

Chapter 74

"Athena, I am sure he is just trying to make you jealous to gain your

attention, Andrew said, his words appearing fake to himself, let alone

Athena.

"What is wrong with Simon? Doesn't he know how many people are

present here?" Cole asked, and Athena's heart dropped into the pit of her stomach when she saw Garima turning her head and looking at her

smugly.

It was as if Garima was telling Athena that she had taken her man and

now she would rule Simon's heart. What hurt Athena more than Garima's provocation was Simon's obsessed look at Garima.

As if dancing with her intimately was not enough, Simon pulled Garima even close, their chests colliding, slapping Athena straight where it hurt her the most.

Athena watched Garima grabbing Simon's face and tilting his head as if she was about to kiss him, and she gulped.

One part of her wanted to see if Simon would dare to do it, but the other part wanted to protect her from this horror.

"Leave. We won't be able to remove this memory from our brain ever,

and rather than getting hurt, it would be better if we just leave," Celine

whispered to Athena, and the latter nodded.

"Excuse me," Athena whispered before she turned around and walked

towards the exit, not wanting to see this horrifying and breaking scene anymore.

Athena walked out of the council mindlessly, not bothering to see where she was going anymore. Her body felt dead, her soul broken, and her

heart shattered. She looked like a fallen angel, an angel betrayed in love. "Will running help ease out some emotions? Physical pain should be able to cover up emotional pain, right?" Athena asked her wolf, who was

suddenly completely quiet.

She ran. She ran like she was running from her reality. The pain was

more unbearable than she had thought. It was far worse than what she felt during Cole's rejection. Maybe it's because Simon showed her what being loved felt like, claimed her, and now insulted her

in front of

everyone. Whatever it was, the pain was nothing less than being stabbed straight into the chest. Her throat felt constricted and clogged as if she wouldn't be able to speak again.

"L... AaaaaaaalAaaaaaaal" Athena screamed in the forest, making the sleeping birds fly away.

"It hurts, Celine," she fell on the ground, clenching her heart.

"It hurts so much," Athena cried, and a tear rolled down Celine's eyes. "It hurts indeed, Celine agreed as she curled into a cocoon to hide her pain from Athena. She thought only her human loved Simon so much, but today Celine realized how deep her feelings were for him.

Outside the forest near the Council-

"Is everything ready? Great. I am going there now. Don't worry. This plan

is foolproof. It will work." Cyrus walked to the temporary shelter room. "What is Lilith doing? Has our setup to get the ritual done been designed as I wanted?" Cyrus asked, and Colton hummed.

"As you had instructed us, sir, we have set the table and the ritual circle. Lilith is ready with the things we will need for the ceremony," Colton said.

"From what I have observed so far, Simon is enchanted by some other wolf. He is not with Athena, and if everything goes accordingly, Athena will get angry sooner or later. We can use her anger to our benefit," Cyrus

talked over the call before looking at his subordinate, who rushed inside the room and looked at him urgently.

"What is it?" Cyrus asked him.

"It's Miss Athena, sir," His words turned Cyrus serious.

"What about her?"

"She is seen in the forests. The guards say she was screaming and wailing in anger and pain. She looks like she is in great pain since she has been curling in the ground," The subordinate said, and Cyrus's eyes

immediately darkened.

"This is what I was afraid of. I didn't know my assumption about Athena getting her heart broken would be so right. Huh... as much as I

sympathize with her, this is our time to get her. Let's get going," Cyrus nodded at his subordinate. "Colton, the thing we have been waiting for is finally going to happen

soon. I am going to bring her to our hidden base. Keep everything ready. Once we get our hands on her, we can't let her become powerful enough to set herself free. This is a once-in-a-lifetime chance," Cyrus said before ending the call.

"Was she running in some direction, or has she been lying there?" Cyrus walked towards his team to let them know they were ready to get into

action.

"She rushed a couple of kilometers away from the council. The last time we checked, she was there," The subordinate said, and Cyrus immediately stopped.

"What did you say? What do you mean the last time you checked? Please tell me you didn't leave the place empty, and no one is there to observe her," Cyrus asked, and the subordinate widened his eyes in realization.

"I am sorry, sir. I was so excited to see Miss Athena running out of the

council alone that I forgot to ask someone to stay there and keep a look on her," The subordinate confessed.

"You!" Cyrus snarled before taking a deep breath to control his anger.

No. He can't let his anger take over like this. It's okay. If they rush there in time, they will find Athena somewhere. If what his subordinate is telling him is true, there is no way Athena would go back to the council anytime. soon.

However, they will have to take action immediately. Cyrus nodded at

himself before he nodded at everyone and asked them to spread evenly in the forest and look for Athena.

"I don't want any mistakes. She must be in a gown. It shouldn't be hard to find and catch her. One of you, keep a close look towards the city too in case she runs towards it and decides to leave this place alone in a fit of

anger," Cyrus ordered his man, and they nodded.

Meanwhile, in the council hall, everyone watched Simon getting closer to Garima. They looked at him in shock, amazed that this was the same

man who would not do anything without Athena and would roam

around her like a possessive wolf.

How can he betray her like that? How can he play with her feelings like

that even after knowing what she went through in her previous pack?

Andrew's heart ached for Athena, and he turned around to console her, but to his shock, she was nowhere in sight.

Simon, on the other hand, who was about to let Garima kiss him in front of everyone, stopped, looking straight into her crystal blue.

"What are you waiting for, Alpha Simon? Isn't this what you want? Isn't

this what you desire? A girl who listens to you is excellent and supports the pack. I know you are enchanted by my beauty and powers. My wolf intrigues you. Why are you hesitating? Once you kiss me, we will seal the -" Garima couldn't complete her words as Simon's eyes narrowed.

"The f*ck!" Simon growled in anger when Onyx snapped from inside his mind.

"How dare you!" Simon pushed Garima so hard that the girl hit the wall before landing on the food aisle, ruining her dress as the food splattered on her body.

"What do you think you were doing?" Simon asked, looking around at all the people gazing at him in utter confusion.

Has Simon finally gone mad? Why was he acting like Garima was forcing herself on him? It was his wish. He brought her to the dance floor, pulled her close, and almost kissed her.

"Simon. You disappointed me today! I have been trying to talk to you for half an hour. Is this how you react? Have you not seen a beautiful girl in your life?" Scarlett walked to Simon before she raised her hand and was about to slap Simon when he held her hand.

"Not now, Scarlett. Don't forget I am still the alpha of the Black Scar

pack," Simon's eyes turned dark.

"Yeah? Honestly, if Fabian had been here and seen what his alpha was

doing, I am sure he would've been equally ashamed of you," Scarlett

paused.

"I did what I did in anger because I blamed you for my mate's death. I

wanted to hurt you for that, but why did you do this? Why did you give her such tragic pain when all she did was love you? If mom and dad

could see us right now, they would be so hurt seeing their son becoming such a low-class characterless alpha," Scarlett said, disappointment in her eyes, and Simon looked around.

Almost everyone in the room was looking at him with weird gazes. As if they blamed him for something he wasn't even aware of. Why were they acting like this?

"What are you talking about? What did I do so wrong that you guys are

looking at me like this?" Simon asked, and Andrew stepped forward.

He was about to ask him why he did what he did. Why was he being so

intimate with Garima when the council head stepped forward and

dismissed everyone?

"We apologize for the mess at the party, everyone. I am sure there is

some reason going on here. We all know Alpha Simon isn't that kind of man. He is not in his senses right now. Let's call it a night. Thank you for attending this party. We will send you a formal letter of the truth once we find out what is going on here," The council's head said, and everyone signed before leaving one by one.

However, as everyone was leaving, Cole walked toward Simon and

sighed.

"I am in no position to point this out to you when this is what I did to

Athena too. However, I would still like to add something. What you did

today will get imprinted on Athena's heart forever, and no matter how

much you try to clean that stain you caused, it won't go away," Cole

paused.

"Athena is a pure-hearted soul, but let's agree, no one would want to be

on the other side of her wrath. I understand that you might have a slip of emotions and you momentarily felt attracted to that rare wolf, but that

wasn't fair to a girl who got ready to fight and leave the world for you,"

Cole smiled before turning around to leave, and Simon stood there,

confused as hell.

"Will anyone tell me what's happening here? And where the hell is my

mate? What did you guys do to her?! Athena! Athena!" Simon growled in anguish, walking around in circles, and everyone in the hall looked at

him, confused.

"Simon, I didn't know you were such a ba*tard. You did Athena really

dirty. She can have any man in the world if she wants, but she chose you over everyone, and this is how you treated her," Samuel grabbed Simon's collar, and Simon felt his head getting heavy, swirled on his foot

before grabbing Samuel's hand for support.

"My head. It feels so heavy," Simon grumbled.

"Athena. Athena, my love. Where are you?" Simon whispered, and Andrew, who was watching him from afar as he didn't trust himself to

not beat the shit out of Simon, narrowed his eyes.

This behavior wasn't normal. Why was Simon acting like he didn't know anything that happened in the past hour? He looks like he has been

cheated of something.

The concern and care in his eyes for Athena aren't fake either. Something is wrong here, and it's better they figure it out soon, or things will go

worse.

"Samuel, don't," Andrew shook his head at Samuel before he took a glass of water to Simon.

"Drink this. What is the last thing you remember? Do you have no idea what you have been doing for the past hour?" Andrew asked, and his

question confused everyone.

"Alpha, what are you -" Cooper started, but Andrew raised his hand for him to stop.

"You speak. Tell us what you remember after we entered the council. We will know what went wrong," Andrew said, and Simon held his head.

"I don't know. We came to the council. That girl I threw just now had

thrown a fireball at my Athena. I stood in front of Athena to protect her, but then-" Simon held his head tighter.

"Aaahh, why can't I remember anything," Simon growled, and Andrew looked at Cooper, who had the same shocked expression.

What the hell was going on here? Why does Simon not remember

anything? It was as if he was hypnotized or something.

Only one person can tell the truth, and that person is the one who cast a spell on him.