

Taming The Alpha's Daughter

Chapter 15

Temperance POV

“I don’t want your body, Temperance, just you.” he whispers, pressing his lips to my head; the action pulls me back to my surroundings, and into the present. Tingles rush up my arms, everywhere his skin touches mine. Zoning back into my surroundings, I feel warmth, too warm and it doesn’t take me long to see why. My family home is burning, flames lick at the walls eating away at the place.

“And I’ll prove it.” He whispers to me. I remain frozen, fear slivering through my limbs and paralyzing me in his grip as he rocks back and forth.

“Nova?” I whisper but I get no response. I try calling out for Shadow but she too doesn’t answer, making me wonder why I can’t hear them. Did he do something to them? Did he take them from me? He continues to rock back and forth, and I stare at the flames. The windows shatter, huge black billows of smoke flood the air, the smell of death and burned flesh makes my nose wrinkle. Wondering where it is coming from, I turn my head and come face to face with the man holding me. My heart rate quickens when his golden eyes peer back at me. His hand moves and I flinch.

He swallows, his hand stopping just off my face. “I won’t hurt you, I’d never hurt you.” he whispers, cupping my face with his hand. Tingles dance across my skin, where his palm lay and he exhales a shaky breath, pressing his forehead against mine while I remain frozen not trusting of his intentions.

“I got you, you’re safe with me. I promise, Temperance. I’ll show you, I’ll show you what it is to feel safe.” I think over his words. Then mull over everything Nova has spoken of mates, yet he doesn’t make my skin crawl, quite the opposite, it comes alive under his touch. Yet Satish’s men always claimed to be her mate too before they did the vile things they did to us. But I don’t remember this feeling, the feeling of the sparks, delightfully buzzing across my skin. When he pulls back my eyes move over his oulder to see the other man. In his hands he latches a book, one I haven’t seen since I was a hild, only now it is so much thicker. As thick s the huge dictionaries daddy used to have on he shelves in his office.

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He stares at me for a few seconds noticing my gaze on the book in his hand, he peers down at briefly taking a step closer and I lean back only for the man who claims I’m his mate to clutch me tighter.

“He won’t hurt you. Casen won’t hurt you,” whispers and the man holding the book, lo him.

“She wants the book, give it to her, she

"he oks at

recognizes it,” he tells him but the man shakes

his head.

“Eziah, she shouldn’t.” Yet it’s all I have le: them.

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My mate, or supposed mate looks at him. Casen

curses and shakes his head. “I don’t think i what she thinks it is.” he tells him but hesii steps forward, hand outstretched he holds

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old scrapbook out to me. My hand shakes as I move to grab it, waiting for him to pull it away

and laugh, or mock me, something that Sa men would do to Nova.

ish’s I snatch it, clutching it close when I feel fingers move down my spine making me gasp and look at the man with golden eyes, only then do I realize I am quite literally in his lap. I try to hop off him but he holds me tighter.

“Don’t run, Temperance. I know you’re scared but I promise we aren’t like those men” he says softly. Some part of me wants to believe him, but I know otherwise, everyone wants. something from you, and when they don’t get it they take it. Men are bad, I know because I have encountered far too many and not one besides daddy was good.

Sitting frozen I set the scrapbook in my lap, when movement catches my eye, the man behind him walks off and my eyes track the movement, he walks back toward the forest edge “TI meet you at the car, Eziah,” he calls and I look at my supposed mate, yet thinking those words I feel their depth, feel the pleasant tingling sensation dancing from his touch making me wonder if Nova was wrong, maybe he really does mean us no harm. He nods, turning his attention back to me but I turn my gaze back down at the scrapbook. This was mine, it used to be mine, but as I open the first page I realize it no longer was.

What used to be filled with pictures of my father and mom, was now ruined, the pictures remained, but my mothers face was now scratched off, a gasp leaves my lips seeing what

Satish did to it, the photos ruined and crossed out and so many more added.

“No!” I whisper, my lips quivering, I forgot all about this scrapbook, I made it the day of my birthday, the day Satish ruined my life. I was so excited to show daddy, he bought me the book, and the pretty papers and glitter to decorate it, now all that work was ruined, scribbled over, and scratched into. Each picture of my mother’s face scratched out, my father’s eyes removed and then there was me, yet the photos of me and daddy are also ruined.

“What is it?” Eziah asks as my fingers trace the page where my mothers face was removed.

“He ruined it,” I murmur, my lips quivering, lips press to my forehead and I jerk away looking at him. Why does he keep doing that?

“T will get you another one, you can make a new one.” he whispers and my brows furrow. He makes no other move to touch me and I turn the page to see what was added to find newspaper clippings. They’re old, yellow staining the old paper, the edges worn and the picture crinkled and has fold lines, like it had been folded and folded many times, I pick it up, staring at the worn piece of paper. This isn’t mine? I don’t remember these pictures or know where they come from.

In the picture is a man in a suit, and police surrounding him. It looks like some crime scene photo, men sitting in the gutter, hands cuffed behind their back, their heads down looking at the gutter.

“The reaper wolves?” Eziah murmurs, making me look at him. I have heard that name before but I can’t remember where or why I heard it though I am sure | heard Satish mention it once. He was fighting with daddy, but that is all I remember.

“Can I look at that?” he asks, his fingers touching the picture clipping. I let him take it, turning the next page and my eyes widen in