

Chapter 1: The Alpha King's Huntress: Hunt The Red Lycan

CHAPTER 21 What Happened to Her?

Lana sat on the bench, her body tense, as she watched the couple with a mix of envy and bitterness. She took a sip of her smoothie, but instead of the sweet taste she craved, the liquid tasted like mud. A surge of anger rose within her-this should be her with someone, not alone on a bench.

"This isn't fair," Lana muttered through gritted teeth, her hands clenched into fists. But then she felt a chilling sensation-the feeling of being watched. Without looking around, she quickly got up from the bench and began to retreat back to her room.

But before she could even make it to the hallway, Lana was shoved hard against the brick wall, pain shooting through her body as rough edges dug into her skin. She whirled around in a defensive stance, only to come face-to-face with Miraya, her cold eyes boring into Lana's.

"So, you're going to fight now?" Miraya taunted with a cruel smirk.

"Just leave me alone," Lana pleaded, trying to push past Miraya. But Miraya only laughed at her feeble attempts.

"You're so pathetic. This is why you were rejected. You're just a coward," Miraya seethed at Lana.

"What do you want?" Lana asked, trying to keep her voice steady despite the fear coursing through her veins.

"I'm going to ask you one more time," Miraya growled in a low and menacing tone. "What do you know about the new girl, Kasia?"

Lana's mind raced, trying to come up with something that would appease Miraya's wrath. But before she could respond, Miraya shoved her chest with a finger.

"See the way your heart is pounding in your chest? I know you're lying," Miraya accused.

"No, it's just..." Lana stammered, her heart beating so loudly that she was sure Miraya could hear it. But before she could finish her sentence, Miraya's fist connected with her stomach, knocking the wind out of her. Lana doubled over in pain as another blow struck her jaw, sending stars dancing across her vision.

"See, I was going to let you go, but since you want to keep lying, I guess we have to do this the hard way," Miraya sneered, a cruel glint in her eye. Lana's whole body trembled with fear as Miraya's menacing words echoed in her mind. She knew she was in deep trouble. Lana's mind raced as she tried to figure out a way out of this situation. But no matter how hard Miraya hit her, Lana refused to reveal what she knew. She would protect Kasia at all costs, even if it meant taking more beatings from Miraya.

Miraya's friends closed in, leering down at her. Lana knew she should fight back, but she felt paralyzed. A kick to her ribs made her cry out.

"This is so pathetic! She smells just like prey," one of her friends commented.

"We should just tear off a finger; maybe that'll get her to respond," another one added.

"That's enough!" A voice rang out. Janet strode towards them, her eyes blazing. Miraya hesitated, not wanting to look weak in front of her friends.

"You heard me," Janet said. "Or do I need to give you a taste of what happened last time you didn't follow a direct order?" She stood protectively over Lana.

With a scoff, Miraya turned and left, her lackeys trailing behind. Lana sagged to the ground in relief, despite the throbbing pain. "Get up," Janet said, gripping Lana's shoulder and pulling her to her feet. "This has got to stop. You can't let them walk all over you like this."

Lana winced as she took a breath. "I'm only human. What am I supposed to do against them?"

"You fight back. I remember when you first got here, you were like an unhinged cat that had been dunked in cold water. What happened to her?" Janet said.

"That was different. That was before..."

"Before Trevor...I know. You have to move on from that. It has been years, Lana. You can't wallow in self-misery and allow them to bully you. They won't stop until you make them," Janet continued.

"It is not really a big deal. They'll get bored of me soon enough, like always," Lana countered.

"If Kasia finds out about this, there's no telling how she'll react. You know she'll go after Miraya and her friends, and she's not going to stop until she gets even," Janet warned.

Lana's eyes widened. She shook her head emphatically. "No, we can't let Kasia find out. She relies too much on those pills, and she has taken too many."

"Exactly. So you need to handle this yourself," Janet said. She studied Lana for a moment. "I can teach you some more advanced self-defense techniques. You won't deal damage, but it can buy you some time to get away."

Lana bit her lip, considering. As much as the thought of confronting Miraya terrified her, she couldn't risk Kasia losing control again. She took a deep, steady breath and met Janet's gaze.

"Yes, teach me," Lana finally said.

Janet nodded, satisfied. "Good. We'll start tomorrow."

There was a slight noise, like a gasp. Lana whipped around, peering into the dark hallway. For a brief moment, she thought she glimpsed a shadow moving. But in the next blink, it was gone.

"Did you see that?" Lana asked. "I think someone was eavesdropping."

Janet looked up, frowning. "See what?" She scented the air, but could smell nothing. "I don't smell anyone."

"Never mind," she said. "I'm just being paranoid."

Janet gave her a sympathetic look. "It's been a long day. You should get some rest. I'll send food to your room today. I'll see you tomorrow for your first self-defense lesson. Try to sleep in; you'll need your energy."

After Janet left, Lana couldn't shake the uneasy feeling that she was being watched. She told herself she was just spooked from the attack earlier.

With a sigh, she headed to her room, glancing over her shoulder the whole way.

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Chapter 24: CHAPTER 22 I Should Go

CHAPTER 22 I Should Go

The gleaming black sports car pulled into the pack house's driveway, and Kasia's heart raced. She had not looked at Ethan since they left the city, which concerned Ethan. The prolonged contact soothed him, but this was unlike her.

Ethan glanced at Kasia, her eyes wide with fear and confusion as she clung to the hand he held in hers. The adrenaline rush from their accident faded away, leaving her shaken and drained. He saved her life; there was no denying that. Something had snapped in her, and because of that, Kasia didn't want to leave his side.

Ethan released his seatbelt, but Kasia didn't let go of his hand, giving it a gentle squeeze to reassure her. His voice was low and soothing. "We need to go inside. You have to let go now."

Kasia didn't respond; her mind was still stuck on the events that had unfolded and the danger she'd faced. She held onto his hand tighter, unable or unwilling to move away from him.

"If you don't let go, I am going to think you like me after all." Ethan joked as he looked down at her, but Kasia still didn't respond. His free hand reached up to cradle her face gently, his thumb stroking her cheekbone. She flinched, but didn't pull away. She couldn't look him in the eye; she could only focus on the way his touch sent shivers down her spine.

"Kasia," he said again, his voice a rough rumble that vibrated against her skin. "We need to go inside."

She gave no indication of hearing him. Her hand remained clenched around his.

Ethan studied her face. She was lost in her trauma, disconnected from the present. He had to snap her out of it.

Making a decision, he reached over with his free hand and released her seatbelt. In one smooth motion, he slid his arm around her back and pulled her across the divide between their seats. She landed against his chest with a soft gasp, the contact jolting her back to awareness.

A fierce blush spread across her cheeks as she found herself pressed to the hard muscle of his torso. Her body tingled pleasantly where it met his, and she was surprised to realize she didn't want to pull away.

Ethan peered down at her, his piercing blue eyes filled with concern. "You weren't responding. I needed to get you out of the car."

Kasia's breath quickened, and her hands splayed across the solid width of his chest. She knew she should move and put some distance between them, but she couldn't make herself do it. The nearness of him was a drug, and she craved more.

Just a little longer, she told herself. In another minute, she'd pull away. But for now, she'd let herself have this.

Kasia tilted her chin up, meeting his gaze. "What are you doing?" she asked softly, her voice barely above a whisper.

Ethan's eyes darkened, his arms tightening around her. "What I should have done a long time ago," he murmured.

Before she could react, he shifted, moving to lift her from the car. The sudden motion caused her to slip into his grasp. She teetered dangerously, about to tumble from the seat.

Ethan's reflexes were lightning-quick. He caught her up against him, yanking her back to safety. But the momentum brought her lips crashing into his, and then they were kissing.

It was like nothing Kasia had ever felt before. His mouth moved over hers, firm yet gentle, sending spikes of heat racing through her veins. Her hands curled into his shirt, pulling him closer as she returned the kiss hungrily.

In that moment, nothing else mattered but the feel of his body against hers, his fingers tangled in her hair, and his rapid heartbeat echoing her own. The world receded until there was only this: his lips, his touch, and his intoxicating scent surrounding her. She wanted more and needed more. She kissed him fiercely and passionately, losing herself in the exhilaration of the moment.

Ethan growled low in his throat, the sound sending a thrill of anticipation down Kasia's spine. His hands slid from her hair to her waist, gripping her tightly as he deepened the kiss. She gasped into his mouth, her fingers clenching in his shirt.

His tongue swept past her lips, tasting her with a hunger that matched her own. A rush of heat pooled low in her belly, and she arched against him instinctively.

With a moan, he slid his hand up her back, skimming over her shoulder blade before cupping the nape of her neck. His touch was possessive and demanding, and she reveled in it. A whimper escaped her throat as he nibbled on her bottom lip, his teeth scraping against her skin lightly. She couldn't help but pull him closer still, their bodies molding together like two halves of a whole.

But then he nipped her neck, and Kasia pulled back with a gasp. The sudden pain intensified the pleasure so much that she moaned loudly, jolting her back to reality.

The implication of what they had just done sank in, bringing Kasia abruptly back to her senses. 'Oh, why stop now? You loved it. It's not like anyone would care if you unbuckled his pants and slid your panties to the left,' the voice taunted her again, and Kasia tried to drown out its laughter.

Kasia pulled away from him, sliding off his lap to stand on shaky legs. Heat flooded her cheeks as she realized how far things had gone and how close they'd come to going further still.

"I - I should go," she stammered. Her heart was pounding, torn between embarrassment and the desire still burning inside her. She wanted nothing more than to melt into his arms again.

Ethan breathed hard and said, "Kasia, wait - "

And with that, Kasia bolted from the car, not waiting for his response. She hurried up to her room, her body still humming with desire and confusion. Why did he have such an effect on her? But she couldn't deny the heat between them or the way his touch set her aflame.

As she closed the door behind her, she leaned against it, taking deep breaths to calm her racing heart. Her mind spun with thoughts of Ethan and the betrayal she felt toward her own kind.

Yet even as she tried to forget him, images of Ethan's mouth on hers flashed through her mind like lightning strikes. The taste of him lingered on her tongue, sweet like honey and musky like freshly turned earth after a rainstorm. The feel of his strong arms around her waist lingered beneath her fingertips as she traced the outline of where he had held her so tightly just moments before.

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Chapter 25: CHAPTER 23 A Meeting

CHAPTER 23 A Meeting

Kasia wandered through the outskirts of the pack territory, her boots crunching on the gravel pathway. She shivered against the chill of the early morning air, drawing her jacket tighter around her.

She had locked herself away after seeing the bruise on her neck from Ethan's love nip. After two days of locking herself away from embarrassment, Kasia snuck out of the pack house in the early hours of the morning before anyone was stirring. She couldn't sleep, waking up from another fevered dream of what could have happened if she stayed in the car.

"I can't believe I kissed him. What the hell is wrong with me?" Kasia muttered to herself as she kicked a rock out of her way.

Kasia's stomach churned with unease. Ever since Ethan saved her from that deadly fall at the amusement park, her mind has been in turmoil. She still didn't understand why he had caught her and prevented her death. Kasia didn't understand why she responded the way she did when she accidentally kissed him. It wasn't like she hadn't been kissed before. And why did he let her? Why had he rescued her? And on top of that, she cried in front of him. Kasia wanted to die of embarrassment.

As she continued deeper into the land, Kasia found herself in the area where the Omegas lived. It was a stark contrast from the beautiful homes and lush gardens that graced the rest of the territory—here, ramshackle huts stood crookedly, their roofs patched with whatever materials were available. Omegas, the weakest members of the pack, were treated like dirt simply because they lacked strength.

A bitter wind whipped through the slums, and Kasia caught sight of several omegas huddling around a makeshift fire, their ragged clothes fluttering in the gusts. She felt a pang in her chest. No matter what the hunters said, these weren't monsters. They were people, living in squalor while the pack elite lived in luxury just down the road.

"Damn it," Kasia muttered under her breath, her fists clenching. She felt a pang of anger and sadness for these Lycans, who were subjected to such conditions solely due to their misfortune of being born weak.

"Lost, are we?" a voice called out, startling her. A young omega male approached. He was well fed and dressed, so at least they were not starving the omegas. He was handsome, but she noticed his eyes lingered on her body far longer than she liked. She noticed him sniffing the air, and a flicker of hope was in his eyes. "You're Kasia, right? The she-wolf that Alpha rescued?"

"Yes, that's me," Kasia replied, forcing a smile.

'To him, you're an unmated she-wolf, an opportunity to go up a rank as he believes you are of higher rank,' the voice in her head explained to her. 'Sad that he doesn't know he doesn't have a chance since you have the hots for the Alpha.'

'Shut up!' Kasia hissed to the voice before saying to the omega, "Just taking a walk. Trying to clear my head."

"Ah, I see," the omega said. He shuffled awkwardly before continuing. "I know it's not much, but you're welcome to come inside if you'd like."

"Thank you," Kasia said. "But I think I'll keep walking for now."

"Alright," the omega responded, disappointment evident in his voice. "Take care, Kasia."

Watching the young man return to his dilapidated home, Kasia couldn't shake the image from her mind. These omegas deserved better, and she knew it was something she needed to bring up with Ethan.

As Kasia turned to leave, her thoughts continued to race. Why had Ethan saved her life at the amusement park? She couldn't deny that his actions spoke volumes about his character. But could she trust him enough to help those who needed it most—the omegas?

'Goddess, I thought we went over this already!' The voice in Kasia's head was persistent, chiding her for her stubbornness. "You're a complete idiot for still believing that Ethan wants to hurt you," it said. "He could have let you drop to your death back at the amusement park. It would've been easier for him, but he didn't do it. That means that Ethan isn't a terrible person."

"Maybe..." Kasia whispered reluctantly, her focus shifting from the Omega slums to the man who had saved her life.

"Stop doubting yourself and face the truth," the voice urged. "You were lied to. He is not a bad person, and if you truly want to help these omegas, then you have to stick around and open up."

"Who said I wanted to help them?" Kasia retorted.

"Whatever you say," the voice laughed.

"Kasia!" A familiar voice called out, pulling her from her thoughts. Turning around, she saw Janet approaching her with a concerned expression on her face.

"Hey, Janet," Kasia replied cautiously, bracing herself for the inevitable interrogation about the amusement park incident.

"Are you alright? What are you doing out here? Why..." Janet began, but Kasia cut her off, irritation evident in her tone.

"I need to take a walk and clear my head," she said.

"Are you sure nothing else happened? You've been locked in your room for days," Janet asked.

"That's all. I'm fine. And before you ask, I used the spray," Kasia replied.

"Alright, alright," Janet relented. "I got worried because I couldn't find you."

"Why were you looking for me?" Kasia asked.

"I wanted to invite you to a meeting," Janet replied.

"What meeting?" Kasia asked.

"We should keep up appearances that you'll be joining us eventually, and since everyone believes you were a high-ranking female from a pack that was ransacked by rogues, you are expected to come to a meeting of high-ranking female wolves to discuss improvements to the pack," Janet explained.

"Isn't that what a Luna is supposed to do?" Kasia asked.

"Ethan has no Luna, so it is up to us to do it instead. So, are you coming or are you're going to make this difficult?" Janet answered.

Kasia hesitated but nodded and said, "I'll go."

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Chapter 26: CHAPTER 24 The East Garden

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Upon entering the tea room, Kasia's eyes immediately locked on two unfamiliar women. Annoyance flared within her when she also spotted Miraya and Aimee seated with them. A pointed glare at Janet went unnoticed as she introduced the newcomers.

"Kasia, meet Meranda and Deanna," Janet said. "Meranda is the mate of Alpha's Beta, and Deanna is the mate of Alpha's Delta."

"It is a pleasure to meet you both," Kasia greeted them while ignoring Aimee and Miraya.

Deanna, with honey-colored skin, exuded a relaxed demeanor. She had full lips, sharp cheekbones, and tightly curled chestnut hair, but a scar that ran from the bridge of her nose to her chin marred her appearance. Curiosity flickered in her chocolate-brown eyes, hinting at a keen interest in Kasia. Toned arms and wide shoulders revealed that she was trained in hand-to-hand combat, a fact not lost on Kasia.

"You don't have to be so formal," Deanna said.

"She definitely does," Meranda retorted. "When are you going to take anything seriously?"

In stark contrast, Meranda exuded responsibility and control. Smooth, flawless bronzed skin, a simple ponytail revealing critical dark green eyes, and prominent features highlighted her authority. A sleek pantsuit emphasized professionalism and strength, while her physicality suggested agility and speed.

"As soon as there is a reason to," Deanna replied.

"Why is Aimee here?" Janet asked bluntly.

"Well, that's a little rude, Janet," Miraya interjected. "That's new coming from you."

Janet ignored Miraya's jab and continued. "I only ask as she was removed from these meetings once before because of her behavior."

"I invited her, as I believe we need more than just us to make decisions, as Miraya will do anything I say since she is my daughter, and I feel that Aimee has been punished enough," Meranda explained before turning her attention back on Kasia. "I could ask you the same thing about her. Why did you bring her here without approval?"

"Yes, she shouldn't be here. She's a rogue," Aimee added. "Why would we want a rogue in on our private business?"

Before Janet could respond, Deanna stepped in. "Rogue or not, she is the guest of Alpha Ethan. She should be here, as he has spent a lot of time with him." Deanna emphasized a lot, clearly looking to get under Aimee's skin.

"I didn't ask you, Deanna. I asked Janet why she brought her here," Meranda snapped, focusing back on Janet.

"Well, she can't answer that question since I am the one who invited her," Deanna explained.

"And why would you do such a thing?" Meranda asked, bewildered by Deanna's response.

"I am sure she would have great insight as someone from the outside looking in. Rogue or not, she was a high-ranking member of a very prominent pack. We should use her experience and knowledge," Deanna reasoned.

'Be cautious. You're being used in a power play,' the voice in Kasia's head warned her. 'It seems that Meranda wants more control over what goes on.'

'But isn't Deanna a lower rank? Shouldn't she already have control over the situation?' Kasia asked.

'Debatable. The Lycan hierarchy is different from the Werewolf hierarchy,' the voice explained. 'Betas and Delta are interchangeable even though they serve different functions.'

'Where does Janet fall in this, as it seems that she has to acknowledge Meranda?' Kasia asked.

'She doesn't. Sigmas don't align with pack hierarchy, but they do have an important role as they can be more objective. Now, focus on them before you get your idiot self killed.'

Meranda extended a smile that failed to reach her eyes. "Please, have a seat." She motioned for Kasia to take a seat.

"Well, now that's settled. Let's begin, then. I mean, I do have other things I would like to do today," Deanna said with a yawn.

Meranda rolled her eyes. "We are here to discuss potential upgrades to the pack territory and requests from the pack. Let's begin with potential upgrades. We received suggestions for another flower garden."

"Another garden would be a lovely addition," Aimee suggested. "Perhaps one with exotic flowers and rare plants. It would be a sight to behold for visiting packs."

Kasia, unable to restrain herself, questioned the necessity. "Why is another garden necessary? The pack grounds are already beautiful."

Aimee scoffed. "Appearances are important. There is never a thing of too much. We must maintain our status and wealth to ensure that other packs respect us. You should know that, Kasia."

"That seems like a waste of resources," Kasia said as she sipped her tea.

Deanna's gaze landed on Kasia, seeking her input. "Well, Kasia, what do you recommend instead?"

"Instead of focusing on aesthetics, why not work towards being more self-sufficient? What would you all do if you could not get shipments from the city?" Kasia proposed. "A farm and an actual garden would provide food for the pack and lessen your reliance on the city for resources."

Deanna and Meranda exchanged approving glances. "That's an interesting idea," Meranda admitted as she penciled it down in her notebook.

"Of course, the omegas will do all the work, as always," Aimee interrupted.

"Everyone should be involved," Kasia countered firmly. "What would the pack do if there were no omegas or if something happened to them? We should foster a sense of community and shared responsibility."

"That's beneath me," Meranda responded.

"Then perhaps you need to rethink your position. A pack is as strong as their weakest member," Kasia retorted. Meranda frowned at her, and Deanna smirked.

Janet intervened, sensing escalating tensions. "I think we should take a quick recess. Kasia, let me speak with you outside."

As Kasia stood, Deanna grabbed her wrist. "Wait. Your ideas are quite intriguing. Would you be interested in joining me on patrol sometime? I'd love to learn more about your perspective on things."

A moment of hesitation passed, and Kasia nodded. "Alright, I'll join you on patrol."

"Excellent," Deanna said, smiling. "I look forward to getting to know you better in a more relaxed atmosphere."

As Kasia and Janet left the tea room, Janet was prepared to scold Kasia for her behavior, but a young Omega approached. "Excuse me, Kasia. Alpha Ethan has requested your presence in the east garden."

Aimee, who walked out behind them, overheard, and her face turned an ugly shade of red upon hearing this, her jealousy and anger flaring. Clenching her fists, she was enraged that Kasia had again shown her up. When Janet and Kasia had left, Aimee grabbed the omega and said, "I want you to get a pill bottle from Alpha's office."

"I can't do that. I am not allowed without permission," the omega explained.

"Beta Meranda approved it; as I said, I would get his refill on his prescription myself as we have dinner tonight," Aimee lied. "You wouldn't want to upset Beta Meranda or even Alpha."

"No ma'am. I will get it to you immediately."

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Chapter 27: CHAPTER 25 The Connection

CHAPTER 25 The Connection

Kasia hesitated at the door of Ethan's office, her hand hovering over the doorknob. The last time they'd spoken, they ended up passionately making out in his car, which left her breathless and confused. A shiver coursed through her body as she remembered the feel of his strong arms around her and the taste of his lips.

'You should just let him bend you over the desk. That's what you really want,' the voice within her mind taunted her. Kasia couldn't help but blush at the thought. What was she, a silly schoolgirl? With a deep breath, she forced her mind to focus on the present and pushed the door open.

"Kasia," Ethan greeted her, his piercing eyes meeting hers as he straightened up from behind his desk.

"Hey Ethan." Her voice was barely audible, betraying her unease. "You wanted to see me?"

Ethan's gaze never wavered from Kasia's eyes, making her feel more exposed than ever before. She could almost feel his thoughts probing into her soul, searching for answers that neither of them possessed. Kasia gave him a confused look. Ethan cleared his throat, breaking the charged silence that had settled between them.

"I wanted to check on you," he said. "You didn't leave your room for two days. I wanted to make sure you didn't have an injury that we didn't notice."

"No, no injury. I'm fine. Was that all you wanted?" Kasia stated.

"No. About what happened last time..." he began his apology, but Kasia cut him off with a forced laugh.

"Please don't bring that up. That was an embarrassing moment for me. It was just a thing that happened, okay? No need to dwell on it."

Ethan frowned, his annoyance clear. He knew that Kasia was his mate, something she was still blissfully unaware of. He longed to reveal the truth to her and make her understand why their connection felt so fierce and undeniable. But he couldn't, not yet. The timing wasn't right, and the knowledge would only complicate things further for both of them.

"Kasia, I'm trying to apologize here," he said, his voice strained with frustration.

"Apologize?" She scoffed, folding her arms defensively across her chest. "For me kissing you? It was nothing. I am not offended. Just drop it."

His jaw clenched, an involuntary reaction to her dismissal of his feelings. Kasia was stubborn and fiercely independent, something he admired about her. But it also meant she had a tendency to push people away, especially when they tried to get close. It made him want to tear down the walls she'd built around herself to uncover the vulnerability he had seen in his car that night.

"So," Kasia said, her tone shifting to something more professional. She took a deep breath and focused on the matter at hand. "Did you find out if the rollercoaster was tampered with or if it was just poor maintenance?"

Ethan's gaze remained locked on hers, his silence stretching between them like an invisible force. Her scent was so intoxicating, and the fact that she wouldn't acknowledge the feeling between the two was driving him crazy. His instincts drove him to show her that it wasn't just nothing.

Kasia watched as he closed the distance between them, his long strides carrying him across the room in mere seconds. Before she had time to react, his strong hand gripped the back of her neck, sending a shiver down her spine and making her knees go weak.

"Wha-" she stammered, but her words were cut off by the sudden press of Ethan's lips against hers. His kiss was passionate and hungry, claiming her without reservation. Every rational thought fled from Kasia's mind as the intensity of their connection consumed her.

As they continued to make out, Ethan pushed her up against his desk. Her back hit the edge, scattering papers and office supplies onto the floor. Ethan gripped her and lifted her up on top of his desk. Kasia couldn't understand how he was bringing this emotion out of her and how kissing him felt like coming home after a lifetime of wandering lost and alone.

Just as she was about to surrender completely to the passion that threatened to consume her, with Ethan's hands ready to pull down her leggings, there came a knock on Ethan's office door. It was like a splash of cold water, snapping Kasia back to her senses. With a gasp, she pushed Ethan away from her, her eyes wide with shock and confusion.

"Stop... we can't... I don't know what's happening," she stammered, her breathing ragged as she tried to regain control over her own body. She slid down off the desk.

Ethan stared at her, his eyes darkened by desire but also filled with understanding. He knew the truth behind their connection, and he could see that she was struggling to process the raw, primal emotions that had erupted between them.

"Did you do something to me?" Kasia accused, her voice shaking with a mix of anger and vulnerability. "How can you make me feel like this?"

"Kasia, I didn't do anything to you," Ethan denied, his tone soft and sincere. "What's between us... it's just as unexpected for me as it is for you."

But Kasia didn't believe him. Her instincts told her that there was more to their connection than mere attraction. She knew that Ethan had secrets, and she couldn't help but suspect that he was manipulating her.

Before they could continue the conversation, another knock on the door interrupted them. Kasia quickly straightened herself up and fluffed her disheveled hair, trying to regain some composure.

"Kasia, wait. Let me explain," Ethan said, but Kasia ignored him. She opened the door to see the doctor standing there, a look of concern on his face.

"Is everything alright in here?" the doctor asked, glancing between Kasia and Ethan, who were both visibly flustered.

"Everything's fine," Kasia replied, her voice betraying her unease. "He's all yours." Without waiting for a response, Kasia brushed past the doctor and hurried out of Ethan's office.
