talked about Chan. I was just... curious, I guess?"

It was his time to get a little bashful. He looked back out into the trees, eyes following some squirrels jumping from branch to branch. "He's probably the one of the only true and real friends I've had in my life. I guess I haven't really talked about him because... Well, it hurt to think about. I didn't love it when Chan went back to his family. I didn't really want him too, but I had to let him live his life. I mean, it was his entire family versus me. I was just a lonely omega in the woods. Those were the people he had grown up around his whole life. So, of course he went back to them. That's only natural, but I missed him a lot. I would've been happy to be a small pack with him for the rest of our lives, honestly."

Minho didn't say anything for a long moment. "I'm going to ask you something and please, try not to get upset about it. I just need to know."

"I know what you're going to ask." Changbin said. "It's okay. Go ahead."

The alpha took in a slow breath. "Did you ever think about mating him?"

"A few times, yes. He's the only one I ever thought about it with. In general I always told myself *if* I did mate, it would be to another omega." He admitted, something he had never told his mate before.

Minho nodded. "I see."

"But I wanted him in my life and as my friend more than I wanted anything else." He clarified.

"I will be honest, part of me is quite jealous of him. Even seeing the two of you fall asleep together, but the other part of me is really happy to see you with someone you're so comfortable with." The alpha said. "Jisung and I were talking and he thinks we shouldn't separate the two of you again. That Chan really wants to be around you too. We talked about them coming back to the den with us."

“Really? Would you really be okay with that? What about the others?” Changbin started and Minho looked at him, stopping the words.

“Do you want them to come back with us, yes or no?” He asked and something about the authority in his voice sent a shiver down Changbin’s spine.

“Yes.”

“Then they’ll come. The others won’t mind and I want you to be happy, Changbin. If having Chan in your life again will make you happier than I am all for it.” Minho said. “I just ask that the two of you stay as friends.”

“He has a mate now, Minho. Like I said, I wanted him as my friend more than I ever wanted anything else. We’ll just be friends. I promise.” He squeezed their joined hands.

The alpha smiled. “Then I’m happy to have them come stay with us for a while. I told Jisung if we all get along well, maybe they can fully become part of the pack. I like Jisung a lot already and if you think so highly of Chan then I’m sure he’s an amazing person too.”

“Thank you, Minho.” He pulled his feet back in and under himself. He crouched beside his mate as he pulled their hands apart. The alpha was looking at him and he felt his cheeks going red, but he didn’t let it stop him. He pressed forward, wrapping his arms around Minho and pulling him into a hug. “I know things didn’t start the best between us... but I’m glad you’re the alpha that chased me. I think you’re the best one I could’ve ended up with.” He said and an explosion of joy bloomed in his stomach from Minho. He pulled back before he could reply, embarrassment taking over. He pushed into the house and was red faced as he found Chan and Jisung sitting side by side on the edge of the bed.

“You okay?” Chan asked. “Your face is all red.”

“Yeah.” He answered, laughing and looking away. He headed over to his stacks of books, starting to look through them because he needed a distraction from all the gooey emotions gathering in his stomach from Minho. “Just flushed from the air outside. It’s brisk this morning.” He said. “So, um. Minho and I were talking about you guys coming back to our den with us?” Even the phrase ‘our den’ made his blush worse. What was happening to him and his life? He tried to clear his mind.

“I was just telling Chan that he and I talked about it last night.” Jisung said. “Are you onboard with it?”

“Absolutely.” Changbin answered and then Chan was squealing with joy. Giggles started spilling from his lips as he crossed the room and practically tackled him in a backhug.

“Binnie! We get to live together again! I’m so excited!” Chan said, squeezing him harder.

“Me too.” He smiled, easy and genuine because he was very excited to live with Chan again. He had missed him.

Minho came back in shortly and Changbin seemed to not be able to look him in the eyes, but he couldn't think about it. Instead they made breakfast and packed up everything they wanted to take from the house to the den. It ended up being a lot, but Changbin had a wagon they loaded everything onto. The four of them were able to shift and pull it without too much trouble.

The sun was finishing setting as they got to the den. Hyunjin came out to greet them, confusion clear on his face as he saw four wolves instead of two.

“Alpha.” Hyunjin said. “Who are these two?” They all shifted back and Changbin watched as Hyunjin's green eyes got wide as saucers. “Oh my god...” He said, hands going over his mouth as he stumbled backwards. His eyes were roving over every inch of Chan and Jisung. Instantly the ginger alpha got defensive, putting his mate behind him.

“What are you staring at?” Jisung asked, eyebrows furrowed. Chan was peeking over the ginger's shoulder to look at Hyunjin who looked like he was about to pass out.

“Hyunjin?” Minho asked, coming up to his second in command and putting a hand on his shoulder. “Are you okay?”

“Them... they... oh my god.”

Then they all watched in horror as Hyunjin passed out, Minho barely catching him before his head hit the stone wall of the cave.

Chapter End Notes

Oh, Hyunjin. Haha. I mean, I'd do the same in response to naked Chan and Jisung, tbh. hahahahaha.

Binnie and Minho hugged! And held hands! We are making progress!! lmao.

Thank you for reading and commenting!!!

Chapter 16

Chapter Summary

Chaos breaks out as they scrambled to get a passed out Hyunjin to wake up.

Tags: worry, concern, panic, disbelief, hopeless Hyunjin, soulmate energy, excitement, good alpha Minh, banter, introductions, pack dynamics, defensiveness, protectiveness, irritation, jealousy, misunderstanding, oblivious Chan, flirting, love,

Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for [notes](#)

It had been chaos getting Hyunjin inside. Seungmin, Felix, and Jeongin raced outside as soon as they saw him faint. Changbin watched as Minh lifted the other alpha, carrying him inside. He was laid out on some furs in the living room. Seungmin got a towel with some water on it and began dabbing the brunette alpha's head.

“What the hell happened?” Seungmin asked.

“I don't know.” Minh said, hovering beside Changbin. The two of them were crouched next to Hyunjin. “We shifted back, he looked at Chan and Jisung and then passed out.”

Felix and Jeongin had taken the two newcomers somewhere into the cave, Changbin wasn't sure where, but he appreciated the two betas handling them while they tried to figure out what the hell was happening with Hyunjin.

A moment later, the brunette's face twisted, a groan coming out as his eyelids fluttered open. “What... what happened?”

“You passed out.” Minh said. “You saw Changbin's friend Chan and his mate and then you passed out.”

“Do you know them or something?” Seungmin asked and then Hyunjin seemed to remember it all. He gasped and his hands came up over his mouth again.

“I felt it.” He said.

“Felt what?” Seungmin asked.

“That magical feeling!” Hyunjin declared. “They... They're meant to be my mates! I just know it!”

Changbin's mouth fell open at the statement. “What?”

Seungmin sighed. “Hyunjin, that’s not something you can just know. Even if you’re really good at reading people. You can’t just know someone is supposed to be your mate.”

Hyunjin sat up, tilting toward Seungmin and looking at him with stars in his eyes. “But I do know, Minnie. I’ve been waiting my whole life to get this feeling. This is it. It’s them.”

Changbin had to resist the urge to call Hyunjin crazy. He had heard about Hyunjin’s strange people reading skills, but he was with Seungmin. There was no way to just know someone was supposed to be your mate, let alone two someones.

“Hyunjin.” Minho spoke up. “I’m not going to debate what your feelings are, but you have to get to know them before you do anything. Do you understand me? They’re going to be staying here anyway. Changbin wants Chan to be near him since they’re friends. You need to not be rash and make problems. Jisung was already feeling defensive about how you looked at Chan. They’re mates. If you befriend them and they come to like you, you can see where things go, but you can’t force your feelings onto them. They don’t know you.”

Hyunjin sighed, rolling his eyes. “Obviously, Hyung. I’m not going to go jump them or something, but I know I’m right about this! Give me enough time and I promise, the three of us will be together!”

“If you say so.” Minho said, sighing softly.

“How are you supposed to get to know them if you pass out when seeing them?” Seungmin teased, jabbing Hyunjin in the shoulder with his finger.

The alpha pouted. “Shut it. I was just shocked. I won’t pass out again.”

“Please don’t.” Seungmin said. “I get worried and people know I really care about you. Ruins my aloof image.”

That made them all laugh, Seungmin just smirking.

“We should probably have actual, proper introductions then.” Minho said.

“I’ll go find them.” Changbin said, getting up and following his nose to the deeper tunnels in the cave. He found the other four outside the bathing pool, sitting around on the rocks.

“Is Hyunjin okay?” Felix was the first to ask and he nodded.

“Yeah, he’s okay. He just got really... surprised.” Changbin said. “Sorry about that.” He glanced at the two newcomers.

“It’s alright.” Chan said. “I’m just glad he didn’t get hurt. We definitely didn’t mean to startle him so badly.”

Jisung was quieter. He just nodded, his arms crossed in front of him. “Yeah.” He said.

“Anyway, you can all come back out to the living room and we can do some proper introductions.” He smiled and turned, all of them following him.

Soon the eight of them were in one room. Changbin got a strange feeling in his chest as he walked up to Minho and stood beside him. Looking around, they really looked like a proper pack. It wasn't something he thought he'd ever see in his life. He never really dreamed of having this many people around him, but now he wanted them to be by his side. It was comforting and not much in his life had been that.

“So, everyone.” Minho started. “Now that we are all a bit more calm. This is Chan and Jisung. Chan and Changbin are good friends. The two of them lived together for a while in the past. Jisung is Chan's new mate and they're in a bit of trouble so we offered for them to come and stay with us. Possibly long term, depending on how everything goes.”

“Oh, really?” Hyunjin said, smiling and staring at Chan and Jisung with entirely too fond a gaze. “That's wonderful. I'm sorry about earlier. I... I usually have good instincts when I meet people and can read a lot about them. I just, I read an overwhelmingly good amount of things about the two of you. I'm Hyunjin, by the way.”

Chan started smiling right away, the trusting and kind omega that he was. “Oh, really? That's so sweet. I hope we live up to those things! It's nice to meet you, Hyunjin.”

Changbin didn't miss the way Jisung fidgeted. The way he dipped his shoulder around Chan so he was standing more in front of the silver haired omega.

“Oh, I think you will.” Hyunjin said, giggling and scrunching his nose.

“Anyway.” Jisung suddenly cut the exchange off, stepping out in front of Chan and obstructing the view of him even more. “Thank you for having the two of us. Chan's family isn't exactly happy about our mating so we are happy to be in a safer place.”

“We're happy to have you.” Changbin smiled at the mated pair.

“Absolutely!” Felix grinned. “The more the merrier!”

Seungmin stepped up to them, holding out a hand that they both took easily. “Yes, welcome. I'm Seungmin. I'm guessing you've been introduced to Felix and Jeongin.”

“Yeah.” Jisung answered. “We exchanged names earlier.”

“Perfect.” Seungmin said.

Minho smiled at all of them. “There are plenty of rooms to choose from in the tunnel you all just came from. If you want to pick one out, it can be yours. My room is down there as well, but the others are in those other two tunnels.” The pack alpha pointed towards them. “They're short tunnels that end in rooms.”

“Great.” Chan said, clapping his hands together with excitement. “We'll go pick one out!”

“I can help you!” Hyunjin said, jumping at the opportunity. “I know the tunnels really well.”

Changbin saw Jisung about to reject him, but Chan's chipper nature was faster.

“Oh, that would be great!” The omega grinned. “Thank you, Hyunjin!”

“You’re welcome.” The brunette grinned, slinking by the mated pair and leading the way into the tunnels.

Seungmin sighed, shaking his head. “He’s going to make a mess of this.”

“What’s with him?” Jeongin asked. “He’s got like hearts in his eyes.”

“He finally got his magical feeling.” Seungmin said. “He’s convinced those two are meant to be his mates.”

“I’ve told him to not push it and get to know them, but you see how that’s going.” The pack alpha gestured towards the tunnel they had disappeared down.

Felix shook his head. “He’s not being subtle at all.”

“No, he’s not.” Changbin said. “And I can tell Jisung is getting defensive of Chan.”

“Of course he is.” Minho sighed. “Another alpha is flirting up a storm with his mate.”

“And Chan isn’t going to notice. He’s just going to think Jinnie’s being friendly and nice.” Changbin said. “He’s a bit oblivious that way.”

Minho sighed. “We’ll have to keep a close eye on them.”

“For sure.” Seungmin echoed the sentiment.

“This room is nice because it’s a little warmer. It’s close to the baths so it heats the rocks a little. The cave can get chilly.” Hyunjin said.

“It’s a nice size too.” Chan smiled.

Jisung watched as Hyunjin put a hand gently on top of Chan’s shoulder and he had to bite back a growl. He grabbed his mate's waist, tugging him closer. “Look at this.” He said, pointing at some flat pieces of rocks that would make good shelves. “We could use these as shelves.”

“Yeah, that will work nicely. I like this room the best for sure.” Chan leaned his head against Jisung's shoulder. The ginger alpha smirked, glancing back over his shoulder at Hyunjin. The brunette was staring blatantly. What the hell was wrong with this guy? Why the fuck was his eyeing up a someone else’s mate? It was so rude to look at another alpha’s omega and the whole thing was making him angry.

“Yeah. This room will work.” He said. “Thanks. If you don’t mind though, my mate and I would like some space to settle in.”

Hyunjin nodded, heading looking empty as his eyes kept staring. “Sure. Of course. See you both later.” He waved his fingers, looking back over his shoulder two times before finally disappearing out of view.

“What is wrong with that guy?” Jisung asked and Chan tilted his head to the side in confusion.

“What do you mean?” He asked. “He’s super nice.”

“You’re not seeing the way he’s staring at you.” He said, crossing his arms over his chest.

Chan laughed. “Pfft, yeah right. He’s just friendlier than most alphas. There’s nothing wrong with that. I think you’re being overprotective. He’s not going to do anything. We’re mated, after all. You need to give him a fair chance.”

Jisung sighed. One of the things he loved about Chan was how open and caring he was, but it also made him quite naive, but maybe Jisung was judging too much. He supposed they didn’t know Hyunjin at all. Maybe he shouldn’t think the worst. “Alright, fine. I’ll try to be more open minded, but just don’t let your guard down around him too much, please.”

Chan sighed softly, coming up and wrapping his arms around his mate’s neck. “If it’ll make you feel better then sure.” The omega’s lips came closer, pressing like the world’s most comfortable pillows against his lips. “But don’t worry. You’re my alpha, no one else.”

It calmed Jisung’s inner beast to hear it. He grabbed Chan’s hips, pulling him in closer. “That’s right, baby. That’s why I’ll always be overprotective of you. You’re mine. Not even royalty can take you from me.”

Chan giggled and kissed him again. “Exactly, so don’t worry, love.”

Jisung nodded and brushed his nose along Chan’s scent gland, breathing in the sweet and addictive smell. “Alright, darling.”

Their lips found one another not long after, traveling up each other’s necks until they were molding together. A push and pull that Jisung didn’t think he would ever get tired of.

“Come on, let’s settle in.” Chan said against his lips. “It’s been a long day.”

“Alright.” Jisung easily agreed with his mate.

Chapter End Notes

Oh Hyunjin hahahahahahaha.

Thank you all so much!!

Chapter 17

Chapter Summary

Some of the pack discuss some observations about Minho and Changbin.

Tags: curiosity, worry, wondering, communication, pack dynamics, relationship dynamics, protectiveness, snuggling, testing the waters, development, growth, bonding, trust,

Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for [notes](#)

“They haven’t said a word about it.” Seungmin said, keeping his voice a low whisper, even though they were inside of his bedroom. Felix was draped across his and Jeongin’s lap. The fox eyes beta was leaning against his shoulder.

“Minho followed Changbin into his bedroom too. I didn’t see him come back out before we came in here.” Jeongin added.

Felix gasped. “Do you think he’s going to sleep in there with him? Maybe something happened on the trip between the two of them.”

Seungmin was rolling plenty of things around in his head. “Maybe, but more than anything I think it’s strange they said nothing about the pregnancy.”

“Maybe they’re planning some kind of reveal?” Jeongin suggested.

Felix’s lips pressed together in a line. “Or maybe he wasn’t pregnant and they don’t know how to say anything.”

Seungmin nodded. “Unfortunately, I think it’s more likely you are right, Felix.”

The room got quiet. Truthfully, the three of them had been hoping maybe the blond omega was pregnant. For one, it would’ve given Minho and Changbin something to bond over and focus on. They all hoped it would bring them closer. For two, having a baby to love within their pack would be beautiful and the three had been excited for the possibility.

“I think Changbin was getting kind of excited to be pregnant, if he wasn’t...” The maknae let the sentence hang.

“I doubt it went well if he wasn’t.” Felix said.

Seungmin sighed. “Well, we don’t know. If he is or he isn’t, we’ll find out with time and regardless, it seems like the two of them got closer on their trip. That’s a good thing.”

The two betas nodded against him. "I agree." Jeongin said.

"I want them to be happy. I actually think they work so well together. Changbin just needs to let down his walls a little." Felix said.

"Maybe having his friend here will help. He has his things here now and someone familiar to him. Maybe he will get even more comfortable." Seungmin said. "If Hyunjin doesn't scare them off with his fond gazing." He snorted out a laugh.

"That man is being the *least* subtle already." Jeongin said, shaking his head.

"Oh, and Jisung has noticed." Seungmin added. "He's getting possessive and protective of Chan already."

"I bet he thinks Jinnie's only staring at Chan, bet he doesn't realize he is part of the ogling." Felix added and Jeongin laughed.

"Oh, this is going to go poorly." The maknae said.

"As long as he doesn't make them want to leave, I don't care what chaos he causes." Seungmin said. "I think Chan being here is going to be important to Changbin."

Felix nodded and then Jeongin moved, putting himself in front of Seungmin, a pout on his lips. "Can we stop talking about other people's relationships now? I want to talk about ours."

Seungmin smirked and reached up, petting the maknae's cheek. His shaggy red hair was getting cuter and cuter by the day. "What about ours, baby?"

Felix perked up, sitting up to look at him too. Seungmin held in a laugh at the way they were like two puppies sitting pretty for him. "Yeah, let's talk about it."

"Can..." Jeongin started, getting shy in a way he only did about matters like this. "Can we maybe mate soon then? I mean, Minho's mated, even if it's messy. Hyunjin says he's found the ones for him so..."

Seungmin loved these two so much. He hated to keep rejecting them, but he had his principles. He wouldn't give in until Hyunjin was fully mated too. Something in the core of him, his inner omega partly, but partly just his love for Minho and Hyunjin, wouldn't let him. The two alphas who grew up alongside of him, who protected him as much as they validated his strength. The ones who followed him and the ones he had nurtured over the years. They were integrated in him in a way he couldn't ever undo. The idea of mating before they were mated, before they had the solid bonds of another beside them, he couldn't do it. Even if they all intended to stay together. Mating was different, it was a binding thing that couldn't be undone. Until they had someone or someones that wouldn't leave them, that were bonded to stay and care for them, Seungmin couldn't let go.

"Soon, my loves. I promise, soon, but not yet. Hyunjin needs time to get to know Chan and Jisung. They need to get to know each other and actually mate. You know I can't... not before then. I'm sorry to make you both keep waiting."

He hated the way they deflated. They both descended towards his chest, curling up against him and burrowing into the two sides of his neck.

“We understand.” Felix whispered.

“We just want to have you be ours.” Jeongin added.

Seungmin kissed both of their heads, rubbing their backs softly. “I’m yours. I always will be, no matter what. I promise. I love you both so much.”

“We love you too.” They said together, a harmony he would never stop loving. He couldn’t wait for the day he mated them either. No one had ever been more perfect for him than these two betas. It was funny because he honestly thought he wouldn’t ever end up with two mates, but here he was, so in love with both of them. They were his sun and his moon. He pulled them down into the bed, cuddling them both tightly.

“Come on, let’s sleep.” He kissed each one of them before they fell into a deep sleep. He always slept the best beside them.

Changbin was surprised how comfortable he was. Minho was sitting beside him, both of them leaning on some pillows as they sat side by side on top of the furs of Changbin’s bed. The alpha had just followed him into his bedroom and he didn’t question him. He let him come and take a seat beside him. He could see the alpha’s hand twitching in between them, fingers moving, silently asking and longing to touch. He reached over and took his mate’s hand, intertwining them together. The alpha took in a sharp breath, clearly surprised by the action, but he didn’t say anything about it.

“Is there something you want to talk about?” Changbin eventually asked, unable to hold back his curiosity about the alpha’s lingering behavior.

“I just... I want to make sure you’re okay. A lot has happened in the last few days, hell, in the last month and a half or whatever it’s been now since you came here.” Minho said. “I just have this overwhelming need to check on you at the moment. I can’t let it go.”

It occurred to him that a month ago this would have pissed him off. He would’ve been mad about the alpha hovering around him, thinking he needed to be checked on. Now, now it made his chest feel light. It made him want to give in and curl right up against Minho the way his inner omega was begging him to. He felt cared about and it was entirely new to him.

He liked that he felt like he could lead them though. Minho wasn’t ego driven and he would give into Changbin no matter what he asked for. It made him feel more secure and safe around the other. “Lay down.” He said and Minho looked at him confused for a moment, but then he complied. Their joined hands stayed together as the alpha slid down, laying on his back, his head still cradled in the pillow. He just watched for a little while, looking at the other’s relaxed body as it laid prone. His neck was tilted, submissive, trusting, beautiful. Eventually he moved, Minho watching everything he did as he slipped lower and closer. He pulled their hands apart, instead directing the alpha’s arm up, opening the space for Changbin

to lay against his side. He let his leg fall over Minhó's strong thigh and tucked his head in the nook between the alpha's chest and arm.

The other didn't dare to move and it almost made him laugh. He reached across his body and joined their other hands, pulling them up onto Minhó's stomach. The alpha's other arm gained some courage after about five minutes, coming and wrapping around Changbin's back, cradling him closer.

He could hear how loudly Minhó's heart was pounding in his chest. The sound of it and the scent of his mate made him more relaxed than he had been in a long time. His inner omega wanted to purr. He felt his eyes closing before long. Neither of them spoke, as if words would break the spell between them. In the silence they stood no chance against exhaustion from their travels. Changbin only knew his breathing got shallower as Minhó's heart rate slowed down little by little until they both were fast asleep.

Chapter End Notes

THEY ARE SNUGGLING VOLUNTARILY PEOPLE!!! THIS IS NOT A DRILL!!

hahahaha.

But no, they're really cute.

Thank you so much!!

Also! Everyone be on the lookout for the first chapter of my silly Halloween fic, "The sorcerer's sneezes" coming out tomorrow!!! It will be 3 chapters all posted between tomorrow and Halloween!! 🎃

Thank you!!!

Chapter 18

Chapter Summary

Everyone decides ignorance is the best course of action, for a little at least

Tags: denial, avoidance, confronting of feelings, friendship, confusion, uncertainty, all the emotions, hopeless Hyunjin, cuteness, bonding, jealousy, anger, comfort, communication,

Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for [notes](#)

They didn't talk about it. They didn't talk about it all week. The way Minho always ended up in his room every night now. No one in the pack talked about it. Everyone pretended not to see how the two of them came out of the same bedroom every morning. Everynight was the same as the first. They would sit side by side and then Changbin would tell the alpha to lay down before settling against him and falling asleep.

No one asked about the pregnancy too, at least they didn't ask Changbin. Maybe Minho had told them and everyone kept quiet about it. Changbin was content with no one asking questions. The idea of answering them was terrifying. Maybe that's why he felt the hair on the back of his neck stand when someone finally did.

Chan was next to him. The two of them were seated on a fallen tree side by side. "So, no judgment in this whatsoever, but you told me that you and Minho were platonic only and yet I've seen you two go to bed together every night since Jisung and I got here. I'm just curious if something changed."

Changbin swallowed. Had something changed? The obvious answer was yes. The unobvious was how much had they changed? Was it significant enough to warrant talking about? Should he speak about it? Would that make it real? He didn't know if he was ready for it to be real. "I... I don't really know." He answered instead of committing to anything directly.

Chan nodded softly. "Have you two just been sleeping or has something more happened? You don't have to tell me if you don't want to. I just want you to know you can talk to me about this. I won't judge you no matter what, alright?"

Changbin sighed and let his head fall into the other omega's shoulder. "I missed you." He said.

"I missed you too. Is this your way of getting out of my questions? Acting cute?" He asked, chuckling softly.

“No.” Changbin answered, pulling Chan closer. He needed something to calm himself down if he was going to talk about this because his heart was already pounding against his ribs just thinking about it all. “We’ve just been sleeping. Well, cuddling and sleeping, I guess. I don’t know what it means though, Chan. I don’t even know what I’m doing. We haven’t talked about any of it. I just... I needed comfort after everything that happened at the healer’s.”

“At the healer’s?” Chan questioned and that’s when Changbin realized he had let the cat out of the bag. He hadn’t talked about that at all either. “What were you at a healer’s for?”

He whined and hid his face deeper into Chan’s shoulder.

“Binnie, please. Talk to me. I can tell from a mile away that you’re stuffing your emotions in.”

“We thought I might’ve been pregnant.” He said. “I... maybe I was hoping I was and then I wasn’t... It hurt. It hurt way more than I expected it to. Both of us were upset. It... it did something to us. It made me realize I don’t want to be in this world without Minho beside me, but I still don’t know in what way. It’s all so confusing, Chan. My inner omega wants to just give myself over on a silver platter. I want... I don’t know anymore. I just don’t want Minho to be far away from me. I’m probably causing issues for the pack. The others can’t be with Minho or have any time with him because I’m hogging him all the time. I know it’s not right. They’ve been together for years. I don’t want to break them all up, but Minho just follows me anyway. He’ll do anything I say and take anything he can get from me. Isn’t that unfair to him too? He’s living on crumbs of my affection because I have no idea what the hell I want and I can’t let go of him enough to let him be with the others since we got back. I don’t know. I don’t know what to do.”

“I’m so sorry to hear about the possible pregnancy. It can be really hard to find that out. I’m truly sorry that happened. Regarding everything with Minho though, you have to talk to him, Bin.” Chan said. “You have to find out how he’s feeling and what he wants to do. This is a path the two of you have to walk together. You have to talk about these things. As far as the pack goes, you realize if you decide to take things further with him then you have to get used to the idea of him with the others since you’re saying you don’t want to break them up. If you don’t want to go further, then you still need to figure out how to let him continue his relationships with them. As you said, they’ve been together for years.”

“Fucking stupid Minho.” Changbin said with a sigh. “Why did he have to drag me into a poly pack and make me fucking like all of them? Him included. I don’t know where to begin. I didn’t want a mate at all. Now I’m happier than I’ve ever been in some ways and more confused and miserable than I knew possible all at once.”

“That’s love.” Chan said with a laugh. “I’ve never been happier than I am with Jisung, but also things are so complicated. I lost my family all over again. I’m in limbo crashing with my friend’s pack and trying to figure out which way is up. It’s confusing and crazy, but beautiful and amazing. That’s love, Binnie.”

“Fuck love.” He said, whining low in his throat. “It’s too fucking complicated. I liked it better when it was just me and the woods.”

“Yeah right.” Chan laughed. “I’ve been here for a week and it’s glaring obvious that you love it here. You love being in this pack.”

“Shut up.” He jabbed his finger into the older omega’s side in retaliation. “No one asked you.”

Chan only laughed louder. “You need to talk to him, Binnie.”

“Yeah.” He said. “But how am I supposed to do that if I don’t know what I want?”

“Tell him that. Tell him you don’t know and you’re trying to figure it out. At least he knows where your head is at. He’s probably just as confused. He’s probably getting hopeful, but also is probably super scared to be hopeful. You just have to talk to him. Promise me you will tonight.” Chan said and he hated how much he knew the older was right. Minho probably was confused too.

“Yeah, okay. I promise.”

“Good.” Chan smiled.

Changbin looked up at the sky and realized how high the sun was. “Shit. I was supposed to meet up with Seungmin at the gardens. I’ll catch you later, Chan!” He stood up and took off running. “And I promise I’ll talk to Minho. Thank you!”

“Alright. Bye for now!”

Hyunjin thought the universe was smiling upon him when he found Chan sitting by himself out in the woods. He was seated on a fallen tree and the sun was shining so beautifully upon him. God, him and Jisung were so gorgeous. He hadn’t gotten nearly enough time with them this first week they had been there, but he was trying to squeeze in little moments. The two mates were attached at the hip. Literally he had yet to catch either of them alone. He had been trying to get Chan alone for days now. He wanted to ask the omega what Jisung liked. He had already gotten inside information on Chan from Changbin, but he needed to know what the ginger haired alpha liked so he could get them both a nice welcome gift. Well, or maybe it was a courting gift disguised as a welcome gift.

“Channie!” He greeted, smiling and slipping up to take a seat beside the omega. “I didn’t know you were out this way. I thought you and Changbin had taken a hike.”

“We did this morning.” Chan said, blue eyes shimmering like the ocean on a sunny day. “We ended up here chatting for a while, but then he remembered he had to go meet up with Seungmin. It’s such a nice day I’ve just been sitting here enjoying it all for a bit now.”

“It is gorgeous out. That’s why I was out walking, but I’m glad I found you. I’ve been wanting to ask you something.” Hyunjin said. It was crazy to him how much his heart started beating whenever he got around either of the two mates.

“Oh, sure. What’s up?” Chan asked, tilting his head cutely to the side in question. The gesture put his gorgeous neck on display, making Hyunjin dream of kissing it.

He snapped himself out of it, looking up to Chan’s face, but he couldn’t say that helped him much. The omega was really too gorgeous for his own good. “What does Jisung like? I want to do something nice for him, but I don’t know what he’s interested in.”

“For Sungie?” Chan’s lips spread wider on his face. “That’s so sweet of you, Hyunjin.”

“Yeah, just you know, like an alpha to alpha present. You know how it can get between alphas... I want to do something to show I’m not a threat or anything.” Or he just really didn’t want Chan thinking about Hyunjin getting him a present. He wanted to surprise both Jisung and Chan, afterall.

“That’s really so nice and thoughtful. All of you have been so kind and welcoming to us. Thank you. You really don’t have to get him anything, but I do know he had to leave his wood carving tools behind and he loves to carve little wooden figures. Some new tools would probably mean a lot to him. I don’t know how easy it would be to get those though...”

“I’ll figure it out!” Hyunjin said. He didn’t care if he had to travel for a week, he was going to get those tools. “Thank you. This has been so helpful. You’re the best.”

Chan’s cheeks warmed a little bit and the sight melted Hyunjin’s heart even more than it already was. “No. I just answered the question. You’re the best for wanting to do something like this for him, seriously.”

There was the sound of a twig breaking and Hyunjin turned his head, seeing Jisung approaching through the trees. “Don’t tell him anything about this though.” He said. “I want it to be a surprise!”

“Oh, of course.” Chan agreed and then Hyunjin was up, he needed to figure out where he could get the carving tools.

“Thank you!” He said and took off into the woods, giddy with excitement. He was going to get a dog for Chan because Changbin said it had been his dream to own one and he could get Jisung carving tools. It would be perfect.

“What the hell were you doing out here alone with him?” Jisung asked as he watched Hyunjin scurry off like a rat into the woods.

“Huh?” Chan asked, his blue doe eyes blinking. “Oh, nothing. He just was on a walk and happened by. We didn’t talk for long.”

“What did you talk about?” Jisung asked and the way his mate’s face turned bright red made coals of anger turn in his stomach.

“N-nothing.” He answered. “You know.” He laughed, waving his hand about in front of him. “The weather and whatever.”

“And *whatever* ?” Jisung echoed. “Chan, was he hitting on you? Tell me right now because I swear if he was—.”

“He was *not* hitting on me!” The omega stated, clear and in a way that calmed Jisung down a little. “I promise. He wasn’t doing that at all. It was really nothing, Sung. I promise.”

Jisung sighed and took a seat next to Chan. “Alright. I trust you. I just... I don’t trust him.”

“He’s a really nice guy, Sung. I still think you’re being too harsh about him.” Chan said and he tried not to let it show how much it annoyed him to hear his mate defend the other alpha.

“Yeah, yeah, alright.” He said. “Sorry. It just... it looked a certain way.”

“It’s nothing like that.”

“Alright. I believe you.” Jisung said, sighing softly.

“Thank you.” Chan said, leaning over and kissing Jisung’s cheek.

Chapter End Notes

Ohhhhh Hyunjinnnnn. Lmaoooo.

Binnie is talking about this feelings a little though!!

We'll have to see where this all goessss. hehe.

Thank you!!

Chapter 19

Chapter Summary

Changbin digs up the courage to talk to Minho.

Tags: nervousness, worry, tension, mirroring emotions, vulnerability, honesty, opening up, bonding, relationship dynamics, pack dynamics, jealousy, submissive behavior, communication, insecurity, comfort, love, banter, flirting, a bunch of hoes

Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for [notes](#)

Changbin's hands were shaking and his heart was hammering in his chest as Minho followed him into the bedroom that night. The alpha was quiet like he always was when they did this. It was strange how conversation could flow so easily between them during the day, but as soon as it was time to come into Changbin's room words left them both.

They needed to talk this time though. He had promised Chan he would. They sat down against the pillows, side by side. It was all a familiar routine now. He knew Minho was waiting for him to tell him to lay down, but he wouldn't this time, not yet.

"Minho." He said gently.

"Yes?" The alpha answered, a scared looking vulnerability shining in his eyes as a bubble of nervous energy twinged through his stomach from Minho. It was then he realized how much his own uncertainty was reflected in Minho's face. They were both scared, both confused and lost in this dance they had been doing all week, and they didn't know the rest of the choreography.

"I think we need to talk about the things between us." He said softly.

He watched the alpha swallow. "Do... Do you not want to do this anymore?"

"I don't want to stop doing this. I just." Changbin sighed. "I don't know what I want exactly, but I think I need to be honest about how I'm feeling and I want to know how you are feeling too."

Minho looked down, his hands folding together in his lap. "Honestly?"

"Yes." He answered.

"I'm terrified." He said. "I'm afraid you're going to reject me and push me away again. I don't know how I'm going to deal with that if you do. I love this so much. I love being able to be close to you." There was a wobble in Minho's voice at the end.

Changbin reached over and took apart the alpha's clasped hands, moving one and intertwining their fingers together. It was something that felt so natural now, practiced almost. It was strange how quickly something could become a norm in your life. "I like being close to you too." He admitted it so quietly. "But I still don't know if I want it to go farther than this. I don't want to get your hopes up more than this. I still don't know if I could do more, if I want more."

"This is enough." Minho said, squeezing his hand tightly. "It's more than enough. It's everything to me. Just being able to sleep beside you, to wake up with you and hold you close... I don't need more than that."

Changbin smiled a bit sadly at him. The alpha was precious. "You do though." He answered and confusion knitted itself into Minho's eyebrows.

"What do you mean?"

Changbin tilted his head towards the tunnel that led back out to the main living room. "Your pack. All of you love one another, but you haven't been spending any time with them because you've been in here with me."

"They understand. This... this is delicate between us." Minho answered and he nodded in reply because he knew he couldn't disagree with that.

"That might be true, but we have to include them. I'm not okay with you leaving them behind for me. It's wrong. However, I also know it's still going to make me feel incredibly jealous." Changbin admitted with a sigh.

"Then... what am I supposed to do?" The alpha looked at him a bit lost, like a stray kitten unsure what to do or where to go.

Changbin hummed softly. "Maybe during the day you should spend more time with them. I can be around the others or Chan and Jisung. You can get time with them, but I won't lose you sleeping here. I don't think I could stand having you sleep somewhere else anymore."

Minho nodded. "Okay." He answered. "We can try that. I... I do miss them. I've hardly done anything with them since you got here."

Changbin's eyebrow went up his face even as he felt his inner omega trying to rise up with jealousy. "Really? I thought you all were probably sneaking into each other's bedrooms regularly. That makes me feel even worse. You really shouldn't ignore them, Minho."

The alpha nodded. "Honestly, I've only really been with Hyunjin once since you came. With the others it has been very platonic."

Changbin tried not to think too hard about Hyunjin and Minho together because it was a twofold attack. One, it made him jealous as all hell, but two it made his mouth water to think about the two of them together. Hyunjin was beyond gorgeous. Changbin was sort of convinced he was a different species and Minho was... well, he couldn't quite put into words

how beautiful Minho was to him. It was overwhelming to think about it, actually. The alpha was under his skin in a way he didn't know was possible.

"That's really surprising to me." He said. "But it makes me stand by what I said even more. You should spend time with them."

The other nodded, looking down again and squeezing Changbin's hand again. "This... this isn't some round about way to push me away, is it?"

Changbin decided to be bold. He moved, wrapping his free arm around Minho and pulling his mate up into his lap. The alpha's face turned bright red as he was tucked into him. Changbin looked up into the other's deep eyes that he realized he could very easily get lost in these days. "No. It's not. I promise. I just... I want to find a way for us to work and our pack to work. I won't be the reason they lose you. I don't want that to happen. Even if it makes me jealous as fuck. You come here to me at the end of the day. You come to sleep in this bed with me and you are *my* mate. No matter what else happens, those things will remain true. I want them to."

Changbin didn't think it was possible for an alpha to make the noise that came out of Minho, but it was there. A small, whining sound that vibrated out like a purr as he burrowed into Changbin, tucking into his neck and holding on tightly. The alpha nosed at his mating bite, clinging to it as Changbin wrapped him up, unyielding in his embrace. "Thank you, Changbin. My mate. Thank you."

"Let's lie down, baby." He said softly and it was obviously what the pet name did to the other. He whined more as Changbin laid them down. He had never seen such vulnerability from an alpha. Minho was practically going limp in his hold. It showed such high levels of trust and Changbin found himself cherishing it. He didn't lay down in the crook of Minho's arm like he had all the other nights. Instead he tucked the alpha's head into his chest and under his chin. He ran his fingers up and down Minho's spine, loving the relaxed and happy feelings that spilled out of him and into Changbin. "Sweet dreams, Minho."

"Sweet dreams." He answered back, nuzzling deeper into Changbin's body.

Minho had gathered Seungmin, Jeongin, Felix, and Hyunjin into the living room. Changbin had gone out that morning with Chan and Jisung to go fishing and the pack alpha knew he had to discuss quite a few things with his pack.

"Is everything alright?" Seungmin asked, the omega could probably easily pick up on Minho's nervous energy.

"Yes." He answered. "I just... A lot of things have happened and we haven't gotten to talk about any of them. Chan and Jisung came... all of it. So I wanted to let you all know what is going on."

"Is it about your trip to the healer's?" Felix asked, cautious in his tone.

Minho felt like he was punched in the gut as soon as he thought about Changbin's heartbreak and disappointment. "That's part of it. He... he isn't pregnant. It... He took it really hard. Honestly, we both were upset, but Changbin was really upset. He was really hoping he was pregnant by the time we got there and then he wasn't. It was really tough for him to come to terms with that."

"I'm sorry, Min." Hyunjin said, the other alpha reaching out and putting a hand on his thigh.

"It wasn't meant to be." Minho said, a forced smile coming onto his face. "But I do think something good came out of it all."

"You and him are closer." Seungmin supplied and he nodded in agreement.

"Yes. It's... we aren't moving past certain lines. It's all still in the realm of platonic, but it's more. It's more than I thought I would have and I'm very grateful we have gotten closer." He explained to them all.

Jeongin smiled. "That's good though. If you've come this far, maybe you will go even further with him."

"Even if I don't, I'm happy. My inner beast and I feel much better with the state of things now than before. I think it's the same for him." He said.

Seungmin hummed softly. "That's good. I'm really happy for you, Minho. Changbin is great and I want to see you two have a good life together."

"I do too." Felix said, biting his lip as he clearly got a bit shy. "But, um... I do have a question."

"What is it?" Minho asked.

Felix shifted around in his seat, clearly feeling nervous. "What about us? You... we haven't really had any time with you since he came here. We were all giving you some space, but it's been more than a month and a half now. Do... Do you not want to be with us anymore?"

Minho was up and kissing the white haired beta before he could say another word. "I want to be with you, baby, with all of you. I just... I needed time. Thank you for giving it to me. Changbin and I talked about my relationships with all of you last night. He doesn't want to be the reason we aren't together. He wants us to stay together. He knows it's going to make him very jealous, but he said he will deal with it. He wants me to sleep with him every night now, but we agreed I should make time during the days to spend time with all of you so we don't lose our connections to each other. We'll still have to be respectful to keep it out of his sight. I won't upset him like that. I hope you all can understand that."

"Of course." Felix grinned up at him. "I don't mind as long as we get time with you and we can still be with you. I've missed you so much, Minho."

"Me too." Hyunjin pouted.

“Oh, shut it. You actually got to be with him once in the last month.” Jeongin said, jabbing his finger into Hyunjin’s side, making the brunette alpha squeak before growling in a poor attempt to cover up the high pitched sound.

“I had to practically jump him! Any of you could’ve tried that, but you didn’t.” Hyunjin said and Seungmin rolled his eyes.

“Yeah, because we have manners and don’t flirt with people shamelessly, unlike you, Mr. Magic Feelings.” The omega countered and Hyunjin instantly tackled Seungmin to the ground, the two starting to wrestle.

“Take it back!”

“Never!” Seungmin grappled against Hyunjin and Minho just sighed, a fond smile forming on his lips. He would never get sick of this, despite how obnoxious they could be. He loved them for it.

“Did I forget to mention that Changbin is staying out with Chan and Jisung all day today?” Minho said. “So, like, we can do *whatever* we’d like together.”

Hyunjin and Seungmin suddenly stopped fighting, both of them looking over to him with raised eyebrows.

“Whatever we’d like, you say?” The other alpha’s lips spread in a cheshire smile.

“I call Minho’s dick first!” Seungmin yelled, suddenly flipping Hyunjin onto his back. He stood just as quickly, racing into the deeper tunnels towards Minho’s bedroom. “Come on, slow pokes! Pack alpha dick is on the menu!”

“I want second!” Felix yelled, chasing after Seungmin just as quickly.

“What if I want pack alpha ass?” Jeongin questioned, tilting his head curiously.

Minho chuckled and stood up, ruffling the maknae’s deep red hair. “That’s on the menu too, baby.”

“Fuck yes.”

“Good.” Hyunjin said. “Because I want it after our baby beta has made it all wet and messy.”

“You’re such a hoe, Jinnie.” Jeongin said, but Hyunjin hardly looked insulted.

“Thanks, baby. You know you love it.” He winked and Minho just smirked as they all traveled down the hall to his bedroom. He had really missed this—missed them.

Chapter End Notes

Smut scene ahead!!!! Hehe. Hope you're all excited for that.

Should I warn you about what's next though? hm....

Anyway!

Thank you for reading!!!!

Chapter 20

Chapter Summary

The pack get some overdue time together.

Tags: smut, do you call it a 5 some or an orgy?, kissing, love, atypical a/b/o dynamics mixed with the typical ones, submissive Minh, nipple play, begging, handjobs, fingering, lots of lube/slick, praise kink, lots of cum, knotting, creampie, jealousy, struggling, anger, internal conflict, possessiveness,

Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for [notes](#)

When Minh walked into his bedroom the four of his pack mates were naked and sitting beside the furs covering the ground and making it soft and cozy. Felix and Hyunjin were on the left and Seungmin and Jeongin on the right. He started to feel nervous. It was almost strange. It had been quite a while since he had been with them, let alone all of them at once.

“Lay down, Hyung.” Felix said and Minh smiled, following the instructions easily. He laid down on his back between them and Seungmin was the first to move. The omega hovered over him. He cupped his cheek gently.

“I missed you. You’ve been away for too long.” Seungmin said and he nodded. He could only agree. It had been too long.

“I miss you too. All of you.” He said.

Seungmin leaned in, pressing their lips together. He was overwhelmed by the taste of the omega. It was so familiar, it wrapped him in a sense of security he was desperately lacking these days. Everything was so uncertain with Changbin, but here with his pack, he knew what he had. The bonds between them were well established and even though he hadn’t been the best with them lately, they were still here like he hadn’t been distant from them at all.

“You’ve been struggling a lot on your own, alpha. It hasn’t been the most fun to watch.”

Minh sighed softly. Wasn’t that the truth? “It hasn’t been very fun to live either. I need to remember to rely on all of you more.”

The omega sat back so they could all look at him as he nodded.

“Yes.” Jeongin chimed in. “You’re always trying to suffer quietly. We’re here for you.”

“Innie’s right.” Felix added.

“I told you that when we were together.” Hyunjin said. “You didn’t follow through on it very well, Hyung.”

He nodded. “You’re right. I’m sorry. I’ll do better.”

“You’re going to be the best.” Jeongin said. “You’re going to be so good for your pack, aren’t you, alpha?”

Fire stirred in his belly. He wanted it to take over him. He wanted his pack to set him ablaze. He needed it. He needed to be lost in them. Now that he was here with them, he was so grateful Changbin wanted him to still be with them. He needed them, more than he realized some days, but he truly did. They were his foundation and he wouldn’t last long without them. The weary ache in his bone was proof of that. “I’ll be so good. Want to be the best for all of you.” He said.

“Good, alpha.” Seungmin said as he slipped his hand under Minho’s shirt, fingers dancing across his belly.

Felix leaned down too then, licking along his jawline before kissing him deeply. He moaned into the white haired beta’s mouth, letting their tongues slide against one another as Hyunjin and Jeongin started rubbing up his thighs. He was at their mercy now, on his back against the bed, surrounded by the four of them. He was happy to surrender to them. Someone’s palm moved over his hardening length and he gasped, Felix pulling back and smirking down at him. “Taste so good. I missed you.” That deep voice sent shivers down his spine.

“Missed you too.” He said, looking into those unique smoky gray eyes.

Seungmin was pushing his shirt up his body then. He sat up a little, just to pull it over his head and once his chest was exposed, Felix was on the move too.

The two of them latched onto his chest, Felix on the left and Seungmin on the right. He started to lose it right away. They all knew how sensitive his nipples were. His back arched and he moaned, gasping as they used his squirming to pull his pants and underwear off completely.

“You’re so hard already, Hyung.” Jeongin said.

“You’re probably so pent up.” Felix added, scraping his teeth over his nipple.

Minho shivered, a whine escaping him as he nodded, probably tangling the hair on the back of his head, but he didn’t care. “Yes. So pent up. Fuck, please. Please touch me.”

“We are touching you.” Seungmin said, smirking wickedly up at him before licking long and slow across his chest, swirling that tongue around the brown bud of his chest.

“More. Please.” He said, getting so overwhelmed already. It had been too long and it wasn’t going to take much to get him begging.

A hand wrapped around his cock. “Like his, alpha?” Hyunjin asked and then fingers were dipping into the crack of his ass, teasing at the rim.

“Or like this, Hyung?” Jeongin said with a snicker of a laugh. He knew he must look pitiful to them already.

“Both. Fuck. Both, please. Need it everywhere. Please.” Minho said and Seungmin chuckled, reaching down to wrap his hand around the pack alpha’s long length with Hyunjin.

“Want something better than a hand, I bet. We all know how greedy this cock of yours really is.” The omega taunted and Minho was so close to losing it already. All the stimulation and attention was a lot to handle after so long without it.

“I don’t think he’ll be able to hold on if you cockwarm him while they open him up.” Felix said. “He’s falling apart already.”

“That’s true.” Seungmin hummed thoughtfully, like they weren’t toying with him to the brink of insanity. “You’ll have to wait, alpha. Can’t have you popping your knot yet.”

He wanted to whimper, but he never got the chance. Instead he gasped because Hyunjin and Jeongin had bent his legs back and poured lube right down his ass crack. Both of their fingers started spreading it around, making him a glistening mess, he was sure.

It had been a while since he bottomed so he appreciated it when Jeongin dipped the first finger in slowly. Seungmin teased his hand around the head of his cock and it was a perfect distraction. He relaxed easily because all of the pleasure had honestly turned his body and his brain to mush. The maknae’s finger slipped all the way in, a possessive growl slipping out of him.

“So tight and perfect, Hyung, fuck.”

He was putty in their hands as the maknae worked his finger in and out until he was ready for another. Hyunjin’s wiggled in alongside Jeongin a moment later. They pulled him apart, spread him open and the lube was making obscene sounds. He had nothing to ground himself, his eyes rolling back as the euphoria grew and grew. He was grateful when teeth scraped along his chest. Felix teased his skin as Seungmin came up and kissed him again. He was uncoordinated, but the omega didn’t mind, licking deeply into his mouth.

Before long a third finger was in him, he didn’t know who’s, but it didn’t matter. He just knew he was finally closer to getting more of them. He wanted them to wreck him, truly. He needed to remember this. He wanted the memories of it to be echoed in the ache of his muscles tomorrow.

“He’s ready.” Jeongin said and Seungmin pulled back, breathing shallow as he hovered above Minho’s face.

“Are you ready, darling?” The omega asked.

“Yes.” He answered. “Please.”

They rearranged him. Minho was pulled up and Seungmin slipped underneath him. He ended up caged over Seungmin, the omega wrapping his legs around Minho’s waist, tugging him

closer until his cock was dragging along the dripping wet entrance of the omega.

“Baby...” He said, revelry in his voice. “You’re so wet.”

“Of course I am.” He said. “Been waiting forever for your cock, alpha.”

Minho moaned and moved to get enough space between them to line up with Seungmin’s entrance. He sunk down into the brunette, eyes fluttering closed because it felt so unbelievable. His brain connected the feeling to Changbin, only making it more intense. Fuck. He had felt just like this, slippery and perfect.

“I’m sorry I made you wait, baby.” He said, stroking Seungmin’s cheek gently.

Then he felt big hands on his hips. Jeongin’s cock started prodding at him, reminding him just how desperate he was to have something inside of him. “Made me wait too, Hyung.”

“Sorry, Innie.” He said, pressing back to tease the other’s length. However it just succeeded in making him and Seungmin moan from the movement. “Take all you need from me as payment, alright?”

The head of the maknae’s cock started pushing at his entrance, spreading him open so much more than the fingers. “I might just make you regret those words, Hyung.”

“I can take it.” He said. “I’ll be good. I promise.”

Seungmin smiled below him. “Yes. Our amazing pack alpha. You’re going to take such good care of all of us today. You’re already doing such a good job.”

His hips bucked at the praise, ended up deeper into Seungmin but making Jeongin caress his inner walls more than he was prepared for. He moaned loudly, shuddering as the maknae growled and snapped his hips, bottoming out completely. “Where do you think you’re going, Hyung?”

“No where. Fuck... wanna be right here.” He answered and they both chuckled.

He heard Felix moaning a moment later. As he looked over he found the beta on his back, legs spread with Hyunjin’s fingers pumping in and out of him, prepping him.

He wasn’t sure he was going to survive all four of them, especially not when Jeongin stopped holding back and started thrusting him rough and deep. His moans were instantly loud, harmonizing with Seungmin’s as the omega was fucked by the maknae’s movements too.

It was so good. So burningly good to be surrounded by pleasure from all sides. He loved how Seungmin clenched around him as he started kissing him. It seemed like he was trying to make up for lost time, gripping as much as he could onto Minho within him. Jeongin’s bruising pace told him enough about how badly the maknae had missed him too. The nails digging into his hips were another sign. He didn’t think any of them would last long like this.

It had been too long for all of them. He could feel through the pack bond how much they missed him, how happy they were to be with him. It was swelling all the pleasure to another

level.

“I love you.” Seungmin whispered in his ear and he whimpered, moving until he was cupping the omega’s cheek, kissing him deeply.

“I love you too.” Jeongin said, voice strained as he got faster and more brutal. “Fuck, and this ass. Love it and you so much, Hyung. Shit.”

Minho would’ve probably chuckled if he wasn’t just as lost to it all. “Love you... both of you. Love all of you. Fuck. Best pack... oh my god. Gonna cum... my knot, ah.”

He tried to explain, tried to get them to understand what the hell he meant, but by the way Seungmin’s eyes rolled back as his knot started to stretch him open even further, he assumed they figured it out. Jeongin was losing it too, obviously close by his perfectly irregular rhythm.

“Me too, Hyung!” The beta yelled, shuddering as his hips stuttered and Minho felt the gush of cum fill deep inside him.

“Alpha!” Seungmin clenched around him, milking his knot. Minho felt ropes of cum splatter between their stomachs as he started to spill what felt like endlessly into the omega.

The two of them had to hold him up because he collapsed just seconds later.

“Easy, Changbin.” Chan said, the other omega had both arms locked around him, holding him in place. Jisung was hovering in front of him, hands up, ready to act if he needed to. This was harder than he thought it would be. He could feel every ounce of pleasure Minho experienced. He felt all the love and connections that weren’t directed at him. His inner omega was fuming, but he had to get through this. He had to learn to be okay with it. He really didn’t want to see Minho break up with his pack, especially not when he could literally feel how amazing they made him feel. They all loved him so much and he loved them. Changbin would be a monster to break them up, but this was hard. Way harder than he thought it would be.

“It makes me feel like I’m splitting in two.” He said and Chan sighed softly beside him.

“Don’t you want to do this for him though? If you aren’t going to be with him in a sexual way then you have to accept that they can give him this type of outlet.” The other reasoned and he hated it even if it was the truth.

“I know, but my inner omega doesn’t understand it at all. Not when there are so many strains in me and Minho’s relationship.” He sighed, feeling the rage that was swirling around in his gut.

“He still cares about you.” Jisung said. “You’re still his mate. None of them are that.”

“I know. I’m trying to focus on that.” Changbin said, trying to sound convincing but he wasn’t really sure.

Chan nuzzled his shoulder. “Good, just stay with that thought. He’s your mate. Only yours.”

Mine. He’s mine.

He tried to tell himself again and again.

Chapter End Notes

Ahhh, some overdue pack smut.

A storm is brewing in Binnie though...

Thank you all so much!!!

End Notes

Ahhh, and the story begins. They are mates and the mistakes have started already!

Thank you so much! I will see you in a week with chapter two!!

And please follow me on twitter!

<https://x.com/HikaruHope17>

Please [drop by the Archive and comment](#) to let the creator know if you enjoyed their work!