

Alpha Dimitri LS Barbosa

#Chapter 91

Chapter 91

Chapter 91 Aurora: | wrapped my arms around my daughter, pulling her to my chest as she slept after | fed and burped her.

The fact that | knew that she was the one being affected with everything that was happening was something that didn't even want to consider. And therefore, regardless of the pain that | was in, | forced myself to stay healthy and to eat well. for the sake of feeding her properly, especially considering the fact that | breastfed her.

The fact that Dimitri didn't even bother trying to understand what | was feeling tore me inside. The man didn't even care or consider that he did anything wrong; hell, he wasn't even guilty for what he did, and that alone was enough to anger me more than | already was with him.

| looked down at my little one, and I couldn't help but find myself being in pain for her. She didn't deserve living through something like this. She deserved. parents that were happy together, and | hated the fact that | knew that | couldn't even do anything about it. No one was going to be supporting me if | tried, and | knew better than to try asking my mother for any help. The woman was going to find pleasure in breaking me inside anyway, and that was something that | was going to be sure not to let my daughter live through.

"I am going to be sure that you don't live through what I am going through, little angel." | whispered to her. She looked up at me as my eyes welled up with tears as | knew that | was going to have to take a deep breath to calm myself, | wasn't going to show my pain to anyone, and with Natalia's wedding

around the corner, | wasn't going to do anything that was going to bother her with something like this. She yawned, and | smiled, taking her to her crib before walking toward the door. Her maids were going to come inside to make sure to tend to her, and wiping the tears that managed to slip from my eyes, | walked out of the room and watched as the maids came inside before heading to my and Dimitri's room.

| had to admit, | did expect him to ask me to leave the room, to give me my room. back, but the man didn't do so. And though | barely saw him in the house, | would wake up and find him either asleep beside me or getting ready for his day the next morning. | didn't bother speaking to him and neither did he.

| took a deep breath before opening the door, knowing that he was inside getting ready for work. | walked to the closet to get myself a dress for the day, | had a few things to

tend to, and | knew that Claudia, one of the allying pack's Lunas, was coming to see me. Her mate was an Alpha, a close one, to Dimitri, and | knew that ONE wrong word or behavior was going to be having fatal consequences.

"Is Angelina asleep?" Dimitri asked, taking me off guard. It took me a second to process the fact that he was talking to me, especially since the man and I haven't

been talking for the past few days, and | nodded. "She just dozed off, the maids are inside tending to her." | said, and he nodded. "Are you going out?"

"Luna Claudia is coming over," | said, and he raised an eyebrow. "She wants to come over for tea. With the preparations to Natalia and Ivan's wedding and all, it is only natural for neighboring pack Lunas to be coming over."

"I see," he said, and | looked down at the dress.

"May | go and shower or is there anything else that you are going to ask?" | asked, and he raised an eyebrow. "Have | ever told you not to shower when you wanted to?" He asked, and | shook my head.

"But then again, | never realized how second of a choice | was until..."

"You are refusing to listen to anything but the sound that is in your head, and | told you, | am not going to try and convince you otherwise, Aurora." He said, stopping me. "You can choose to think what you want, and believe me, the last thing that | have energy or time for is a jealous..."

"I am not jealous of a woman that has been in your life for as long as you can bloody damn remember," | said, stopping him. "But the fact that the woman was supposed to be my friend and that YOU were supposedly single was something that | am annoyed with. Had you told me that our mating was going to be a deal, had you not acted..."

"| never did act, Aurora." He said, stopping me. "Not once did | call you to tell you that the two of us would be preparing things together as mates who were going to have a mating ceremony. | think that you can see Ivan and Natalia and you can see that they are IN LOVE, getting ready, and are preparing things TOGETHER. The two of us never had that and you just went on ahead, assuming that | was. going to want anything to do with you because we are 'fated' mates." "Then why the hell did you not say no?" | asked, shaking my head in question. "If you didn't want anything to do with me, why did you not say no?"

| knew that this wasn't the first time the two of us had this argument, but it was times like this when | wondered why he didn't just choose to give the two of us the peace of mind that he could have offered had he JUST been honest. | knew that I had no other choice, whether or not | liked it, | was my family's bastard and | owed them that much for the time and years that they took care of me. But | knew that HE could have had a choice.

“And risk the chance of losing an offer like that one?” He asked, taking me off guard. “Had you been a goblin, I would have fucked you that night...”

I slapped him, taking him off guard as I stopped him from completing his sentence.

He looked away from me, taking a deep breath as he put his hand on his cheek, and I couldn't help the tears that fell from my eyes as I glared at him.

“You are a damn jerk, do you know that?” I asked, throwing the dress on the bed. as I walked toward the door.

“Where the fuck are you going?” He asked, wrapping his hand around my wrist, stopping me. I pulled my hand from him, and he growled as he saw me resenting him. I turned to face him, my tears falling freely from my eyes as I did before. returning the growl.

“I am going to hell,” I said, and he took a deep breath. “At least there, I might not be treated as nothing more than a pleasure whore...”

Chapter 92

Chapter 92 Dimitri: It took me a few minutes to process the fact that I was slapped in the face by Aurora.

The way that she looked at me, and her pain that I saw in her eyes was one that I didn't like. But I knew that I had crossed the line with my words to her, and considering that I knew that she was supposed to be having a guest over in a bit, I didn't know how things were going to be right now.

I sighed and pinched the bridge of my nose before walking out of the room, knowing that she was in the garden. I knew not to approach her right now, but I also knew that things were going to be more complicated now that she had seen the hotel of Charlotte. Though how the woman even dared to approach her was still a mystery to me, I hated to admit that I wished that I had told her that I was going to go in the first place.

“Dimitri,” Natalia said, catching my attention. I knew that Aurora has been doing her best to keep things from her. She didn't want to ruin her wedding

preparations and what was supposed to be the best night of her life, and that was something that I understood. And though I had to admit, I did wish that she would at least speak to her, maybe, just maybe, it would have made coping with this a little easier for her.

"Is everything alright, Natalia?" | asked, and she nodded.

"Yes, | just wanted to ask if you knew why Aurora has been off with me for the past few days. She hasn't been speaking to me and if | hurt her in any possible way, | want to apologize." She said, making my chest tighten. | shook my head and she frowned in confusion before raising an eyebrow. "You two fought again, didn't you?"

"She's just overwhelmed with the things that she has to deal with as a Luna. Your know, after the Angelina ceremony and the other packs coming, a lot has changed a more responsibilities flew on both our heads." | said, choosing to lie. | didn't know whether or not Aurora wanted her to find out about this to begin with, and if she didn't, | knew better than to put myself between them.

"| think that you know very well that | am not foolish enough to believe such a lie," she said, raising an eyebrow at me. She crossed her arms over her chest and shook her head in question. "What happened?"

"Natalia, don't get me wrong, but if she isn't going to be the one to tell you, | don't think that it is my place to do so. | don't want to find myself in something like this and..."

"You hurt her feelings, and | doubt that she is going to be telling me, especially not now." She stated, her eyes hardening at me. | took a deep breath and took a step back, not wanting to talk about this any longer. | had to admit, | hated what

happened more than anything and to know what | was being confronted like that, | couldn't help but find myself growing more annoyed than | already was.. "You know, Dimitri," Natalia said, stopping me as | turned to the front door. | needed some air, and | knew that staying here was only going to choke me, especially right now. "You really don't deserve her, | do hope that you know that." "I doubt that it is your place to tell me what | do and do not deserve, Natalia." | said, looking at her over my shoulder. "You being my beta's mate does not give you the right to think that you can cross your limit. And if | am going to choose to let your attitude slide; it is only because | know that your wedding is in a few days and | don't want to hurt you before then."

"Funny that you should be throwing down threats when you know very well who | am," she said, and | turned to face the woman with a raised eyebrow. She had her arms crossed over her chest, and | knew that she was playing with fire as she tested me right now. "I am not the weak woman that you are going to threaten and just get away with it. | may be human, but | am more than willing to fight you back if | have to."

"Then find yourself a different cause to fight for, because this is not one that concerns you." | said, glaring daggers at her. She scoffed, and looked at Aurora for a second before shaking her head at me.

"It is a shame that a person like you calls himself the Alpha of Alphas and yet doesn't know how to treat a woman. But then again, | do think that you believe that all women

are nothing but pleasure toys unless they were your mate.” She said, and I let out a low warning growl.

“What is going on here?” Ivan asked, but neither Natalia or me bothered to turn and look at him as he watched us.

‘She is far too good for you and I know for fucking fact that a thousand men would want to be with her.’ Natalia said, keeping her eyes on mine. “It is only a shame that she is wasting her time with a man who doesn’t want to get over a whore who...”

“ENOUGH!”

“Or else what?” She asked, pushing me back. I took a deep breath and closed my eyes before looking at Ivan.

“Take your woman and keep her out of my sight,” I said, and Ivan looked at the two of us for a second, completely baffled at what was going on as he tried to process what he just witnessed. “As for you, as long as you know nothing, I doubt that your judgment by ONE side of a story, and by the way, it is not even the full side, is right. Therefore, unless you want the two of us to have more problems than you are going to like; I suggest that you stay the fuck out of what doesn’t concern you.”

“Focus on your wedding.” I said, glaring at the woman. She went to respond and I watched Ivan pull her behind him, stopping her from saying whatever she was going to say. “I am going out, Ivan. Tend to things here, we have Claudia, Alexis

mate coming, and I don’t want trouble to happen, am I making myself clear?”

Chapter 93

Chapter 93 Aurora: I walked inside the house, knowing that I had to get ready considering that I had a guest coming over.

I wiped my tears and took a deep breath, putting on the best smile that I could muster before I was stopped by Ivan who wrapped his hand around my arm, stopping me.

“Smile now, you almost caused me to lose her head,” he said, making me frown in confusion. I knew for fact that I didn’t speak to Natalia today; the fact that he was talking to me this way only made me frown in confusion as I tried to process what he was going on about.

“I beg your pardon?” I asked, and he scoffed.

“Enough with your acts of innocence. You are just causing more trouble as time goes, and you know that with the wedding approaching...”

"I did not even speak to Natalia today. If you have any problem with her, then I do suggest that you find someone else to throw your anger on..."

"She argued with Dimitri for me, and I think YOU know for fact that you

have done more than what you are referring to." He said, making me frown. I pulled my arm away from his grip, trying to process his words and he raised an eyebrow at me.

"Why so shocked? You've been throwing trouble since you entered this house, why are you surprised that my mate..."

"I did not speak to her, nor do I know why she would be arguing with Dimitri. Also, if I wanted anyone to interfere with my relationship to begin with, it is not going to be your mate, you can bloody rest assured." I said, stopping the man. "Now, if you don't have anything else to tell me, I have a guest coming over and the last thing that I am going to need is to make myself or this pack look bad because YOU are refusing to allow me to get ready."

"Am I?" He asked, glaring at me. His hard tone made me frown in confusion as I tried understanding why on Earth he was even angry with me. I knew for fact that I hadn't done anything to annoy him, and I was sure not to approach Natalia due to her

nervousness as I knew that she had a lot to get ready for. "Coming from the woman whose been sitting outside for the past half an hour. You've been balling your eyes out for everyone to see and you are claiming that you are concerned about this pack?"

"You are the last person to be speaking to me about my tears, anger, or pain. Considering that you chose to be waiting for the bloody damn mistress, I am surprised that you have the courage to be speaking to me about my pain." I said, and he frowned. He opened his mouth to speak and I raised my hand, stopping him. "I am done being taken for a fool for you, your Alpha, or this pack. If I am going to tend to my duties, then fucking allow me to do it. But do NOT, and I am.

going to repeat, do NOT expect me to be a rock that is going to be waiting to be thrown where YOU please for me to be." "You are misjudging a situation..."

"The woman came to me!" I said, stopping him. "She told me that YOU were waiting to pick her up to take her to Dimitri. She told me that he was waiting for her in a hotel that HE bought for her. I went to the garden, HOPING that I wasn't going to find you. I swear on my life, if you were not there, I would have gone straight home and I would have known that she was lying. I found you there, and I found you waiting. I knew that she was right then, but I still wanted to doubt, I went to the hotel. I fought against all the pain and I hoped that he wasn't there."

"Aurora..."

“He was sitting at the desk waiting for her.” | said, stopping him. “Put yourself in my shoes, look at the person who cheated on your agreement for months, look at the man who had the audacity to have another woman in the same home that you were supposed to be spending your ‘honeymoon’ at. And rather than having him spend time with ME, | had to watch him being with her. | was carrying his child, | had her growing inside me, and he was plotting to give her to his mistress. PUT your self in MY shoes for once rather than being angry that | am breaking on a daily basis by just hearing her damn name.”

He froze, not saying a word as he heard me speaking. | wiped my tears and took a deep breath before my eyes met his. “If you don’t mind, my guest is coming over in a bit. And | need to be ready for when she arrives,”

| went to walk up to the bedroom only to be stopped by a voice being cleared behind me. His scent filled my nostrils, and | didn’t need to look behind me to know that it was Dimitri who was standing there. Ivan didn’t say a word, but he took a step aside before walking past me, leaving me alone with the last man that | wanted to speak to.

“You were going out,” | said, not bothering to look at him. “| forgot a few papers,” he said, taking a step toward me. He didn’t say word for a few seconds before he put his hand on my arm, right where Ivan had his wrapped, and | flinched. | knew that it would heal, but his tight grip was surely going to be leaving a

mark. “I understand your anger, and | know that | may be the last person that you want to hear from right now. | just want you to know that you misunderstood one thing.”

“| don’t want to hear more lies, Dimitri...” “I went “While tell her that everything that | gave her is gone.” He said, stopping me.

“While it might not sound believable, | got a call from her, and she asked me to meet her. | agreed, but it was ONLY to inform her that things were done. You can choose to believe me or not, but | give you my word that it what happened. She wanted me to meet her in the garden, | sent Ivan to bring her to the first thing that | ever truly gave her.”

He k*ssed my cheek from behind, not bothering to wait for me to respond before

taking a step back. “I will leave you to get ready. | have a meeting and it is going to take a while, but I’ll be back later tonight if you’re willing for the two of us to talk...”

Chapter 94

Dimitri:

| watched as Aurora walked away to the room without saying a word to respond tome.

| shook my head before walking to my office. | had to cancel the meeting; if she was going to be gathering with other packs in the house, | had to make sure that she didn't end up balling her eyes out. Things would be harder to explain if she did and the last thing that | needed was for rumors to not only spread around but to also reach the elders. | wouldn't know how to answer to them, and considering that one of them was her father; | would rather not find myself dealing with that.

"When | told you to watch over the house to ensure that no trouble rose, | never believed that YOU would be the cause of trouble, Ivan." | said, looking at my beta as | entered the office. | knew that he was angry after probably ending up with a problem with Natalia, but this was the last thing that | expected from him.

"Alpha..." "What if the guests arrived and your voices were as loud as they were, Ivan?" | asked, stopping him.

"Natalia is angry, and so are you. If my mate, the woman who is to be my wife, dared disobey my Alpha, then problems will be rising and you know that very well." He said, and | took a deep breath. | knew that he was right. If she chose to start a rebellion, as his wife, then that was going to be making a major issue. "Loyalty above all, and included my mate. My love for her is something, but for her to double cross you as she did because of Aurora; then that was going to have to come to a certain end."

"Aurora has done more than she should have, but she could not be blamed. The main issue here was the fact that she even allowed herself to listen to Charlotte, but knowing the woman, | know that the blonde had her ways of persuasion. Even if Aurora didn't want to listen to her, she was going to force it into her mind that she did." | said, sitting at my desk. | stared ahead for a few seconds before taking a deep breath as | knew that things were going to get more out of control as time went by.

"What do you suggest that we do?" Ivan asked, shaking his head. | tapped my desk twice as | tried thinking straight before getting up. The man had his wedding to care about, and the last thing that he should have been concerned of was Aurora and whatever issues the two of us had to deal with. If anything, none of the pack members, not even Natalia who saw herself as Aurora's friend, should have been getting between the two of us.

"You are going to go and get ready for your wedding. You have more important things to deal with and the last thing that you want is to make your memorable days this dark. As for Aurora, | will know how to speak to her," | said, my voice

hardening as | walked to the door. "Cancel all my meetings for the day. | am going to know how to deal with things in the house my way..."

"You know, we were all surprised when we heard that you were pregnant in the first place." | heard Claudia tell Aurora. "Why is that?" Aurora asked, letting out a low laugh.

“Well, you know, normally arranged mating bonds do not end up working as good as a true mating. But we saw the love that the two of you had for one another, and believe me, most of the girls were jealous of the two of you to the point where we ended up causing issues to our mates and husbands.” Claudia said, her tone devious.

“Did you now?” Aurora asked, and I walked inside carrying a flower bouquet, taking both women off guard. Aurora frowned in confusion before both women got up. I handed her the red and yellow flowers, and watched as she looked down at it for a second.

“Now, do explain to me how I’m going to look at my mate, knowing that the man just brought you a bouquet when you had a guest over?” She asked, looking at me. I smiled at Claudia and extended my hand to her.

“You know that you often get flowers, Claudia.” I said, and she scoffed.

“Not on random occasions, unless you have something that is special that we do not know of?” She asked, looking at the two of us suggestively. Aurora shook her head.

“Well, if there was any special event, I wouldn’t know of it.” She said, looking at me. “The flowers are beautiful though, thank you, Dimitri.”

“They are not for an event, malyshka. But I figured that they would make your smile,” I said, and Aurora raised an amused eyebrow at me before chewing the inside of her mouth. I kissed her temple, letting my lips linger there for a few seconds as I heard my woman’s heart race. I knew that I was taking a leap of faith, but I also knew that it was going to be the one way that she was going to allow me to touch her without causing a fuss that I knew very well that I did not want to deal with right now. “Do you want me to put them in a vase? Or will you do that later?”

“You can put them in our room if you would like?” She asked, giving me a sarcastic smile. “You know, I am having a guest over and I am not going to be leaving her, do you not agree?”

Claudia looked at the two of us with an amused smile on her face. I looked at the woman for a second before looking down at Aurora who was trying to understand what I was going on about. But I knew one thing, I wasn’t going to let things go without trying to make them right. Even if it I had to do it publically. “Well, then, it seems to me that I am going to have to wait for you until later, wouldn’t it?” I asked, kissing her cheek. I took the flower bouquet from her before

turning to go to the bedroom, and I couldn’t help but smirk when I heard Claudia say.

“Yes, I am definitely jealous...”

Chapter 95

Chapter 95 Aurora:

“What kind of game do you think you're playing?” | asked, entering the bedroom where | knew Dimitri was sitting at his desk. The fact that he wasn't in the office only told me that he was waiting for me.

“Is it necessary for me to be playing a game? Or is it only because you do not want to consider the fact that something good can come from me, malyshka?” He asked, and | scoffed. The man took me for a fool, but | knew for fact that | was not going to be falling for it. Not anymore anyway.

“I am done with your lies, and | am done having false hope over nothing,” | said, and he smiled. His smile reached his eyes, and | could tell that he was far more amused than | would want him to be. And though | did not know whether to be annoyed with that or not, | knew one thing, | wanted nothing more than to rip that smile off his face and to also slap him in the face for the way that he was making me feel.

“What if | am not lying?” He asked, raising an amused eyebrow. “What if every word that | am telling you is true and | want to make things right with you?”

“Then you either a psychopath, a bipolar, or you have an identity disorder.” | said, and he chuckled, shaking his head at me.

“And you are not dramatic, are you?” He asked, his eyes hardening once again. “And you do not refuse to listen? And you are the innocent angel who is forced to deal with everything while | am the bastard that is forcing you into it? | am the bad guy in your story, am | not?”

“| never said...”

“You implied,” he said, and | took a deep breath. | let out a low growl, and he rolled his eyes at me. My heart raced against my ribcage and the anger that | felt at that moment was one that | didn't want to deal with. “But | am going to have you know one thing, and you are going to have to start putting in mind from here. on out, and that is that you are going to ruin the wedding of two people who have done nothing more than try to...”

“What?” | asked, stopping the man. He raised an amused eyebrow at me, and | watched as he shook his head in question at me.

“Did you expect Natalia to just drop the fact that you are moping around over something that you THINK happened when it did not? The woman came and had an argument with me, one that her mate had to stop her from taking on. Now, if you do not wish to ruin their busiest and most beautiful days, | do suggest...” “You are one asshole, has anyone

ever told you that?" | asked, stopping the man. He raised an eyebrow at me, and | took a deep breath. "You really are failing to see that IF | reacted this way,

it is for a damn reason. If | am in pain, it is because | did not want to find myself in such a situation where | could be under the threat of losing the ONE true thing that | am trying to build." "Then you come and fucking speak to me rather than acting out. Rather than assuming..."

"| saw you in that office, Dimitri. For fuck's sake, what did you expect of me?" | asked, stopping the man. His eyes met mine and the next words that he said took me off guard, especially when he knew very well that | had my own reasons to doubt everything.

"To trust me,"

He went to turn around, but | wasn't going to have it, not tonight. If we were going to talk about this, then it was going to be until the end of this conversation. "How?" | asked, and he froze. He didn't say a word for a few seconds, but he turned around to look at me, his eyes holding a little pain before they darkened a bit. "You slept with me, took my virginity, and barely before | even woke up, you went to her. | was in pain, but you believed that | wasn't a virgin because | didn't bleed. | didn't even complain, | wasn't forced, | knew that it had to be done, but it wasn't romantic either. The two of us were on duty and we did it, | didn't complain either."

"But | want you to put yourself in my shoes, and if you can look me in the eye. and tell me that you are going to be sitting under the same roof let alone the same house; then | am going to drop all Charlotte's topic and pretend that it never did exist." | said, and he took a deep breath, not saying a word for a few seconds. "I am going to start with the first situation. On our mating night, the night that you were supposed to be entering this agreement with the purity and hopefully honesty despite it being an arranged one. Regardless of everything, | agreed to it, and not only for my benefit, but let's face it, you as an Alpha will grow more powerful as you take hold of two packs rather than one. Nevertheless, you find me k*ssing. another man in the dressing room, and you are forced to still walk around with me and pretend that nothing had happened. And | must add, | will not bother feeling guilty about it either."

| opened my mouth to go on before the man raised his hand, stopping me. | raised an eyebrow at him, and he took a step back. "I am going to the office to finish off a few papers. | can assume that you are going to want to check on our daughter,"

"Dimitri..." "| said a word," he said, turning to the door. He walked out without bothering to wait for my response and | shook my head at him.

"Unfortunately, Dimitri, this is not even one percent of what | have lived through with you." | said, looking at the door. "You couldn't even take the beginning of it..."

Chapter 96

Chapter 96 Dimitri:

| had to fight back the anger that | felt at the fact that everything that | was doing seemed to bring back a past that | no longer wanted to admit.

The pain that | felt in my chest as she brought back the topic of me and Charlotte was not one that | liked, especially when | knew that it was something that | wanted to close.

| took a deep breath, knowing that we were not going to get anywhere with such arguments when we couldn't find it in ourselves to even think of agreeing on ONE topic. And that was something that | knew was going to create a major problem that | did not want to handle.

"What am | going to do with you, Aurora?" | asked, my voice above a whisper as | got lost in my thoughts. The office door was knocked, breaking my train of thoughts, and | frowned as | caught Natalia's scent. The last thing that | needed. was another argument, and knowing that her wedding was in a few days; | didn't want to ruin that for her.

"Come in," | called. She opened the door, and | watched as she walked inside before closing it. She didn't say a word for a few seconds, but | waited, allowing her the time that she needed to calm herself down. "You can sit,"

"| choose not to," she said, and | nodded. She crossed her arms over her chest and | shook my head in question, waiting for what she was going to say. "I wanted to apologize for interfering with something that | shouldn't have. Though | do not like seeing the woman as broken as | do, it is painful to know that the one person that | am calling my friend is the one person that | cannot help; | know that it is wrong of me to get between man and wife, regardless of what the situation is."

| got up from the chair, and walked toward her, not saying a word as | approached her before | nodded at her to sit on the couch that was on the right side of my office. She took a seat, and | sat beside her, keeping a safe distance as not to annoy her by being as close as | was before looking her in the eye.

"You know, it amazes me that neither one of you wants to think to listen to one word that | want to say. Yes, | do understand that | have made my mistakes. concerning my relationship with her, but you both need to know that | did not aim nor did | intend to hurt her. If anything, | went to end things with Charlotte." | said, and she frowned.

"You still haven't?" She asked, and | shook my head.

"| did, but there was a minor issue that concerned her toward me." | said, and Natalia shook her head in question, waiting for my explanation. "Charlotte was a consort in my home. She gave up her titles and everything that would have belonged to her to be with

me. She wanted to prove to her father that she could do so instead of following what he wanted,”

“And he wanted what?” She asked, and I sighed.

“To arrange a marriage for her. It was one that she was against with everything. that she had and her father knew that very well. The thing is, he didn’t seem to see that she was worth the thought of it. He didn’t believe that she would have the right to choose, and she believed otherwise. She didn’t want it.” I said, recalling the night that she entered my bed for the first time. She was scared that I would be resenting her, and though I called her, I have to admit, I didn’t intend to call her to come again. But when her father came to see her a few weeks later, I knew that I wasn’t going to be giving her to him. He would have hurt her, and if she was patient enough regardless of everything, then I figured that maybe she would be the one for me.

Little did I know that fate had its own plans for me.

“I gave her things, a lot of them. I know that she figured that I would have been willing to wrap things up between us.” I said, and Natalia frowned. “By wolf laws, her being with her father right now, reclaiming her rights while still getting the benefits that I gave her was not allowed. She knew that very, in terms of what we do, she would be considered a runaway. And that is not something that we allow, not at all, actually.”

“So, she framed this for Aurora to think that you were cheating on her?” Natalia. asked, and I nodded.

“Aurora and I didn’t have the best or easiest beginning. We didn’t love one. another, and we sure as hell did not get along. I did not want to be with her, but I knew that I didn’t have another choice.” I said, and Natalia frowned in confusion. I knew that no one knew of the reason why Aurora couldn’t be her pack’s Alpha, but I also knew that it wasn’t something that I was going to voice out for anyone. “Their pack needed a strong Alpha, and a union, one which Aurora wouldn’t have been able to do on her own. The two of us were arranged, and in turn, our packs would be merging into a stronger one. We would be allies, and our grounds would grow bigger.”

“But it isn’t something that you wanted,” Natalia said, and I shook my head.

“I am a Pakhan as well as an Alpha. To find myself in something like this when I wasn’t the one who chose this path was not something that I liked. I understand. that Aurora was thrown in this as well, but you as a Capo dei Capi’s daughter should know the reality of how things are in our world.” I said, and Natalia looked down at her lap.

“Why didn’t you at least tell her from the beginning?” She asked, shaking her head.

“While I understand your point, you have to understand hers.”

"I never did intend for her to find out the way that she did. However, she saw the two of us on the mating night." I said, and Natalia's eyes widened in surprise. "Anyhow, what you make of this information, I will leave to you. But I want you to understand that yes, I will have my conflicts with Aurora for as long as she chooses to be stubborn about the way we both are together."

"I just didn't want things to be affecting our friendship."

"You mean alliance." She said, correcting me. "I know that you were worried about- me thinking of canceling the wedding."

"The wedding is not going to be canceled, Dimitri. A lot of family members are coming and Ivan is not to blame for this." She said, getting up from the couch. "For as long as I do not end up finding out that he is a player as his Alpha is."

"I am not playing..."

"I am no fool to not see that you still have a soft side for your consort." She said, stopping me. "And if I can see it, imagine what the woman that shares your bed

can see."

I frowned and chewed the inside of my mouth as she opened the door. "I do hope that my apology has been accepted. As you may know, being my mate's wife will mean that I will have you as my Alpha, and the last thing that I am going to need is to have conflict with you. Have a lovely evening, Alpha..."

Chapter 97

Chapter 97 Aurora: I put Angelina back inside her crib when her nursery door opened, taking me off guard. It was Dimitri.

"She slept?" He asked, his voice above a whisper, and I nodded. He didn't say a word as he approached, and I watched as he extended his hand, watching as she gently wrapped her small hand around his finger despite being asleep. My heart swelled at the sight and his eyes softened as he looked at her.

I took a step back, allowing him the moment with our daughter, and noticing that, he removed his hand from inside the crib as he turned to face me. Our eyes met for a second, and I looked down at my feet before turning around to fix the blanket that I had on my lap as I was putting my little one to sleep.

I folded it and put it back inside the closet before walking to the bedroom. I knew that Dimitri would be calling the maids when he left the nursery, but the last thing that I wanted was to have another argument after a long day.

He walked to the room a few minutes later, and | could tell by just looking at his reflection through the mirror that tonight wasn't going to be one that he was going to ignore me in. It was nights like this when | wished that we never did try to make things right between us. | believed, somehow, that it would have been easier if we didn't have to deal with false hopes or lies.

"How long is it going to be before you have chosen to try and listen to me?" He asked, not waiting for me to turn around and face him.

"What difference would it make? Is it going to change the facts?" | asked, and he scoffed, shaking his head. "It would help YOU look at me in a way that doesn't have me looking as an enemy." He said, and | turned around to face him.

"To be an enemy would mean that | have a feeling toward you, be it love or hate doesn't make a difference. | share no emotions other than the fact that you are the father of my daughter and the man that was chosen for me to mate with." | said, and he looked down at his feet.

"You know that you just gaye Charlotte exactly what she wanted, and now | understand why she chose to play you rather than come to the hotel in the first place." He said, making me frown in confusion. "I am not going to try and explain something to you that | have been speaking about for a while. | am not the type to have the patience for that nor do | have the time in the first place. But | want you. to know that you are being fooled and if you are going to allow her to play you at your weakest point, to look at you in such a small way that you are believing it; then you are not fit to be in the position that you're in."

"I never wanted it,"

"And yet, here you are." He said, looking me dead in the eye. "You carry blood of nobility. Our daughter is going to need her mother being strong, if you are going to act the way that you are, | am very curious about how you are going to educate. her to be the heir of not only this pack, but of your adoptive parents' pack too."

"How | raise my daughter..."

"Will concern me until my last breath because it would not only depend on HER fate, but also the pack's. Neither one of my ancestors built this for you to come and destroy."

"It is you who chose to destroy it when you broke an oath." | said, and he raised an amused eyebrow. My heart ached, and for a second, his amused expression told me that this was not going to take the path that | wanted it to. It was going to turn against me and the worst part about it; | didn't know whether or not | was going to be able to handle it.

"I don't want to hurt you more than you already are. I do not want to affect our 'relationship', more than it is. But know one thing, you gave not only Charlotte, but every other woman what she would want to approach me. Charlotte is a sensitive topic to you and I respect it with everything that I have in me. Notice that I am giving you time to cool down and try to think straight. That is not something that I would have done for anyone else, but I am respecting that the woman not only played you the other day, but also managed to look you in the eye and hide the fact that she was my consort." He said, taking me off guard with his words. "My point is, Aurora; you are far too naive for your own good, and if you are going to believe every lie that a snake like her tells you; you are going to end up throwing yourself in a dark pit that you won't be able to get out of."

"And you are not wrong in anything that you have done? I am not only reacting to what I felt?" I asked, and he shook his head at me.

"I never said that I was a saint. I have done my mistakes and if I put myself in YOUR shoes, I know that I wouldn't have accepted being with me." He said, looking me dead in the eye as he spoke. The anger that I saw in his eyes reminded me of how it was when I first saw him and Charlotte. The way he was arrogant, and though I wanted to end everything, I knew at the time that it was not something that I was going to be able to do. The man was going to have his way and I was going to be patient, I was going to have to do what benefitted ME in the end. It was a lesson that I learned the hard way that night. "I am not going to touch you or lay a finger on you unless you allow me to. I am not going to cross your vision in a way that you will find disturbing unless you allow it. But IF I see that something within my pack and family is being affected because of you; then I am going to have to step up to you. And believe me, malyshka, I am the last person that you are going to want to find yourself against."

"I am going to burn you and walk away, and when or IF anyone asks; my pack comes first and that includes my child. Anyone, and I mean it, anyone who disturbs that is going to regret it." He said, taking a step back. "I am going to go and take a shower, I hope that my words can sink in deep enough for you to join

us, as my woman, on the dining room today. You know, you still are this pack's Luna and you have a figure to present..."

Chapter 98

Dimitri:

I walked out of the bathroom wearing a pair of pants, raising an eyebrow when I saw Aurora fiddling with her dress's zipper. She didn't look at me, but I knew that she was well aware that I was right behind her.

"Do you need help?" I asked, slowly approaching her. She didn't say a word for a few seconds, but I watched as she dropped her hands in defeat.

"Please," she said, and I nodded. I was sure to brush my finger over her back gently, watching as goosebumps rose over her skin at the gentle contact.

"Done," I said, and she turned to face me before raising a necklace. It was the one that I gave her when she gave birth to Angelina. "I am not going to take something that I gave you."

"I found it in my jewelry box, and I knew that it was you who put it there." She said, and I nodded. It was indeed me, but I didn't want her to think that I was going to take back something that I gave her because we argued.

"Because I put it back. You don't have to wear it if you don't want to..." "Dimitri, please." She said, stopping me. "I can't accept it knowing that someone else is in your heart."

"I didn't give it to you because I fell for you, Aurora." I said, and she looked me in the eye. "I did not lie to you about how I felt for you, nor did I fake any feelings that I didn't have. But what I am doing is for the two of us to try and build something out of our wrecked start. I gave you the necklace because it is in our tradition that we give our women a present when they give birth. Some used to give daggers, others handmade jewelry. What we gave just depended on what we wanted to see on or with our women. While I know that you are upset with me and you are not to be blamed for it, I want you to know that I am not going to take back something that represents you giving me a present, and that is our daughter."

"So, please, if you don't want to wear it; put it back inside the box. But I am not going to take it back, Aurora." I said, taking a step back. I looked at the black dress that she was wearing, and couldn't help but smirk when I saw that she had a light shade of makeup on. I knew that she was going to be joining us for dinner by just her outfit, and when she noticed that I was looking at her, she blushed and looked down at her feet.

"I take it that you finally chose to listen to what I asked," I said, and she shook her head.

"I didn't," she said, making me raise an eyebrow. "But I am going to join you for dinner. Might as well be seen with you as your mate, or am I wrong?"

"As long as we don't end up turning the table or burning the house down; you are not." I said, and she smiled. "You look beautiful, by the way. I'll leave you to get ready while I head down to the office."

"Shirtless?" She asked, and I winked. "Jealous that others might see me?" I asked, and she rolled her eyes.

"They can see you n*ked for all I care." She said, and I playfully rolled my eyes. "But I was simply searching for the cape of manners that you wanted me to drape around my shoulders when you refused to have it on yours."

"You needn't worry, malyshka, | am more than open to showing them to you. However, it can take a while, and as you may know, we have hungry pack members who are going to be waiting for us to join them for dinner." | said, and her sarcastic smile faded before she turned to the closet. | smirked and walked to my side to choose a shirt before turning to the door.

You can play hard all you want, malyshka. I'll know how to drop that wall of your down...

"Hey," Natalia said, smiling when she saw Aurora sitting beside her. Aurora winked in response and Ivan shook his head in question. | shook my head as a response, silently letting him know that things were not the way that | wanted them to be, but | knew that | was going to find a way to make them better.

"We have a problem, by the way." Ivan said, his voice above a whisper as he walked toward me. | frowned in confusion and shook my head, not understanding what more were we going to have to deal with than what we did until now. | knew that a lot could occur, but | also hoped that we didn't have to deal with more hell than we would want to at this point.

"Tell me, does it include the letter 'C'?" | asked, and he shook his head. "More like the letter 'S.'" He said, and | frowned. "The elders,"

"What?" | asked, shaking my head in question. Ivan nodded at me to walk toward the hall. And Aurora looked at me for a second, frowning in confusion along with the other pack members who were sitting at the table. "You start, we will be back. in a minute."

The two of us walked toward the front door, knowing that we wouldn't be as heard considering the clattering that was going around between the kitchen and dining room. And | shook my head in question at my beta, waiting for what he was going to tell me.

"What happened?"

"The elders were seen leaving the city, in particular, Elder Jordan and Lord Alpha Sirius." He said, and | frowned.

"What?" | asked, shaking my head in question. "They were running away, it wasn't them 'officially' leaving. You know, they do have their times, but this was done.

discretely, and rumors have it that they are searching for them." "Why the fuck would they be...?"

"| don't know, but something tells me that we are going to be dealing with hell fire." He said, and | took a deep breath, pinching the bridge of my nose.

“Have the men the city’s cameras and find out where they went. We will know how to deal with things from there,” I said, nodding at him to turn to the dining room. My eyes met Aurora’s and I saw Natalia frowning at Ivan as we both sat down.

“Is everything alright?” Natalia asked, shaking her head at her mate. Ivan k*ssed the crown of her head, letting his l*ps linger there for a few seconds before pulling away to rest his forehead against her temple.

“Everything is fine, malyshka. Don’t worry,” he said, and Natalia smiled.

However, to my surprise, I looked at Aurora to find her eyes on mine as she frowned. Her expression held a silent message that I didn’t understand, but I knew one thing.

Whatever was going on, we really were in for hellfire...

Chapter 99

Chapter 99 Aurora: I stayed quiet for a while as a heavy feeling settled in my chest.

And though I didn’t understand what was going on, I knew that the men didn’t just go to talk because they had a ‘minor’ problem to deal with.

Something was going on, whatever it was, something was wrong.

“We are going to need to go for fittings tomorrow,” Natalia said, breaking my train. of thoughts. I looked at her and shook my head in question, trying to process. what the woman just told me. “The two of us, we are going to go dress fittings. A few of my friends and cousins are coming too. You know, with the wedding in a few days, we are going to need to have this final check.”

I smiled and nodded in agreement, knowing that we needed everything to be ready before then. The last thing that we were going to need to deal with was a dress that was either too big or too small. She wanted the night to be perfect and for so many reasons, I knew why it had to be.

The marriage was not only tying up a ‘mating bond, but it would bring the family close to the Del Gardi family, one of the strongest Italian families that lived here in the States. I knew that it would help the family and considering that the alliance would also make my kids, who would be Alphas and Pakhans in the future, ensure stronger alliances that were tied by blood. It was one of the main reasons why this wedding was very important to us as a family.

“When would we head off? Being the bride, you are going to need the longest time and check up. And I think that we are going to need to pass by the pastry to ensure that everything is getting ready.” I said, and she nodded.

"Then we have the flowers, I know that we prepared everything and the designs. But I want to make a final check to ensure that it is what I want. You know..."

"Yes, I do." I said, and she smiled. It was something that I didn't have when it came to the mating ceremony. I doubt that I ever will, and therefore, living through it with her made it feel special for me. At least I got to know and feel what it was like to be a bride, even if I wasn't preparing this for me; I was happily doing it for her and by her side.

For the dress that I wore, it was my mother who chose it. I wasn't even allowed to try it on or see it until the ceremony night. She just had tailors coming in and out to keep measuring me as if I were some cattle that they were preparing to sell, then they would leave. To her, she understood better, she was the Luna, and I was the girl that didn't understand the basics of what needed to

be done when it came to such ceremonies. And I knew better than to argue. She was going to win anyway, there was no use in trying in the first place.

"We need to check on the chocolates, by the way." I said, reminding her. "They told us that they would be arriving tomorrow. You might want to take a look at how they came in."

"Oh. My. God. YES!" She said, looking somewhat more excited. I had to admit, her excitement got my mind off things, and I couldn't help but smile. Dimitri's eyes met mine for a moment, and though I still was angry with him. Though I had so many mixed feelings about him and what he had done. I didn't know how I was going to manage coping with them either, I knew that this was something that I had to play well. And that was going to include my responsibilities toward the pack as his 'wife, mate, and the mother of his daughter

"I have a feeling that we are going to be dealing with a lot more than just the few things that we have planned," Natalia teased, and I laughed, shaking my head at the woman. She smiled at me and winked, before I shook my head.

"As long as it's perfect, I think that we are going to enjoy it..."

"I heard that you have plans with Natalia tomorrow." Dimitri said, entering the room as I rocked Angelina. I looked at him, watching as she looked up at me with big beautiful eyes. She was waking up a lot more lately and she was having more sleeping nights, which was something that I was thankful for.

"You are the one reminding me of how important this wedding is, I am going to be doing my duties." I said, and he nodded. His eyes met mine for a moment and I looked down at our little one, smiling at her. "Is there anything that you want to tell me? If not, I need to go and put my child to sleep."

"Are you going to join me in bed?"

“No,” | said, and he frowned in confusion. “I am going to sleep in my daughter’s nursery tonight.” “Are you going to be this way, Aurora?”

“I am going to start knowing what | am worth, Dimitri.” | said, and he took a deep breath. “You do not care whether or not | am upset. And you do not care that | was hurt, and | am done trying to explain to you that it is something that is burning me inside.”

“Do you believe that | don’t care?” He asked, and | shook my head.

“| don’t need to believe anything, Alpha.” | said, and he frowned in confusion. “I know for fact that | am the least of your concerns. And | am done trying to please a man who proved...”

“You are my woman, Aurora...”

“No,” | said, and he frowned. “SHE was your woman. SHE was your love. | am your duty, and considering that | gave you an heir who was worth the ‘crystal necklace’ that you gave me. Thank you for it, but that will be my last of expectations. Now, if | can be excused; | would like to put my daughter in her crib...”

Chapter 100

Chapter 100 Dimitri:

| looked at the empty bed for a second before walking out of the room, not wanting to stay here as not to get lost in the number of thoughts that | had in my head.

“Dimitri?” Ivan asked, frowning in confusion as he probably read my anger in my eyes.

“I am going out.” | said, and he shook his head before rushing behind me. “Dimitri, what the hell...?”

“Hell it is going to be,” | said, stopping him. “I am going to show that...”

“Dimitri, stop it.” Ivan said, stopping me. “You are losing yourself to your anger and that is neither going to do nor your woman a good thing right now.

“I am trying to do everything that | can to please her, to explain to her, but not a thing seems to work. The woman just seems to be drawn to an idea that | aimed to cheat on her. Had | wanted to do so, neither Charlotte nor she would have known about it. But no, how would they have thought that | could do that without neither one of them finding out? Neither one of the women thought or believed that IF | wanted to do something, neither one of them was going to find out. Charlotte herself is going to be paying for this right now, because if she doesn’t, she is going to be crossing more limits. That is not something that | am going to keep standing.”

“She is going to get what she wants with what you are doing. And you seem to be failing to understand that.” Ivan said, glaring at me. “While I understand your anger, you need to understand that you are going to give her exactly what she wants. And that is the ruining of peace that YOU are trying to build in your home. She managed to do it to Aurora, somehow, she managed to get inside the pack, and I don’t even know how that happened when no one even saw her. I tried checking the cameras and zero, it is like the footage has been deleted completely or the cameras of the whole Estate were off while she was here.”

“What about the cameras in the street?” I asked, frowning in confusion. Ivan shook his head, and I took a deep breath, knowing that her father must have had a hand in this. The fact that he was playing a dangerous game like this one was one that I didn’t want to be dealing with.

“None worked, we checked. Everything has a loop. Plus, Charlotte knows the secret gates in the pack grounds. She knows this Estate inside and out. She would know how to get in and out without being seen, the issue lies with the fact that we need to ensure that this doesn’t end up happening again.” Ivan said, and I nodded. Right now, it was more than just Charlotte approaching Aurora, but it was the fact that we needed to make sure that she didn’t reach Angelina. If the woman hurts her, then it is hell breaking loose in different angles that neither one of us was

going to want to deal with.

“The you need to make sure that the gates are sealed. I don’t care what needs to be done. We have to make sure that not only the pack is secure, but that our members are not harmed. We have kids and if she started with approaching Aurora, this can be a warning to something bigger than just her speaking.” I said, and Ivan nodded. I didn’t know what she was going to have in mind next, but I knew one thing, we were going to chop off the snake’s head before it was able to reach its target.

I looked at Aurora who was sleeping on the rocking chair beside Angelina’s bed. My stomach churned, and the fact that the maids were here watching her was not something that I liked.

I walked toward her, my steps careful and slow before lifting my woman in my arms. She stirred in her sleep, but I didn’t bother to stop as one of the maids opened the door for me. I nodded in thanks and walked toward the edge of the bed, laying her there.

Aurora sat up and rubbed the sleep from her eyes. They were bloodshot red, and I knew that it was due to both fatigue and being upset. If she didn’t want to share my bed, that was going to be okay, but I wasn’t going to have her sleeping on a chair while I slept here and I knew that she had her duties to take care of within the pack and with our daughter. I didn’t want her collapsing under the pressure of all of that with minimum sleep.

"I told you that I didn't intend to sleep with you..."

"I am going to sleep in the guest room," I said, stopping her. She frowned in confusion, and I took a step back as I walked toward the closet to change my suit. Ivan and I went to one of the hotels to check on a few things, and though I did debate on whether or not I should stay there, I knew better than to leave the house in the mess that it was in. And because of that, I chose to decide against it. "It is your room, Dimitri."

"Aman never kicks his woman out of his bed." I said, and she frowned. "Whether or not you like it, the two of us are man and woman. Our daughter proves it, our legality does too. While I do understand your anger, I know that it is bound to die down. And when it does, I do not want to be the man that is known to have kicked his woman out of his bed when they started being in a real relationship that was somewhat far from whatever duties they had to do."

"Wasn't our mating a duty to the two of us?" She asked, and I nodded.

"Indeed, it WAS. Note the past tense, but if you do not wish to accept that, I cannot force you to. Anyhow, I am going to go and take a shower before leaving. If there is..."

"I am not going to watch you leave the room while I sleep on your bed." She said, stopping me.

"Then I take the floor," I said, and she stood up.

"You really don't get it, do you?" She asked, shaking her head at me.

"Don't get what?"

"The fact that I want nothing to do with you." She said, and I smiled. I took a step closer to her and leaned in, my body towering over hers as I allowed my breath to hit her neck.

"I do," I whispered, "But that only makes me want to prove to you what I am willing to do to get to you. I'll go and shower, get some sleep. Don't worry, I won't be getting in bed considering that you don't want me to."

She opened her mouth to respond and I kissed her cheek, pecking it gently before pulling away to go to the bathroom. Her heart raced, and I couldn't help but smirk when I heard her say.

"What the fucking hell just happened?"