

## Very Well Planned

### Poppy POV

It wasn't a lie if I said that I was hell tired. I slid down on the mattress and propped my head on the pillows as I stroked his soft hair. God, I missed it so much.

"I had a vision," I said, closing my eyes. "It was about Cynthia paying money to some tall and muscular people who looked like... rogues or Alphas. The vision was blurred. It swayed and I couldn't see the images of people nicely, but I could make out the silhouette of Cynthia." I sighed as Damon lifted his head up and watched me with seriousness. "That vision soon blurred and then I saw Nash attacking the Umbra pack."

"Goddess!" Damon rasped. "Really? You saw all that?" he sounded bewildered.

I chuckled. "Yes."

"Amazing! But what triggered you?" he asked, totally mesmerized.

"Two days back my pack people said that there was a pack of rogues on the outskirts of my pack. They had looted my people who were living on the edge of the forest." I stopped .

stroking his hair when memories of those rogues flashed across my mind. taking a deep breath in, I said, "Usually a group of rogues doesn't contain more than four or five members but this was a large group. There were fifteen rogues in it, and that was pretty odd."

Damon clenched his jaw. He lifted himself up on his elbows. "That is strange," he said in a low voice. "Who were they?"

"I don't know, but I asked my warriors to attack them all in a large number so that they were taken down immediately. However, while we fought with them, I realized that they were pretty strong for rogues." They were very strong and I was surprised that they were able to take up my warriors with equal skill. "It was pretty bizarre how they fought with my warriors. It was like they matched the skills of trained warriors."

"Hmm..." Damon got up at this time, his mind completely focused on what I was saying.

I continued, "Eventually we defeated them. The thin and scraggy ones who were actual rogues and who were not even five in number, were killed by my pack warriors. However, it was the other ten who we were finding difficult to put down. While six of them died, four of them managed to escape." I yawned, feeling sleepy.

"Poppy, don't you sleep before telling it all to me," Damon growled. "Because I want to know who were these bastards

who tried to attack you. I am extremely sure that they knew that you were not with me. And what was the meaning of this stupid disguised attack? What was it meant for?"

I could sense his fury. He felt that he couldn't protect me, which was wrong. "Damon," I said as I brushed his cheek with his thumb. "It wasn't your fault that I was alone. I chose to go to my pack and this problem had to happen at that time. I think—"

"I think it was planned!" he growled. "In fact, I am extremely sure that this was a well-planned exercise to keep you distracted!"

I licked my lips as I stared at Damon. I was suspecting it as well and didn't know how much to rely on my visions. "It could be a plan and it is possible that Cynthia is behind it."

Damon jumped up and sat on his knees. "Of course!" he blurted, his eyes going wide with some kind of realization.

I raised my eyebrow. "Well, what is it that you are thinking?" I asked, wary of his thoughts.

"You have to tell me what happened after that," he said, dismissing my question.

I let out a rough exhale. "After those so-called rogues escaped, I sent my spies to find out what was happening in

the Howler pack. They came back and informed us that Monica had killed Alpha George, which was huge news!" My eyes went wide as my heart pounded. "And that Nash Dawson has planned an attack on the Umbra pack. But—" I said animatedly. "I couldn't put two and two together. I couldn't relate my visions with what was happening. Nonetheless, I didn't want to take a chance. I focused on my vision and tried to remember when Nash was going to attack you. It was then that I remembered seeing the small fish pond that your people had created at the south end of the Umbra pack."

"Oh. My. Goddess." Damon shuddered. "You saw that?"

"Mhmm... I saw that." I yawned again.

He grunted and I snapped my eyes open. My Alpha mate was relentless. I knew that his wolf wanted to punish all those who harmed his mate. That feeling made me feel so secure that my heart warmed. Gods, why did I even leave him? I would never do that again.

"I asked all my warriors to accompany me to the south of the Umbra pack. It was just as I had seen in my vision. Nash was there attacking you all and I am sure that it was a surprise attack," I said and slumped on the pillow.

"Yes, it was a surprise attack," Damon growled. "He had encamped his army in the north. I thought I was going to take his wolves by surprise, but I was shocked when he

attacked me from the south. That's why I am saying it was all very well planned."

"Do you feel that Cynthia was in on this plan?" I asked.

"Yes she was. There's only one way to confirm that," he said, a wicked smile coming on his lips.

Why did I feel he was hiding something? "And that is?" I asked, my eyes droopy.

He slid right beside me and tucked us in the comforter. "I want you to sleep now, love. We will talk about it when we wake up next."

My lips curled up lazily. So much had happened that I needed to sleep. Why was I getting so tired so easily all the time? "Hmm..." Damon turned me over and when my back was against him, he pulled me towards him and enveloped me in his warmth and scent. It was so soothing to my nerves that I immediately fell into a dreamless sleep. I don't know how long I slept, but when I woke up, I was naked. And so was Damon.