Chapter 75

"Andrew, where is Athena? Why is she not reaching out to me? Did I do something that hurt her? Please tell ine the truth. I am getting worried now. And who allowed that girl

near me? Why was I dancing with her?"Sinon asked Andrew.

Andrew was the only familiar person who had been with Simon for a long time and knew Simon better than anyone else.

"If you don't remember anything, only one person can answer and tell us the whole

truth," Andrew said before glaring at Garima. Justin immediately stood in front of her

protectively.

"As much as I respect you, Alpha Andrew, and pity Athena for whatever happened, it

doesn't mean you can blame Garima just like that," Justin defended Garima, and Andrew gritted his teeth.

He had no proof of his suspicion of Garima, but he was sure that everything had

happened because of this girl.

How is it possible that Simon's behavior changed, and he doesn't remember anything

right after he entered the council?

Something was fishy here, and if the council didn't realize it, were they worthy of respect? "Get out of the way, Justin," Samuel said, and Justin looked at Samuel for a few seconds

before he clenched his fists and stepped aside.

"What did you do?" Samuel's question was straightforward, and it was clear even he

suspected that Garima had done something again.

"Are you suspecting me, Samuel?" Garima asked, and the council head immediately

stepped ahead.

"Drop your act, Garima. We are running out of patience now. As much as you are

beautiful, we know that Alpha Simon isn't someone who will have a slip of heart just like -that. Earlier, I thought you guys were just getting to know each other, and I didn't

intervene, but now that I know what you have tried to do here, I won't let this go,"the

council head said.

"Sir, I really don't have any idea what you are

"Stop playing dumb!" the council's head's eyes turned dark, and Garima's eyes, which

were too innocent earlier, immediately turned like a cunning fox.

"Sir, why are you forcing it on her? She is saying she didn't -"Justin couldn't complete his sentence as Garima interrupted.

"Well. I apologize for the inconvenience I caused, but let's agree, it was funny,"Garima $\mathcal{W}ww.@ve\mathcal{L}wv\mathbb{R}M.com$

flipped her hair back before dusting her clothes.

"I should give it to you, Alpha Simon. You have good control of yourself. If it had been

any other man, and I had used this level of compulsion on him, he would've fallen into my trap way carlier." Garima smiled proudly, and Justin looked at her with disbelief.

"You did what?"

You! How dare you try to sow discord between Athena and me? I will kill you!"Simon stood from his place, but before he could move a step, Samuel and Andrew held his hand to stop him.

"Simon, stop. She is a rare wolf. You can't kill a rare wolf just like that. Think about your actions before you do something." Samuel warned Simon.

"Then what, Samuel? What do you expect me to do? Gladly, Onyx snapped me out of it at the right time, or I would've let this b*tch kiss me! I pardon my language, but I hate

homewreckers like her the most. They deserve no respect. Do you think this was fun?

Ruining someone's life is fun? I.can't belicve it! You are worse than the rogues I have met before!"Simon raised a chair and threw it beside Garima, making her flinch slightly.

"What the- Don't you dare pull this thing again? I can burn you with my fire,"Garima warned Simon with wide-glaring eyes, and Onyx growled loudly.

"Is that a threat? Should we see who will win this duel?" Onyx asked though Simon and the council members immediately went into alert mode, standing in front of Simon as a protective shield for Garima.

"Alpha Simon, I know you are hurt, but please coopcrate. I apologize on behalf of this

wolf. Please be a bigger person and forgive her," Justin looked at Simon before glaring at Garima, who looked least bothered by what was happening.

"Fine. I will ignore it because I want to make up with my mate soon. Just one question. Why did you do that?" Simon looked at Garima, and she shrugged as if it was nothing serious.

"Well, there are plenty of reasons. First, I am a stingy woman. I hated how my wolf had to bow down to Athena in respect. Then as soon as she entered, it was as if she was some

kind of princess, and everyone started attending to her like royalty, completely ignoring me. In fact, Samuel shouted twice for the first time since I arrived here," Garima scoffed. "I wanted to hurt Athena like she hurt my pride. I saw the mate mark on her neck when she raised her hand to stop everyone from overreacting when my fireball went to her, and

I immediately knew how to hurt her pride where it would hurt her the most,"Garima 'shrugged.

"The time when you looked into my eyes when Samuel was talking to me, I started my compulsion. I won't lie, I wanted to start with Athena, but she was too strong for my wolf to handle. Besides, I think she consumes wolfsbane, which repulses my compulsion.

Since I got you under my compulsion, you acted on my accord, and it hurt Athena, "WwW.mev(e) LworM.com

Garima smiled.

"I also wanted to see if the hype about this mate bond was real. Athena was the strongest wolf, and I wanted to see if she could handle her man just fine. It's a pity I couldn't kiss you and leave an imprint for Athena to sense, smell and remember for the rest of her

life," Garima looked at Simon, proud of her work, and Justin turned to Garima with a

sigh.

Justin couldn't believe the girl in front of him. He always thought that though she was a bit sassy and uptight with things with her attitude, she never meant anyone's bad, at least by heart.

It was as if he never saw this cunning and b"tchy side of her before today. Chspter 75

Garima, I was defending you because I thought no matter how much of a bad girl you

try to be, you at least have a good heart. However, after listening to all this and sceing how you are least remorseful of almost breaking someone's house and god's decided bond, I

feel pity for me for believing you." Justin turned around and stood at some distance,

feeling hurt.

He always considered Garima his best friend, but he couldn't believe she had a heart like this.

"Why are you blaming me? Shouldn't Athena feel great that I helped her check whether

her man was loyal and worthy of all the love? I don't get it. It was just a small joke. Why

are you guys acting like I put her life in danger by selling her heart or something.

Garima crossed her arms over her chest, and Simon looked around.

This reminded him, where was Athena? Even when he asked this question before, no one answered him. If Athena has seen what happened in the hall about the dance and his fake intimacy with Garima, she won't take it easy, and it's better if he clears things up sooner before things turn out for worse.

"Why is no one answering me? I asked where Athena was. Did she not come to the dance? Was she here earlier when this bitch played that dirty trick on us?"Simon looked around. and Andrew, who saw Athena rushing out of the hall, thinned his lips.

"She was here, Simon. Athena saw everything, and it won't be wrong to say she was hurt

by what she saw here. She left when she saw Garima almost kissing you. Maybe she

thought the scene was too heartbreaking for her to see or because she didn't want to cause a scene and hurt your reputation," Andrew said, and Simon gritted his teeth before

looking at Garima with hatred.

He didn't wait, afraid he would end up killing this rare wolf. He rushed out of the hall to go and meet Athena in her room. That's where she must've run to, right? If what Andrew said was right, it wouldn't be a shock if she already wants to leave this place.

"Athena, my love, I beg your forgiveness - Simon started as soon as he opened the door of her room, but paused when he saw the room empty.

-Athena was not in her room? Then where could she have gone? To the garden or

backyard to clear her mind? Simon rushed downstairs, and Andrew and others looked at him with hope.

"Did she -

"She is not in her room. Maybe she is outside, Simon said, and Andrew and others

rushed out to call Athena inside so they could talk and tell her the entire truth and help

Simon pacify her.

However, when they reached outside, they didn't see Athena anywhere.

"Could she be near the stable? Iler favorite horse is there, no?"Justin suggested, and when they rushed there and found that place empty, Simon's heart started to fill with dread.

"She is not in her room or garden or anywhere around. Where did she go?" Simon looked at the council for answers, and they looked around in confusion.

"I don't know what's going on here. The last time I saw her was in the hall itself," Samuel looked at his dad, who didn't have a pleasant expressign. I think I am the last person who saw her running out of the hall with a hurt look in her

eyes. I wanted to follow her, but I stayed because honestly, what could I have told her to

make her feel better? No offense, Simon, but her mate was practically going to kiss

another woman in front of her. Besides, this is not the first time she has been betrayed

like this. I knew she wanted to be alone, and that's why I didn't follow her," Andrew said,

and Simon turned to the council.

"The guards of your large gates. Where are they? Ask them if they saw Athena leaving the place from the main path," Simon said, and the council head immediately did as he told them.

"What? What the hell were you guys doing at that time? Have you gone out of your mind? I clearly told you to ensure the safety of the rare wolves! Useless fools. Go and ask

everyone to line up. Yes," the head said and ended the call.

"What is it? Did they see her?"

"They said they didn't see her coming towards the main gate. However, half an hour ago, one of

them heard a woman screaming in pain and agony in the forest on the east side.

It's a wild guess, but maybe Athena ran towards the forest in anger," The council head

said, and Samuel thinned his lips. **wW**(w). Ňov **(**/**W (***r***M .** Com

"What the hell were your guards doing when they heard a woman screaming? Is this thew w. $n \circ \mathcal{V} e \oplus w \otimes r \mathbb{M}$. $\mathfrak{S}(\circ) \mathbb{M}$

so-called top-notch security of the council? Even if it wasn't Athena, they could check who that woman was, couldn't they?" Andrew asked, and Samuel sighed.

"That's the main issue here, Andrew. The eastern parts of the forest aren't safe. And this is not the first time they heard a woman or man screaming in that region. The region is

actively visited by rogues for free fruits and other resources like the lake. Since they never tried to harm anyone from the council, we don't interfere with them. After all, they

deserve to live," Samuel said, and Cooper looked at him in horror.

"You mean to say that the part in which Athena has run off to is actively visited by the

rogues at night, and there are high chances she got attacked and screamed, but your

guards didn't go there?"Simon's voice turned cold with each sentence, and Samuel

.sighed.

"Let's just hope that's not the case and start searching for her, okay? We can only hope for the best," Samuel said.

"I can help you guys. I apologize for my behavior inside when I didn't know the entire

truth. Since I can control some basic elements of the environment, I can ask nature to

help us and find her sooner,"Justin tried to help, and Simon nodded at him in agreement before turning to look at the council.

"I swear, Samuel. I swear if something happened to Athena, I wouldn't care if that bitch

inside is rare. She will die by my hands," Simon said before he shifted into his wolf form and ran towards the east side of the forest, followed by everyone, including the council

guards.