## Chapter 50

"Cole, where are you going?" Bianca rushed to the main door of the pack

house, and Cole turned to look at her with thinned lips.

From her reaction and nervousness, it was clear she had already heard

that Athena was here. There was no use hiding it from her.

"Athena is here for her mother's death anniversary. Alpha Simon is also

with them. Can you do me a favor, baby?"Cole asked her coaxingly.

"What is it?"Bianca asked, chaos already brewing in her mind.

What kind of favor does he need? Does he want her to go and lock herself in her room till Athena is here? Does he want her to go away and leave

them alone and not disturb them?

"What you prepared yesterday was really tasty. Can you prepare some good dishes today too? I know you hate Athena, and I would've never asked you to do it if this wasn't important to me. The council sent us a threatening

letter for what I did, and I want to make up for it," Cole looked at Bianca with a smile that was hard to suspect.

Hearing his coaxing words, Bianca's heart softened. Maybe she was

thinking too much. He didn't want her to get lost. He just wanted her to

prepare good food for his guests. And wasn't it Luna's responsibility to see these things in the pack house whenever any other alpha arrived?

Though they have a bitter relationship with Alpha Simon, they can't ignore that he is one of the strongest alphas.

"Don't worry. I will do it. Athena prefers vegetarian food, right? Leave the

food to me. Do you have any specific requests?"www.novelworm.čôm

"Can you make a chocolate shake and that mint juice for me? I liked that

one. It was really refreshing and calming," Cole heaved a sigh of relief in his mind when he saw Bianca believing his words.

"I will do that," Bianca smiled before nodding.

"Thank you, dear," Cole bent and pecked her lips before he walked away,

and though Bianca's heart skipped a beat bécause of his actions and love, a part of her mind didn't want to believe he was being so nice to her just

after a single meal. At the Cemetery.

"Mom, how have you been? It's been so many years since you left us. I still remember how Dad used to bring lilies for you on your death anniversary and birthday. You loved them a lot, no? I hope you accept my lilies too,"

Athena placed a bouquet of lilies and roses on her mother's grave before smiling.

"I have been trying, mom. As you said, I am training myself harder to

become a strong warrior like you. I won't give up on this fight and will do

anything to stop it from happening. All I want is your support. Whenever I lose hope and path, can you guide me as you did a month ago?"Athena

roamed her hand on her mother's grave with a sad smile.

Simon stood a few steps away to give Athena privacy with her mother. As much as he wanted to be with Athena in her hard time, he didn't want to

look like he was intruding on her privacy either.

"Mom, you are seeing that guy behind me? He is the alpha I was talking

about in my dream. Simon is my second chance mate, mom. Isn't he @ww.nOVë $\ell wo \mathcal{R}m.\mathbb{C}_{om}$ 

handsome? I am sure if you had been here, you would've loved to joke

around with him. He is cool and responsible, just like dad. And he loves me a lot, "Athena looked at the grave as a rogue tear fell down her eyes

involuntarily.

"I love you, mom. I always will. You know that, right?"Athena smiled, laying on the ground and placing her head on the grave before imagining being in her mother's arms.

It felt peaceful and calm. The wind was light as if caressing her skin.

Athena felt like her mother was here, looking and smiling at her, and the

feeling alone made her smile.

After what felt like an eternity but was a few minutes, she opened her eyes before bowing to her mother one last time and standing.

"Let's go," Athena nodded at Simon.

"Can I talk to your mother for some time? If you don't mind," Simon said,

and Athena smiled at him.

"Go ahead. Do you want me to come or stay back?"Athena asked, and

Simon shook his head.

Simon didn't want Athena to come with him. She would be able to hear his words anyway, just like how he could hear her.

"Let me have a moment with her," Simon walked ahead alone, and Athena stood there, watching his back.

"Mrs. Matthews, I am Simon, your daughter's second chance mate. She

must've told you about me, or you must've already seen us from the

heavens,"Simon took a deep breath before kneeling in front of Athena's

mother's grave.

"First, I would like to apologize for my behavior towards your daughter. I

have been one of her bullies, and I hate myself for being like that. If you had been here with her, there is no way you would have approved of a guy like

me, who made your daughter cry, no?" Simon thinned his lips with a sad

smile.

"I know I hurt her a lot, and there are no excuses behind that. It was all on

me. No matter what I say, my actions don't have any reason and shouldn't be forgiven. Your daughter is really lovely, Mrs. Matthews," Simon took a

shaky breath as he felt a little emotional.

"Your daughter still forgave me after everything I did with her. I don't know if I deserve her, but I promise you that I will lay down my life on a platter for

her safety. I am insanely in love with her and would kill anybody for her. Itw $wW.n \circ V \ddot{e} / \otimes O \mathring{R} m. c \circ \mathcal{M}$ 

might sound too good to be true to your ears since you are a mother, but

there is no limit to my love anymore. I need her like air, mother. Will you give me permission to court your daughter and marry her?"Simon asked.

Athena looked at Simon with slight amusement when she heard his words. Doesn't he think it's a little late to ask for permission when they have

already marked each other?

"Si-"Athena was about to call him when she felt his presence.

Cole was here.

And why not? They were standing in his territory right now. She knew she

would have to face him sooner or later.

"Athena," Cole said with a nod, and Athena looked at him observantly before nodding back.

"Cole," Athena's voice was neutral, void of any emotions, and it reeked of

power that Cole had never felt before. It was like she was getting more powerful with each passing day. Was that even possible? And it's when she hasn't even turned eighteen yet.

After meeting Athena and hearing the truth about her legacy, Cole read all the books about the warrior wolves he could in the little time he used to

have between training and rogue things.

Cole couldn't believe his eyes when he read the facts. The warrior wolves are stronger than other wolves. Even an Omega or Gama can beat up a

beta or weak alpha. And to say Athena was the pure bloodline daughter of an Alpha warrior said things that didn't need to be addressed.

Cole made a huge mistake by letting her go. He had always felt Athena was strong, but he never believed she would be able to compete with a stronger bloodline like Bianca's indirect alpha ones. Who would've known that

Athena was herself an Alpha? She can create an entire pack from scratch now.

Not only did Cole miss the chance of having the most powerful girl under his wings, who would've helped in producing strong heirs for the pack's

future, but he also missed a great opportunity of making his pack bigger

and more powerful than anyone.

If Athena had been by his side, Cole was sure he would've created a pack stronger than the Black Scar pack. But now Athena was with Simon.

Wait. If he kills Simon, things would be different, no? Simon visited them

himself. Cole can always say Simon threatened them and started a fight

because Council didn't do anything.

Everyone would believe Cole because they know how hotheaded Simon is. If Athena said anything, who would believe her? She is still just a rogue.

Without Simon, she will return to him, right? Cole smiled at his thoughts,

and Athena smiled too.

Cole was still the same. Easy to read. The last time she never suspected

him because she trusted him blindly, but she wasn't a fool to ignore the red flags again.

Athena noticed Cole's gaze moving from her to Simon, and she knew he

was thinking about something vile.

It would be futile to stay for longer, alas, Cole does something to them.

"Miss Athena," a pack member of Simon's pack called her. "What is it?" Athena asked, not wanting to leave Simon alone.wWw.nóv*e*l(w)*or*(m).*c*ô*m* 

"It's Alpha Andrew and Jake. They want to speak to you," the man said, and Athena looked at Simon before sighing.

Maybe she shouldn't be worrying too much. Cole won't attack from behind, and Simon is more than capable of taking care of himself. Athena walked to the member before taking her phone from his hand that she had handed to him to talk to her mother without disturbance.

"What is it?"Athena asked, and Jake sighed.

"From your tone, I guess everything is okay. I have been trying to call you since last night, but the call wasn't going through," Jake said, and Athena pressed her lips with a smile at his worried voice.

"Everything is fine here. I spent some time with my mom. We will talk to

Cole in a few minutes and then leave. Can you ask Fabian about the update with Howl Pack? Since we are here, I might as well talk to Bianca properly," Athena said.

"I will tell him to do so. Return soon, okay? You know your time is coming closer, right?" Jake said, and Athena hummed.

"How is the project going?"Athena asked.

"We have made 43 so far," Jake said.

"That's good. Also, ask Andrew too -"Athena turned around when she

heard an ear-piercing growl, her eyes widening at the sight.

"Athena, what's happening? Why do I hear a -"the phone dropped from

Athena's hands.

Alpha Simon and Cole were fighting. And for some reason, it looked like

Cole was gaining the upper hand.

"Simon!"Athena shouted when she saw Cole taking out a dagger from his back pocket and around fifty wolves coming and surrounding Simon in the middle.

These were the pack members.

"Guards,"Athena nodded at the ten subordinates they had brought, and all of them changed into their wolves before rushing to rescue their alpha.

Cole and Simon changed into their wolves too, and though Simon's wolf

was large and strong, Cole was still gaining the upper hand. 'Athena, don't come closer. Something is wrong with Cole. He doesn't seem

like himself. It's like he has possessed something illegal. Even his wolf's eyes are straining. They look almost maniacal. I don't want anything to happen to you,' Simon ordered through the mind link, and Athena bit her lips.

Simon wanted her safety, but what about her? Athena wanted to protect her mate too. How can she let him fight alone against so many wolves? She was foolish to come here and talk. This all was happening because of

her.

'Onyx!' Athena heard Simon scream into the mind link, and both the wolves

started to fight.

'Let me out, Celine said, and Athena shook her head in resolution.

It was dangerous. This fight was dangerous, but more than that, Athena knew she shouldn't change into her wolf form right now. If that happened, she was afraid she might end up killing Cole or his subordinates, whoever harbor evil intentions.