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"Everyone is back and waiting for you downstairs," Alex tells Vanessa, he shuts the door, turning to look at her, confusion contouring his features.

"Why do you want to see everyone, Vanessa, and what's going on?" He asks, clearly tired. He has been out of the pack working and trying to get things in order with Derrick and Dylan.

Vanessa turns around, arms wrapped around her body. "Nothing much, just something." She replied, heaving deeply. Alex stood still, eyes on her.

"Vanessa..." he trails off. He has no idea what it is she wants to talk about to everyone and that alone makes him worried. They just lost their pup and he knows she needs rest instead of this meeting she's organized.

"Come on, we shouldn't leave everyone waiting, should we?" She asks, walking towards the door. She doesn't get there though, Alex holds her back, his hand circling her wrist, eyes filled with concern.

"Are you really sure about this?" He asks, even though he has no idea exactly what a he wants to talk about. He knows it's something important since she's gathered everyone downstairs.

"Yeah, trust me, will you?" She asks, tugging her hand slightly. Alex nods, he walks towards the door and opens it. They both walk out of the room.

Vanessa approached everyone who was now gathered in the living room. Derrick sitting with Erin beside him. Amelia leaning against the table. Dylan standing beside her. Aunt Agatha and Uncle Mikhail sat down beside each other and Samantha. Samantha stood behind their couch, arms wrapped around her chest.

"I'm sorry to have called every one of you here today like this." Vanessa begins, clearing her throat a bit. Agatha looks at her and subtly rolls her eyes. She stands up.

"Vanessa, darling, I'm sorry about your loss. I couldn't come to check on you as I was exhausted from the trip Mikhail and I had. I know you understand things like that." She says in faux concern. Vanessa smiles and nods, glancing at Samantha who stood behind her parents.

"It's okay, I don't mind and I do understand." She says. The woman nods and then sits down again, crossing her legs elegantly against each other.

"Now that we are all gathered. I'd like to say something very important." She starts, this allows everyone to sit up in anticipation. Vanessa isn't one to do things like this so what exactly could she be talking about?

Vanessa heaved deeply, her palms beginning to get clammy. She looks at Samantha, eyes filled with defiance.

"I didn't fall due to oil spilling on the stairs. Someone pushed me." She began. She could hear the gasp leaving their lips. From the corner of her eyes, she sees Alex straightening up, his hand on her shoulder falling off.

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"What are you talking about, Vanessa?" Alex demanded. Vanessa glanced at him and back at Samantha.

"You all heard me right. I didn't fall because of some measly oil on the stairs. In fact, there was no oil on the stairs. Samantha pushed me."

The room falls into an eerie silence, the weight of Vanessa's words sinking in deep and quite harsh. Samantha stood frozen behind the couch, eyes wide with disbelief.

Derrick was the first to break the silence, voice filled with concern and slight anger. "Vanessa, are you sure about this? Accusing Samantha of something as heinous as this is not.."

"What do you mean is she sure? I am right here! She is accusing me of pushing her off the stairs? Me of all people? Why would I ever do that?" Samantha exclaims. Just as Agatha and Mikhail stand up to defend their daughter.

"Vanessa! Why would you ever think of accusing Samantha so baselessly like this? Samantha would never do anything of that sort. What kind of monster have you made her up to be?!" Agatha snaps angrily.

"I know this is a very serious accusation but I'm also fully aware of what happened that day. I didn't fall due to oil. I fell because she pushed me." Vanessa points a finger at a sobbing Samantha.

"I- how could I have pushed you? I wasn't even beside you."

"That's right. Even so, the maid responsible for your accident came forward and confessed to it. There were two witnesses who saw the oil incident and not even one of them mentioned Samantha. Did falling make you hit your head so badly that you're now seeing things? Are you fucking crazy?" Agatha growls angrily.

"Crazy? Crazy? The only crazy person here is Samantha. Your daughter is the crazy person here." Vanessa yells, unable to keep calm anymore. Alex holds her back, his heart hurting so much to see her this distraught

"Vanessa, how about we go upstairs and rest? Forget all of this. The culprit has been found and we shouldn't-" Vanessa jerks free from his hold, eyes filled with disbelief. Her eyes welled up with tears.

"You don't believe me." She murmurs, the reality of the situation beginning to creep into her head.

"Why would anyone sane believe you? You're clearly crazy from having hit your head so badly. I've heard that someone who loses a pup like this can tend to be mentally ill. It's obvious that's happening to you." Samantha shoots right back, her voice dripping venom.

"Vanessa, you realize accusing Samantha without proper evidence is..."

"I know what I am talking about. I know what happened. None of the maids were present. Samantha and I were arguing badly and I was coming to see you. She got upset and pushed me. You pushed me down that stairs. Samantha pushed me down that stairs."

"Where is your proof? Where is your evidence that I pushed you down the stairs that day?" Samantha yells angrily.

"That's right. She pushed you off, right? Bring your evidence that she really did push

Chapter 61 you." Agatha supports.

"Why would Vanessa accuse Samantha of pushing her for no good reason? She's okay, she's stable. She's not crazy." Erin voices out for the first time that evening.

"I really don't expect less from you, Erin, but Vanessa is sick. She needs help and not support. She's accusing me, me, who helped find the person who caused her accident. She's not just crazy but she's fucking out of her damn mind. Call this bullshit off. I won't stand here and listen to her point accusing fingers at me. I will not stay to hear her slander my name so shamelessly."

Agatha nods and then turns to Derrick. "Do your duty as the pack alpha and seize Vanessa at once. She's slandering Samantha without any evidence and she should be dealt with. She has to be made an example for others. I want her punished for this blasphemy against my daughter." Agatha grits out, eyes filled with anger.

"That's not right. Vanessa isn't going anywhere. She isn't just anyone in this pack, she is the beta's mate. The female beta of the pack. She will not be treated like a commoner." Amelia stands up for Vanessa.

"So you will rather take an outsider's side than your very own cousin? Is that it, Amelia!" Agatha yells, angry and bitter.

"Agatha, calm down. We can sort this out without violence." Mikhail interrupts but is thrown off.

"And you? Will you stay there while your daughter is being dragged through the mud? She has just been accused of pushing Vanessa. That's attempted murder. She's being accused of almost killing Vanessa." Agatha yells at Mikhail.

Samantha sobs, forcefully wiping the tears on her cheeks "I will never forgive you for what you have done today, Vanessa."

"That's enough!" Derrick growls, slamming his fist against the chair. Everyone goes silent at his voice.

"I've heard enough and not even a word until this has been sorted. Vanessa isn't going to be seized. She has leveled some allegations against Samantha and it will be cleared out." Derrick grits out. Erin nods in support while Amelia holds Vanessa by the shoulders.

"Will you really allow her to spill more nonsense against me, Derrick? I have been with you for years! You should know me better than this, shouldn't you? Can I ever push Vanessa off the stairs?" Samantha sneers.

"This is not about me but about Vanessa. Do you realize the weight of this accusation? Vanessa lost her baby because of this. It's not just attempted murder but murder. That pup inside of her had a life. It was going to be brought into this world but its life has been cut short. If not for anyone's sake, I will see this to the very end for that innocent pup's sake."

Samantha pants heavily like she's run a marathon and nods. "Fine, bring the witness and the culprit. They will clear my name from this mess and when it turns out I never did anything to hurt her. I hope you will punish her severely for false accusations regardless of her status in the pack.

Derrick looks at a guard and nods, the guard walks off to get the ones involved.

Four minutes later, the supposed culprit and the two witnesses knelt before Derrick. Everyone's eyes are on them.

"I am going to ask this question just once so think properly before giving me an answer. If it's revealed that you lied or are lying. I will take your lives with my very own hands." The ladies gasp, trembling with fear.

"Did Vanessa fall down the stairs due to oil? Did you or did you not see Samatha with Vanessa that day?" He asks.

Samantha stood still, eyes on the three women. She knew Vanessa would do something this stupid which was why she took the initiative to see the three again. She suggested the ladies be interrogated again knowing they won't spill a word about her involvement. Everything is going according to plan.

The woman slowly shook their head. "Miss Samantha wasn't involved. The oil fell from my hands and I forgot to clean it. That's why she fell." The supposed culprit says while the two other witnesses agreed.

Derrick sighs, gesturing at the guard to take them away. Samantha smirked, satisfied and fulfilled. Erin's gaze flickers to her for a second and she sees her smirking. She frowns.

"Wait, before they leave." Vanessa stops them.

"You have no right to speak anymore. Everything has been cleared up. You accused me wrongly and will pay the consequences. I want Vanessa jailed for what she has done." Samantha declares.

"She just lost a baby. Can't you be compassionate?" Alex yells, body wrecking with anger.

Vanessa steps out of Amelia's hold and towards the three women, her eyes on them.

"Hold her. What is she doing?" Agatha yells.

Vanessa stops right in front of the three who had begun to shake out of fright, eyes darting everywhere at once. She leans towards them.

"Look at me." She orders firmly and they freeze, eyes on her at the same time.

"You truly didn't see Samantha push me off that stairs?" She asks and they nod meekly.

Vanessa smiles, leaning back up, and nods.

"I gave you a chance to repent but you chose to help her instead. You chose to back her up and I won't forgive you for that." She turns to look at Samantha.

"I won't ever forgive you either." She grits out.

"Take her away. She's said enough already and she should be-" She doesn't get to complete the words.

"I have solid evidence to prove Samantha pushed me down the stairs and it wasn't by accident." Vanessa declares, removing the tiny recorder from her pocket.

Samantha's eyes widen, and she staggers back just a bit, her brain trying to catch up with everything.

"I gave you a chance to come clean by yourself but instead you set up this whole charade instead of owning up to what you did to me. Fine, I'll expose you for the lowlife snake that you are." She mutters, Venom dripping down her voice.

"V-Vanessa." Samantha stutters just as Vanessa plays the recorder. Everything Samantha said hours ago replaying back again, this time for everyone to hear how despicable she truly is.

Vanessa remembers how she had gotten the tiny recorder from the doctor. Naturally, she would've exposed Samantha for what she did but imagine her shock when she heard the culprit had been found and it wasn't Samantha. She knew there and then the other had played some games and it would be difficult to accuse her of what she did without any evidence. Hence, her silence for three days until she found the recorder at the doctor's office before she was discharged. It came in handy after all.

"T-that's impossible. That's not me. How dare you record our conversations!" Samantha yelled, lunging forward at Vanessa. Vanessa is immediately shielded by Alex who grabs Samantha by the shoulder, eyes red with anger.

"Don't you fucking dare?" He growls something he never does. He pushes Samantha back till she falls to the ground. A tear drops to her cheeks, and she scrambles to her mother, grasping her legs desperately.

"Mom, Mom, help me." She cries out. Agatha squeezes her eyes close, her body wracking with pain. She bends down, her finger holding Samantha's chin up.

"Don't fret." She says and the other nods. Agatha straightens up to look at Derrick.

"This has to be a misunderstanding. Samantha won't ever do that. I don't believe that voice recorder." She argues and Amelia scoffed. It's unbelievable at this point. Agatha would do anything to defend Samantha.

"That's not up to you to decide. That's up to me and what I say is final." Derrick snaps at her. He glanced at Mikhail who is unable to utter a word.

"This voice recorder clearly shows Samantha confessing to her crime and not just that, it shows it wasn't accidental. She did it fully aware of the consequences and still threatened Vanessa. I won't overlook any of this. Samantha will be punished for her crime."

Agatha gasps out loud. "Will you punish your aunt's child? Your very own cousin? Will you"

"That's enough. It's because she's your daughter I haven't had her dragged and disgraced around the pack for everyone to see. It's because she's your daughter she isn't locked in the dungeon like this. Do you realize what she did? She pushed Vanessa down the stairs and she lost her baby. Her pup had life but Samantha killed it. She took that innocent baby's life before it could even materialize and with what she's done. She will be punished. Not just her but also the three-" he gestures at the supposed culprit and witness. "These three would be punished for their crimes." He says and the three fall to their knees, crying and babbling about being threatened by Samantha. What's done is done though. They chose the side they wanted when he gave them an out.

"Derrick, please. Samantha is still my child. I am your aunt. You can't-"

"She has two options. Either she is punished accordingly and also made to grovel beneath

Vanessa's feet or she is banished from the pack. It's either one of them." He declares. Agatha falls to the chair, a tear falling to her cheeks at his words.

Samantha freezes, looking at Derrick with desperation. She heaved deeply and stands up. forcefully wiping the tears on her cheeks away harshly, her hands folded into a tight fist. She looks at Vanessa and Erin again.

"I would rather die than grovel at Vanessa's feet for mercy. I would rather leave this pack." This sends Agatha even more panic, her breathing quickening even more.

Samantha looks Derrick dead in the eyes, raising a hand to her chest. "I, Samantha, daughter of Agatha and Mikhail leave the dark moon pack."

"It doesn't work that way but I'll help you." Derrick stands up, ignoring the wails of Agatha.

"I, Alpha Derrick, of the dark moon kingdom banish you, Samantha, daughter of Agatha and Mikhail from the dark moon pack. You are no longer welcome here." Derrick says and the pack bond of Samantha weakens tremendously.

A tear falls to Samantha's cheek, she swallows harshly, her heart heavy with hatred "I, Samantha, daughter of Agatha and Mikhail accept your banishment." The bond finally breaks.





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