

## Chapter 12

### Chapter-12

"If you want to fight, let's do it," Athena nodded before standing in a fighting stance, bringing out six daggers from her pocket.

Seeing her like this, Simon also stood from his place, standing beside her to fight.

Feeling at loss, the leader gritted his teeth when he noticed all his men were already wounded, and if the fight prolonged, they might be on the losing end, even losing a life. They had seen Athena fighting before, and it was no joke.

"We will retreat for now, but you didn't do well today, Athena. He is an alpha, but you are still a rogue. You have to live in the forests, and it's dangerous for girls like you," the leader warned before all the rogues ran away.

"Come, let's go to your pack," Athena held his hand, widening her eyes slightly when she felt a tingling shock.

What the - she shook her head. This can't be true. She is thinking too much. Athena told herself.

"Why did you help me?" Simon asked when she didn't say anything further.

"Didn't you hear me? I am repaying my debt," Athena kept walking, making him wince since she was going too fast, and he wasn't able to keep up.

Seeing the wounds on her hand and bruise marks, he felt his

heart ache for the girl who saved him even after suffering so much from his pack members.

"You could've lost your life if the rogues hadn't retreated," Simon said again.

"And luckily, I didn't. I wasn't going down without a fight," Athena didn't look at him once, and it didn't settle well with him. He wanted her to look at him.

"We are almost near your pack. Bear a little more," Athena said before gritting her teeth to stop the pain in her legs because of falling earlier.

"What the hell do you think you are doing, rogue girl?" One of the pack border controls growled before everyone rushed to her, and she had a strong urge to roll her eyes.

If they were doing such a good job at protecting the alpha, she wouldn't have to come here. Athena thought, her expression not going unnoticed by Simon.

"I am saving your alpha. He is critical. Take him to the pack doctor. From what I am guessing, he has a combination of wolfsbane and silver in his blood. Ask the doctor to give him the antidote W3," Athena said before she helped Simon near the tree.

"Athena?" One of the border patrols remembered her from the University, and she looked at him.

"You are one of the people from the crowd watching me, no? The one with the pitiful look," Athena's words felt like an attack as the elders looked at him, and he immediately bowed.

"To say this is one of the renowned packs," Athena sighed, not continuing her sentence, but everyone could sense what she was upset about, and they looked away as she turned to leave.

"Wait. You need treatment too," Simon tried to stand, and Athena looked over at him from above her shoulders.

"Not from your pack, at least. Please save me the trouble," Athena smiled sarcastically.

"Besides, I didn't help you to get anything in return or in hopes that you would stop the bullying, Alpha Simon. I helped you because I am still a human, and I don't offer repayment for my humanity," Athena didn't wait to hear his reply and left.

"Guards, quickly. Shift Simon to the pack hospital," one of the elders said, and Simon winced before standing.

"I will go myself. Guard the place in case those rogues return," Simon said, wanting to be left alone.

'Not everyone is the same. Leave him alone,' Simon's mind kept playing what happened in the forest like a movie reel, and he sighed as he found his heart beating faster again.

The way her hair flailed in the air as if controlling the winds at their tips when she fought back those rogues, who attacked her, or how she stood in front of him like a protective lioness, he knows that no kind of pacifying will stop his wolf, who is feeling happy after such a long time.

"Simon? What the hell happened?" Fabian rushed to him, concerned, bringing Simon out of his thoughts.

"Where is Savannah?" Simon asked instead.

She said she was calling for reinforcements, didn't she? Why does nobody in the pack know what happened, let alone come to his rescue?

"Savannah? I think she went to the pack doctor. Now, will you tell me what happened?" Fabian asked.

"Just got cornered by some rogues. We will discuss it later. Can you call the doctor at my house? Ask him to bring Antidote W3, just in case. I don't feel like going to the hospital," Simon said in a daze before walking inside the house, and Fabian called the doctor and followed Simon.

"Fabian,"

"Hmm? What is it?"

"What does it feel like to be in love?" Simon's question shocked Fabian, but the latter sighed, thinking it must be because of Savannah.

"I don't know how to describe it. When it's in its starting stage, and you are with that person, your heartbeat picks its pace, and you feel like nothing matters in this world anymore. Their presence is like a comfort you have been missing all your life.

Your mind is constantly thinking about that person, and even a single thought brings a smile to your face. You might fight your love a lot, but at the end of the day, she is the one you want to spend eternity with. Her arms feel like your safest heaven," Fabian smiled, thinking about his mate.

"You still miss her, don't you?" Simon asked, and Fabian hummed.

"It's hard to not miss her when she was the best thing in my life. However, I think I might survive now," Fabian thought, thinking about Athena's smile.

His mate would never be replaced by someone, but it doesn't mean he can't learn to live and smile again.

"You came to me to talk about something, right?" Simon asked, and Fabian hummed.

"Simon, I know you care about Savannah a lot, but what happened today shouldn't be ignored. I know you dislike rogues, and for some reason, hate Athena more than anyone, but she deserves respect and justice too. Today Savannah crossed her line," Fabian said, and Simon nodded.

"She indeed crossed the line. That's why I had taken her out of the pack to punish her, but then rogues showed up and - never mind. I will deal with it," Simon closed his eyes, feeling dizzier.

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'Simon, am I so bad that you hate me so much?' Simon heard a voice, and he opened them softly, finding himself in the middle of a forest.

'Who is it?' he asked, squinting his brows when he noticed his wolf 'Onix' was in control.

'Who could I be? Haven't you memorized my voice yet?' the voice said again.

'Mate?' Onix asked, and Simon looked around his mind to find the source of the voice.

There sitting beside a lake was a girl with long brown hair. Her

back was facing them, but for some reason, Simon had an inkling of who she was.

'I am not your mate, Simon. A filthy rogue and a Gama,' the girl scoffed, and Onix didn't like the sound.

'You are my mate. The moon goddess sent you on earth for me. We are supposed to go hand in hand. You will become my Luna. I am supposed to love and protect you,' Onix said, and Simon bit his lips as he heard his wolf's earnest and heartfelt words.

That's true. His wolf reacted and shouted mate, the first time they saw Athena. That day when she had come for admission and had bumped into him, it took every ounce of patience and control in him to stop his wolf from hugging and claiming Athena as their mate.

He knew who Athena was since Jake had asked for the permit to stay, and it had her details. The rogue who got rejected by her alpha and daughter of a Gamma. She was everything he hated, and the fact that he was her second-choice mate didn't settle with him.

He was one of the renowned alphas. How can he be a second choice? How can the mood goddess play such a prank on him? First, she didn't give him a mate even after three years of turning eighteen, and when his mate arrived, she was a 17-year-old rogue and Gama that he couldn't accept.

Since then, it has been a fight between his feelings that want to be with Athena and his mind that knows all rogues lie and betray.

'If you are supposed to protect me, why do I have to seek help

from some other alpha? Does this mate bond mean nothing to you? Why do you hate me? I didn't do anything to you,' Athena's voice became soft as she stood.

'What's the point in staying if you don't love me? I have protected you and repaid my debt of being a mate. Something that you couldn't do when I was humiliated in front of everyone by your girlfriend. She is your chosen one, and I won't stay around to suffer. I am leaving now,' Athena's words were like stabs to him.

'No! That's not true. I want to be with you, mate. I have waited so long for you to arrive, mate. Please, don't go. She is not the chosen one. I belong to you only. Please don't leave me in this toxic world alone,' Onix growled in helplessness when she disappeared.

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"Don't go!" Simon growled in his sleep, and Timothy looked at Fabian, uncertain.

Opening his eyes slowly when the haze of the dream started to clear and he felt someone's presence beside him, Simon looked at Timothy and Fabian before plopping back.

No one dared to ask him anything about the dream since he sometimes gets nightmares about the night when his parents were killed in front of his eyes. These were the only ones who knew about it, and they had no intentions of staking their lives by asking about it.

"Simon, I prepared some vegetable broth for you. Drink it. You will feel better. The wolfsbane in your system has been taken out through the antidote. The doctor was asking who told you

about the antidote. It was discovered not recently, and its composition isn't widely spread," Fabian asked, and Simon's mind went back to Athena's words.

"Where is Savannah?" Simon asked again, and Fabian gritted his teeth before standing.

"It's my turn on the border patrols. I am leaving," Fabian said, and Simon knew that his friend hated the girl and was leaving deliberately, but he didn't stop him either.

"Timothy, ban Savannah from all the pack meetings. She isn't allowed to enter my house from now on. She will serve in the pack house kitchen and help the maids prepare everyone's dinner for the upcoming 6 months. Give her the night patrol alternatively for 6 weeks, and start her duty in the dungeons for two hours daily until I ask to stop," Simon said, and Timothy raised his brows.

"Isn't this a bit too much? The dungeons -"

"I will have a meeting tomorrow the first thing in the morning about someone who might be leaking intel of the pack to rogue or anyone outside," Simon cut him mid-sentence, and Timothy nodded before bowing.

"Rest well, Alpha," Timothy left, and Simon took a deep breath.

'You are being a jerk to our mate,' Onix said inside his mind, and Simon hummed before eating some broth, thinking about what Athena might be doing.

Probably tending to her wounds. He felt guilty before sighing.



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Author's Note- Hey ya, I have designed the character images of Simon and Athena. The images are posted on my Instagram handle. You guys can go and check it.

IG- @angelinabhardawaj

I hope you guys like it.



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