ALPHA'S REGRET: HIDING MY EX-HUSBAND'S TWINS **HIDING 41**

Sophia's Denial

ISABELLA'S POV

The air felt heavy all of a sudden, as well as the weight on my chest. I watched how Xavier tensed up in front of me, but his eyes were still nailed to me despite Sophia's arrival. It almost seemed like he hadn't heard her coming, despite her presence drawing nearer. But then, I knew

better. His silence was not ignorance. It was a choice.

I shot a cold glance in Sophia's direction, a mixture of irritation and disdain bubbling beneath me, before I finally turned back to Xavier.

"You said you want to get to the bottom of this, right?" I spoke with a sharp and challenging tone as I stared directly at him. "Then why not ask her about everything that happened?" His eyes locked on mine, his jaw tightening at my words. I could see the turmoil brewing behind his stoic face, and for a moment, I thought he might refuse. But then, before he could

even respond, Sophia interrupted us once more. She has now arrived next to Xavier, throwing me a glance.

"Isabella... why are you here?" Her voice was filled with feigned surprise. I turned to her, meeting her feigned innocence with a cold and calm gaze. "It has nothing to do

with you." Her expression twisted, her face morphing into one of offense. "Well, you, returning here is

something which the whole pack and every member present here should be concerned with." She narrowed her eyes at me, her voice now growing sharper. "You came from the Bluemoon Pack. You are eventually a threat here... or don't tell me you suddenly had a change of heart and now wants to come back here-" "That's enough."

Her words were abruptly cut off by a low, menacing growl from Xavier. The displeasure was written all over his face and his tone was hard, leaving no room for argument.

Sophia's mouth snapped shut, her eyes were wide and wounded as she looked at Xavier, as if not expecting him to say those words just now. I found it funny seeing her reaction, but it didn't last when I saw her inching closer towards Xavier again.

attempted to appeal him. 1/4

"Xavier, I'm just worried about you and the pack..." She spoke to him, her voice now soft as she

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Sophia's face flushed with hurt and embarrassment, but instead of feeling satisfied, the ache

"You don't need to." Xavier icily cut her off.

that had been forming in my chest only deepened and I felt a growing sense of unease. Seeing them together, even Xavier now looked cold and alienated from her, feels like having a salt rubbing into a wound I thought had long since healed. It was something I couldn't ignore no matter how hard I tried. The mate bond was still there, still working its magic. And it still stung to watch them standing so close together. I felt like I was watching a scene from the past. A scene that once hurt and broke me. But then, I noticed how Xavier stepped back, putting distance between him and Sophia as he

glanced back at me, as if sensing my unease. I was momentarily taken back, but I didn't let it show on my face, cloaking the complicated

emotions in my eyes as I stared at him, meeting his gaze. "Why not ask her now?" I jeered, my voice was laced with cold sarcasm and challenge.

He was silent for a while, studying me with his intense orbs but before he could even say anything, Sophia just couldn't seem to keep her mouth shut as she interrupted us once more. "What does he need to ask me?" She spat, her voice dripping with disdain as she glared at I ignored her and turned a deaf ear to her question, keeping my gaze locked on Xavier, who hadn't taken his eyes off me either. Our gazes met, our silent battle in continuance. I could feel Sophia's growing frustration as she suddenly edged closer to him.

"Xavier, what is she talking about?" Her voice was deliberately soft, a tone seemed to be reserved only for him. She was playing the innocent victim once more. She was the same old Sophia, pretentious and scheming. I watched as she tried to reach for his hand, but Xavier immediately inched away, evading her

though I didn't care enough to feel satisfied. Finally, Xavier spoke. "It was you who gave her those divorce papers?" His voice was cold, each word sharp enough

touch. I could feel his glance flicker back to me. I almost laughed at Sophia's hurt expression,

to cut. I witnessed how Sophia turned tensed, her body going rigid as she froze, blood draining from her face. She didn't answer immediately, and I noticed how Xavier's face only grew even

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"Answer me!" He demanded, his voice much colder and sharper this time. Sophia trembled under his cold and sharp stare. She stammered, her voice trembling as she

darker.

answered him. "Xavier, I... I don't know what you're talking about."

"You're not just a great actress, Sophia." I spat. "You're a great liar too."

Hearing her denial snapped something inside me. A wave of anger and hatred started surging upward to the base of my chest. The grudge I'd been holding in for years had bubbled up to the surface.

Her gaze snapped towards me. This time, her face twisted with anger as she glared at me. But

I continued talking, the venomous words spilling from my lips. "Your face is really thicker than that makeup you're wearing."

She clenched her fists on her sides, her body began to shake with the fury she barely contained. But I wasn't the least bit intimidated. Instead, I c****d a brow at her, flashing a mocking smile as I turned to Xavier, who was watching me intently since earlier.

"What?" I said in a challenging tone, my voice dripping with sarcasm. "Are you going to believe

My heart pounded loudly in my chest, almost to the point that it was painful as I waited for his

reply, bitterness filling my mouth. Part of me was expecting him to fall back into his old habits to blindly trust Sophia like he did in the past. -

her?"

behind, and never look back. But then, I noticed how the intensity in his eyes became even more terrifying before he finally turned to Sophia.

"Stop lying!" Xavier growled at her, his face looking dark as ever. "Isabella already told me

And if he did, I knew I would stop fighting for the truth and just simply walk away, leave it all

Sophia faced him, showing a pitiful look on her face as she stammered with a weak and fake innocent voice. "Xavier, I didn't... I really don't know what you're talking about-"

everything. What was your reason?!" Sophia flinched, her face twisted in shock and fear, but then, I was taken back at how she

"Why did you do it?" His tone was ice-cold.

immediately changed face as she turned and glared at me.

"She's the one who's lying, Xavier!" I raised an eyebrow at her pathetic attempt to shift the blame, my eyes turning even more

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sharp and cold as I met her gaze. Could she get any more audacious? But then again, what more could I expect from her? I clicked my

tongue, realizing how naïve I was to believe all her schemes in the past.

"Since she insists on denying it, maybe you should figure it out yourself. You're a clever Alpha, Xavier." I glanced at Xavier, flashing him a detached, insincere smile before adding. "But then, it's up to you to believe whoever you want. Once you made up your mind, we can settle

things ... about the kids. I won't stay here any longer." Xavier intently stared at me, but there was a conflict flashing in his eyes. His lips parted open as if he wanted to speak, but before he could,

Sophia's furious voice rang out.

"This is all your fault!"

Before I even had the chance to react, Sophia flung herself at me, her hands reaching out and yanking my hair in a vicious tug. "b***h! Why did you come here?!" She shrieked with a tone full of venom.