

AN ENEMY CALLED MATE

Chapter 31



XANDER

The rogue looked confident, and

I found myself wondering what was going on behind the rogue's expression. Was he scared or confident? Calm or pretending to be calm?

I watched closely, my gaze fixed on his face, trying to read his every reaction.

"I and my group came for what was ours," the rogue spoke boldly. With that, I became curious.

What does he mean? Why will my pack store a rogue's belongings?

I couldn't help but ask a question, my voice tinged with a hint of curiosity, "What do you mean? What are you talking about?"

"Don't pretend to not be aware of the Crystal-

Crystal Moon? Before the rogue could complete his statement, I snapped my fingers calmly.

"Excuse us," I spoke authoritatively. Without wasting time, the guards marched out, but Lance stood.

"You too," I spoke. Lance bowed his head that instant. He walked out of the cell.

As soon as he was gone, I glanced back at the confident rogue.

“How did you know about the Crystal Moon?” I questioned, my voice coming out as a whisper.

The rogue chuckled a little, then he voiced out, “Who doesn’t know about it?”

“Ok, okay,” I replied, pacing to and fro in the cell. “Why are you here again?”

“To have what is ours.” The rogue uttered, “The key to the Crystal Moon Guardian.”

What?! The Crystal Moon Guardian was a chosen person with the power to control the Crystal Moon properly. Though, the Crystal Moon Guardian was this pack’s possession, the possession Alpha Darwin stole and turned against us. She was ours, not anyone else!

Thank goodness that we found a fragment of the Crystal Moon and hid it, or else this pack would have been ruined.

Hastily, I grabbed the rogue by the collar and snarled, “The Crystal Moon Guardian was ours... Until that Darwin took her!”

“I don’t know what you are talking about. All I’m aware of is that the key to the Crystal Moon Guardian was right before us, then you took her away!” The rogue snarled back, not flinching a bit.

What does he mean by key?! The Crystal Moon Guardian has been taken away from this pack for over twenty years.

“What are you talking about?” I growled, still holding onto his collar.

“Why don’t you understand what I’ve been saying?! That girl is the key to our Crystal Moon Guardian!”

Huh? I staggered back at the rogue’s statement. I pieced two and two together and what he meant was that the key to their Crystal Moon Guardian was the girl I took away. Could it be... Ziva?!

“Lance, send Ziva to this cell immediately,” I mind-linked Lance and in a minute, a response came in, “Alright, Alpha.”

ZIVA

The man named Lance drove his car to the mansion. Also, I met Anji in my room, and she mentioned how Lance assisted her in returning to the mansion too.

As soon as I reached the mansion, I took a shower and scrubbed the dirt and leaves off my body. I washed my hair, changed my clothes, and felt refreshed.

Bang!

The door to my room was suddenly flung open, revealing Lance standing in the doorway.

“The Alpha would like to see you right away!” He announced. With the urgency in his tone, I was a bit anxious. I mean... Why would cold-hearted Alpha Xander want to see me?

Wait, is it because of what happened earlier?

The way I threw a tree branch at his wolf, even though he was trying to help me, or the way I screamed for help, attracting the rogues' attention? Perhaps it's because of the way I stared at his well-built body!

Gosh! What have I done?

Will I be punished for that?

“Why?” I asked Lance quietly.

“It's the Alpha's decision. I have no idea,” Lance replied with a polite tone.

Then, I glanced at Anji with a worried expression on my face. Anji glanced at me too, but her expression conveyed, “What have you done this time?”

“I didn’t do anything wrong,” I whispered to her. Afterward, she shook her head and walked away. Meanwhile, fear gripped me.

Is Alpha Xander planning to kill me, just like he killed his mates?!

“Lady Ziva,” Lance called out, jolting me from my thoughts. He gestured toward the door, and I walked, following his steps.

We reached the rogue’s cell, and my heart raced as we approached the door. I could feel the cold sweat on my palms, as my body trembled with fear.

I was directed into a small section of the cell, and Alpha Xander walked into the cell. He sat opposite me, with his blue eyes staring at me like I was somewhat new.

I gazed at the guards before the cell, Lance, then at their Alpha. I gulped.

“Is anything wrong?” I managed to say, with my palm still sweaty.

I could feel my heart pounding in my chest, while I tried to maintain a calm facade, but inside, I was a bundle of nerves. The silence was unbearable, and I waited with bated breath for the Alpha’s response.

“Is this the girl you were referring to?” Alpha Xander questioned, turning his gaze to the man who sat on the floor. The man’s hands were cuffed with silver cuffs, and he seemed to be a prisoner or so.

“Take him away,” Alpha Xander ordered.

Instantly, some guards rushed in. They took the man on the floor out of the cell, while I was alone with Alpha Xander once again.

In a flash, Alpha Xander was by my side, his hand reaching out towards my neck.

I flinched, my heart pounding in my chest as I assumed that he would kill me.

Click!

A metallic click filled the air, and I felt something cold and hard against my skin.

I raised my hand to touch it, my fingers brushing against the metal of a thing. I looked up at Alpha Xander, confusion brewing.

“W-what is going on?” I stammered my voice cracking in fear.

“An Agony Collar is around your neck,” Alpha Xander replied tartly.

“What?!” I exclaimed, knowing too well what an Agony Collar meant. It was a collar to inflict pain on werewolves and to force the werewolf wearing it to confess.

Is Alpha Xander trying to torture me?

“Why? Why are you doing this?” I questioned, feeling terrified as my body trembled.

But the person I was questioning didn’t even have any sign of concern for me. He paced to and fro in the cell, not glancing at me for once.

Then, I sniffled.

Is this how Alpha Xander planned to kill me? First, he protected me from those wolves. Now, he wants me dead?

Chapter 32



XANDER

Before the little Ziva girl entered the cell, I had tested another Collar on the rogue. Sigh... It turned out that the rogue was telling the truth about Ziva being the key to the Crystal Moon Guardian.

But how did she know about the Crystal Moon Guardian's location? Gosh, I should have known. Those Darwins are sneaky!

Ziva walked into the cell calmly, and the rogue confirmed that Ziva was the girl he referred to. The Collar also indicated that the rogue was telling the truth.

If Ziva knows about the Crystal Moon Guardian with Alpha Darwin, what am I waiting for? I will transform the Granelma Pack into ruins instantly!

Ziva sat, and I took the other chair. I only mentioned that she had an Agony Collar around her neck, and she was already trembling. She sniffled like she had started crying.

I felt a bit odd, more like I was pained because of her sadness... Whatever. I should focus on getting answers instead!

Then, I glanced at her, watching how she stared at her burning wrists due to the silver cuff. She didn't even flinch.

"Alright, this is how it works," I uttered, approaching her quickly.

"I need you to say the truth, then you'll be free," I spoke slowly.

Glancing at me, Ziva's hazel eyes were already teary. I had to look away from her, so as to not be caught up with her teary gaze.

"And this collar is different. There's no need to be frightened. It's less painful, and you'll only get a wave of intense pain when you lie," I lied, not wanting to see any tears.

The truth was that the Collar wouldn't cause pain, it would only detect lies. I don't know why... But that was the Collar I wanted for her.

Then, I went directly into questioning her, "Firstly, do you know about the Crystal Moon Guardian's location?" I questioned with an authoritative tone.

The Ziva girl looked up at me and uttered, "No, I know nothing."

With her statement, the Collar blinked twice. Jeez! If the Collar blinked twice then it meant that it was a lie!

“You annoying rabbit!” I snarled, almost rushing to strangle her by the neck.

I managed to control my temper as I massaged my temples.

“But I was telling the truth,” Ziva replied, with a soft, intimidating voice. A voice that she planned to use to make me believe her, right?

Then, I waited for the Collar’s indication eagerly. The Collar blinked twice again!

“You lied again,” I yelled as my anger snapped.

I threw her off the chair, knowing how crucial the Crystal Moon Guardian was to this pack and how dangerous this world would be if Darwin found the other fragment of the Crystal Moon.

With the force of my push, the Agony Collar around her neck broke. Then, I grabbed her by her neck, slamming her body against the wall.

“You know, I should have killed you a long time ago, but I resisted!” I said to her, right in her face.

Meanwhile, she tried to reach my hand that had gripped her neck.

“Since you know about the Crystal Moon Guardian, spit it out!” I yelled.

“Alpha, she can’t speak unless you let go of her!” Lance mind-linked.

I blocked off the mind link instantly. He wasn’t helping with any of his statements anyway, and I didn’t care. Darwin took the Crystal Moon Guardian, my possession. He wasted my mother’s life, and I won’t spare his daughter until she confesses!

“Speak now!” I ordered, but no words came out of her mouth.

Instead, fresh blood trickled down her lips as her cheeks became wet with tears... Tears that somewhat made my wolf whimper. I hated it when Maz made that sound. It annoys me, but I won't let my guard down!

I pushed her off, letting her body drop to the floor as I surrendered to my sympathetic wolf. She deserves more than that. For all the pain her father, Darwin, caused me, she deserves a thousand times pain in return.

"I know nothing about whatever Crystal Moon Guardian you're talking about!" I heard her croak, even though she was still on the floor.

I turned to the Collar instantly as I eagerly expected an indication. Just then, the Collar blinked twice, brewing my anger. Why was she lying again, even though she was in pain?

Hmph, I guess the pain is not enough for her to confess.

"Get the other Agony Collar," I mind-linked the guards. Instantly, the guards walked in and sealed another Collar around Ziva's neck.

As soon as they sealed it, they left. Meanwhile, I continued my questioning.

"Ziva, answer this question honestly. Do you know about the Crystal Moon Guardian's location?" I asked calmly, but this time, the Collar didn't blink, and Ziva didn't say a word.

I rushed over to her side, attempting to force her to answer. But upon reaching her side, I noticed that she wasn't even speaking.

Her body lay on one side, and her face faced the wall. Hastily, I bent, stretching my neck to glance at her face and understand why she was silent.

Her face came into view, but her brown hair was scattered over it.

I had to pull the brown strands away from her face, then my eyes popped out. Her eyes were shut. Goodness, is she unconscious?

“Get the pack doctor!” I mind-linked Lance.

I carried her in my arms quickly and walked out of the cell.

Soon, she was laid on a stretcher and rushed into the pack hospital. I wasn't allowed to enter inside until the doctor walked out.

“Is she alright?” I asked. The pack doctor nodded.

“She is fine now, but she's still unconscious.”

“Can I see her?” I questioned, and the doctor nodded again.

Silently, I strode toward the door and pushed the door open. Glancing inside the large ward, I spotted Ziva who was lying on the hospital bed. I walked inside, as her sweet lavender scent invited me in.

It was just a push, and she ended up like this?

I reached out to touch her hand, but she flinched. She moved her hand away with her eyes still shut, and she turned her body to the other side like she didn't want to look at me.

Oh, so she is pretending to be unconscious and she does not want me to touch her? Huff, why am I even here?

“I didn't mean to push you-” I began, narrowing my eyes.

“Or shove me to the wall,” she replied, interrupting me.

“Okay, it was just an interrogation, and you lied twice!” I voiced out, almost snapping out in anger again.

I heard her muffle, “I guess you came here to continue the interrogation again, even though I told you that I wasn't lying.”

“You were; the Collar indicated that, and on top of it all, the rogue-”

“Leave,” she spoke briefly.

“What?! I’m the Alpha here; you can’t order me-”

“Please!” She yelled, interrupting me again, “Leave.”

Chapter 33



XANDER

“Leave,” Her statement replayed in my head. What does she take me for? A fool? I won’t fall for her dirty lies to cover up for her father’s deed. Her father had taken the Guardian and she is trying to hide the Guardian’s location.

I was a fool for not investigating her at first. I should have known.

I left the ward just like she wanted, not without slamming the door in anger as it fell and broke.

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I walked down the stairs, and upon reaching the dining hall, Ziva was not around again. It has been four days now, and surprisingly, I haven’t seen her in the mansion. Perhaps that’s because I’ve been busy with pack work.

I pulled out a chair and turned to the Head Omega, “Did she have breakfast?”

“Who?” The Head Omega replied.

I faced her with a deadly glare, and she gazed at the floor instantly.

“That Ziva girl,” I responded.

“Alpha, I’ve not seen her for some days now,” the Head Omega uttered, causing me to pause.

“And what does that mean?”

“She has not been in this mansion for four days now.”

I waved my hand, dismissing her. What’s her use anyway? I shouldn’t worry about that Darwin’s daughter... Unless she is planning to do something disastrous!

Mindlinking Lance, I spoke authoritatively, “Where is Ziva?”

“She is at the hospital,” Lance replied.

“How long would it take for her to recover? She was not badly injured!”

“She complained to the doctor about her back pain and insisted that she needed more rest in the hospital.”

“What?! You let her do that? What if that was just a ruse?!”

“It doesn’t seem like that.”

“Fine, forget it!” I replied, as I picked up the fork on my plate, intending to eat.

“I received a message from Alexei,” Lance’s voice rang out in my mind, causing my hand to spasm and the fork I was holding to clatter to the ground.

“What does he want?” I asked, my voice shaking with curiosity.

“Well, he mentioned that he is returning to the pack,” Lance replied, his words hanging in my mind. The silence seemed to stretch on for an eternity, until I finally managed to find my voice.

“Why? I mean... When did he mention that he will be here?” I asked, my voice strained. I massaged my temples, trying to ward off the headache that was beginning to form.

“Two to three minutes from-,” Lance’s voice trailed off in my mind, leaving me hanging in suspense. But before he could continue, I caught a familiar scent in the breeze.

“Brann!” Maz’s voice rang out in my head, sounding just as surprised as I felt.

Oh goodness!

“Brother!” A deep voice called out, growing louder as footsteps drew nearer.

I turned around, and there he was – my twin brother, Alexei, with his dark hair and blue eyes. He was smiling, but I couldn’t bring myself to return the smile.

However, all I could think about was the last time we’d seen each other, and the situation that had led to our distance. He may be my replica, but we are nothing alike.

He has been to the city; the human place where werewolves also go to for business purposes or vacation, but their identity is kept as a secret.

Alexei dropped into the chair next to me, and the Head Omega walked forward, serving another portion of meal. She smiled at him, her eyes crinkling at the corners. “You’ve grown so much since I last saw you,” she said.

“Thank you ma, and you also look so grown already,” Alexei replied, then a chuckle echoed from the Head Omega. He chuckled too, before they continued to discuss, like I wasn’t even around.

“Ahem!” I coughed, and both of them turned to look at me.

ZIVA

It turned out that staying in the hospital helped a lot, though I do not like the smell of medicines and detergents.

So, I take a stroll outside the pack hospital. The kids there were very nice to me, the doctors too, and it made me feel four years younger. You know, the happiness I’ve felt before I turned eighteen.

Lance persuaded me to return to the mansion, but knowing very well how cold-hearted my so-called husband was, I preferred to stay in the hospital.

Here, I don't have to worry about being murdered by my husband, but Alpha Darwin's threats still replay in my head.

I have to find the Crystal Moon. Tsk, I should return to the mansion then. Four days of no Alpha Xander is enough.

Clutching my phone, I dialed Lance's phone number which he had given me during his visit to the hospital. He is a kind soul. Very caring too. It turned out that he visited the hospital daily to check on me.

Hehe, the nurse told me about that, and I'm happy she did.

Within seconds of dialing his number, he answered the call.

"Lady Ziva?"

"Hi, I feel better now. Can you get a car to pick me up at the hospital?" I asked, and he replied quickly, "Sure."

The call ended. I moved away from the bed, and gazed at the window. There, I could see everyone in the surroundings, most especially the happy children.

Sigh... I guess everyone has that moment of happiness and mine passed away.

Screech!

The screeching of brakes pulled me out of my thoughts.

An expensive car was parked by the side and my phone vibrated with a message popping up on the screen.

"The driver is waiting outside," the message read. It was from Lance.

"Thanks," I replied. Then, I walked out of the hospital. Lance had dealt with the discharge papers already, so there was nothing to worry about.

I got into the car, and it sped off towards the mansion.

The car halted into a stop and I slipped silently into the mansion, hoping to go unnoticed.

As soon as I reached the staircase that leads to my room, I spotted Alpha Xander on the landing, but he was in a t-shirt and sweat pants and his hair was cut short. He had a phone clasped in his arm, and he was talking, like he was receiving a call.

I decided to stylishly move to my room without him noticing. With my head bent low, I crept away from him.

“Hey!” His deep voice echoed, causing me to stop in my tracks.

Gosh, he caught me.

I turned around slowly, and my gaze came in contact with Alpha Xander. He had a quizzical look on his face, and he gazed at me, like he was inspecting me.

Chapter 34



ZIVA

His phone was not clasped in his hand, as it was obviously in his pocket since the outlines were clear on his tight sweatpants.

“Why are you not in the Omega’s uniform? That’s an offense,” he spoke loudly, causing my eyes to widen as I was caught off guard.

How dare he relate me to an Omega?! I’m his wife, an Alpha’s wife!

“Uhm...” I heard a feminine voice say, interrupting my conversation with Alpha Xander.

Out of the corner of my eye, I saw a figure approach us.

“She is Alpha Xander’s wife.” the figure whispered. It was a fat figure, and as it neared, I realized that it was the Head Omega.

My brows furrowed, with my eyes darting back and forth between the Head Omega and Alpha Xander as if trying to follow a tennis match.

Huh? Why is she telling him that? Doesn’t he know that I’m his wife?

“Oh! I was not aware!” Alpha Xander exclaimed.

Suddenly, he took my hand gently. He raised it to his lips and brushed them against the back of my hand.

Then, he raised his gaze and muttered, “My apologies. I am Alpha Xander’s brother, Alexei.”

“Huh?” I blurted out in shock. At that moment, I assumed that Alpha Xander was joking. I mean... He is right before me, yet he calls himself a brother.

“It’s true,” the Head Omega voiced out, as she pinched Alpha Xander’s cheek.

Meanwhile, I watched them in disbelief, as Alpha Xander chuckled playfully after the Head Omega pinched him.

That was awkward. The Alpha Xander I know can never allow anyone to touch him, let alone pinch his cheek!

“What’s going on?” I heard a voice speak in an authoritative tone. Then, the Head Omega stopped chuckling. She stood at attention, her gaze fixed on the floor.

I turned to the direction of the source of the male’s voice. To my utmost surprise, I spotted Alpha Xander again.

He looked different from the man I’d seen seconds ago, his posture straighter and his gaze sharp. He radiated authority and everywhere fell silent.

Hastily, I averted my gaze to the Alpha Xander who calls himself a brother then I gazed at the other Alpha Xander.

I'm confused!

But they are in different clothes... Are they twin brothers?

"I was just introducing myself to your wife as your twin brother," the Alpha Xander who kissed my hand uttered, and the other Alpha Xander approached us. He crossed his arms, and muttered, "There is no need for that."

"Who is the real Alpha Xander?" I questioned out of curiosity, and one of them pointed to the other.

I looked at the confirmed Alpha Xander, and certainly, he was the one. His hands were crossed, and he had no smile on his face as only a serious expression was maintained.

I calculated in my head, "Alright, so the cheerful one is the twin and the cold one is my husband. Easy to differentiate!"

"I should get going now," I uttered, striding away from their presence as I didn't want to be more confused.

XANDER

Upon hearing Alexei's voice from my office, I approached the landing. There, I spotted him and Ziva discussing like they've known each other for a long time now.

Just before I could interrupt them properly, Ziva left, and the Head Omega excused us.

"Being selfish, uh? You didn't invite me to your wedding, and even dad, he didn't say a thing about it," Alexei spoke with a wide smile on his face, meanwhile, I shook my head.

“I didn’t invite Dad, and the wedding was for my gain, no romantic attachments were involved,” I replied tartly. With that, I strode into my office.

“I thought you moved on,” Alexei replied, the excitement in his tone dropping instantly.

“She is Darwin’s daughter,” I voiced out, intending to make him recall the awful things Alpha Darwin caused to this pack.

“So?” Alexei replied, shrugging his shoulders “Does it matter if she is his daughter? I mean... How can you get married to someone you don’t love? Fine, it’s for your gain, what about her? You know what marriage means to women and what you did is like setting her up for heartbreak.”

I paused. What is he saying? Isn’t he supposed to support me and try to find out about the Crystal Moon Guardian? I expected him to get furious and attempt to kill her in anger, but here he is, spitting nonsense.

I turned around, glaring at him. “Have you forgotten what Darwin did to this pack?”

“No one cares about that! That was in the past-”

“He killed our mother, Alexei! He caused my mate’s death!” I snarled back.

“Alright, Xander,” Alexei spoke, heaving a sigh.

Then, he walked towards me, placed his hand on my shoulder, and muttered with a soft tone. “I know Alpha Darwin caused a lot of havoc, but doing this won’t punish him. Getting married to his daughter, whom marriage is supposed to be like her romantic, happy moment. But you ruined it. You transformed it into a marriage for your selfish gains.”

I pushed his hand off my shoulder immediately.

“You are only saying this because you were not present to witness our mother’s death or Rose’s death. You were in the city, enjoying your freaking

life while everything was destroyed!” I growled, with my wolf, Maz almost snapping out.

Alexei rolled his eyes, without any sign of concern in his eyes. Doesn't he care about all that happened? Or did he lose his senses in the city?

“I understand that it hurts and that you want justice. But revenge isn't the answer. It won't bring Mum or Rose back, and it won't make you feel any better. In fact, it will only make you feel worse. You'll be stuck in this cycle of anger and violence, and that's not the kind of life you want to live. Please, let go-”

“Shut it!” I yelled, before he could continue his motivational or whatever anyone calls it statement.

Glaring at Alexei, my eye colors had transformed to pitch black, and my wolf, Maz was prepared to release himself and give Alexei a heavy blow.

Chapter 35



XANDER

He stayed mute, and I moved away from him, not wanting to beat him up or do something I would regret later on.

I calmed myself as I fought to keep my composure.

“I don't know what has gotten into you or what influenced you, but this was not what I was expecting from you.

You being the younger one doesn't make you less of a son, and you should be more pressed towards getting revenge than I am. I am disappointed in you." I said all that I had in my mind before leaving his presence.

To be honest, the only reason why Alexei stayed in the city was because of the petty fights we had when we were younger. We also fought for the Alpha position, but luckily, my father assigned me as the next Alpha because I was older.

Sigh... Alexei was born a few minutes after I was washed, but that doesn't mean that he should be a fool!

ZIVA

With the aim of getting the Crystal Moon, I built a friendly relationship with the Omegas, and the Head Omega, hoping that they would shed light about the Crystal Moon. But none of them did.

They seem to be more occupied with Alpha Xander's brother's presence. Speaking of Alpha Xander, he has been somewhat ignoring me.

Whenever we reached the landing together, coincidentally, he would either return to where he came from or walk away quickly, like I had a bad aura.

Nevertheless, his brother has been very helpful. He seems to start up a discussion whenever we meet and I'm starting to see the differences between the twin brothers.

"Anji, I would like to have a tour around the pack," I voiced out, glancing away from my room window.

"Why? Aren't you comfortable here?" Anji questioned, her voice tinged with concern. I scoffed instantly, recalling how she left me with those angry wolves.

“Don’t pretend to be concerned about me. I want to do this for the deal with Alpha Darwin. You know, I need to know more about this pack before I can accomplish the given tasks.” I replied.

“Oh, that’s great! We can have a quick one right now then, but we won’t go to places that are far away from the Alpha’s mansion. I can still feel the pain in my legs after running quickly the other day.”

“Tsk, that must be because you are getting old, but anyway, I’m all dressed, and we can go right now.”

Anji rolled her eyes, gesturing to the door. “Alright, Lady Ziva.”

We left the mansion and the first place we reached was the pack’s training area. There were numerous warriors training there and the golden-haired man was there.

“Lance!” I called out, waving at him to get his attention if he turned around. Sadly, he didn’t.

He was focused on his training, with his gaze fixed on the warriors in front of him. He didn’t hear my call, or perhaps he simply chose to ignore it.

Meanwhile, I stood there, feeling like a child trying to get the attention of a busy adult, as my voice felt small in the bustling training area.

So, I averted my gaze to the female warriors who trained fiercely to not feel unimportant. Also, it reminded me of my dream.

I had a dream of becoming a female warrior after I turned eighteen, just like Alpha Darwin promised me when I was younger. Now, I don’t even know how to throw a punch, talk less of fighting.

Bang!

Bang!

Bang!NôveID(ram)a.ôrg owns this content.

I heard multiple loud sounds. I had to flinch a bit, with my eyes closing as I was frightened. The sounds echoed like a gunshot, too.

“Relax, it’s just Alpha Xander,” Anji replied.

Then I opened my eyes, feeling a bit relaxed by Anji’s statement.

On the other hand, Anji gazed at her right side without flinching or any expression of fear on her face.

Also, she seemed to be very focused on what she was glancing at. So, I looked at what she was staring at, and then, I spotted Alpha Xander in a sleeveless top.

He had a headphone on his head that covered his ears. His obviously muscular hands held a gun, and his intense gaze stared directly at a dummy.

He wore black gloves, and he had an eyeglass on his face, adding more authority with his black tank top and black headphone.

Without wasting time, he pulled the trigger thrice. I covered my ears again, but this time, I didn’t close my eyes.

Instead, I looked at the dummy. The dummy’s head had three holes in it, and it was a perfect shot!

Wow! How can someone be so good at shooting?

I gazed at him in admiration, and suddenly, he turned. He turned to me, with the gun still clasped in his hands!

Oh, my gosh!

My forehead dripped with sweat immediately and it felt like I was in a hot pot.

Suddenly, he dropped his hand as he heaved a sigh.

“Move away, you are obstructing my view,” he uttered, and I moved away quickly. Even Anji moved away, and just then, he shot the dummy next to us. It was a perfect shot too!

Though it felt like he aimed the gunshots at me before he stylishly aimed it at the dummy. “Hey,” came a soft voice from behind, causing my ears to perk up.

Only one person calls me that way... Alpha Xander’s brother, Alexei! I turned around quickly, without wasting any second.

“Hi,” I replied, a wide smile subconsciously appearing on my face as it exposed my teeth.

Just as I expected, Alexei stood before me with a bottle of water clasped in his hand. He must be training too. Such a hardworking fellow!

“Are you here-”

“I came to take a tour around the pack,” I replied, my lips still widely opened as I didn’t understand why I was still smiling widely.

“A tour?” Alexei questioned, glancing sideways. “But this place is not good enough for a tour.”

“Hehe, I’m just scared of moving far away from the mansion, even though it’s a bit lonely and boring,” I whispered. Suddenly, a quizzical look crossed his face.

“Why?” He asked, his voice tinged with concern and curiosity.

“Duh, the last time I left the mansion, some rogues attacked.”

“That is awful!” He exclaimed, gazing at me with a concerned look on his face.

“Next time you want to have a tour around this pack, you can inform me. I’m jobless for now, so I can show you around,” he replied, winking.

At that moment, I was certain that my stomach somersaulted. I had to compose myself in order to look natural.

“Aw, that’s so thoughtful of you,” I replied, with a smile spreading across my face.

However, I managed to force my lips to stop smiling as I cupped my cheeks to cover them, just in case they turned pink.

“But since you are here, I can still show you around, right?”

“Sure!” I exclaimed. Alexei turned, intending to lead me further, and I followed quickly.

However, I turned back to look at Anji, intending to inform her that I would be back shortly. But something else caught my eye.

From a distance, I saw those blue eyes that looked like an ocean that was prepared to swallow me and make me drown.

Alpha Xander was not shooting. Instead of shooting, he stared at me with a dark gaze that sent chills down my spine and made my bones feel wobbly.

Chapter 36



ZIVA

Hastily, I turned to Alexei, not wanting to be caught up with Alpha Xander’s dark gaze. As Alexei walked into another part of the training area, I followed.

In this part of the training area, there were some warriors with guns who were also shooting at a dummy, just like Alpha Xander was.

As soon as Alexei entered the area, the other warriors immediately evacuated, leaving just me and Alexei.

“I think you would definitely love to try this out,” Alexei spoke. He stretched a pistol toward me, and I shook my head quickly.

“I’ve never thrown a punch let alone used a pistol. I might end up hurting someone.” I confessed, my voice so soft that I was irked, and wondered what changed it.

Alexei’s jaw dropped, “What? You are an Alpha’s daughter; you should be able to do this.”

“Well, I’m kinda like a pampered daughter,” I lied, covering up the moments I was a slave and Omega in Granelma Pack.

“Alright, but I think this is the best time to practice this while I’m still around,” he replied, and I turned to him with a quizzical look on my face.

“While you are still around? What do you mean?”

Alexei coughed. He cleared his throat, and then he continued. “I will return to the city soon. So, let’s focus on this for now. Also, I’m wearing a bullet-proof vest so you have no reason to be worried about hurting anyone.” Alexei assured me. I glanced down at his chest and the vest was on him.

Great!

And what about the fact that I’m scared of holding a gun?

“Are you scared?” He questioned, as he stared at me.

How did he know?

I chuckled softly, “Was it obvious?”

“You are sweating,” he replied. I touched my forehead to check, and sweat brushed against my palm.

He was right. I must have been so anxious that I didn't even notice.

Suddenly, he took the pistol and clasped it in my hand forcefully.

His next statement caught me off guard, "Don't be a baby; you can do this."

My hands shivered as my palms were sweaty. He released his soft grip on my hand, and I let go of the pistol as well.

I turned around, covering my face in embarrassment. I'm the Alpha's wife, yet I can't hold a pistol. Now that a pack member is trying to teach me, I'm afraid.

"What's wrong?" He asked from behind.

"Umm, umm... I need those glasses, headphones, and vest," I spoke quickly, turning back with my head held high.

Perhaps I just need to be confident!

"Alright, I will be back in a jiffy," Alexei said, giving me a reassuring smile. He turned and walked out of the shooting area, the door swinging closed behind him.

I sank into the nearest chair, my legs feeling wobbly from standing for so long. As I sat there, I tried to focus on the minutes ticking by, waiting for Alexei to return.

In a minute, I heard a loud noise that sounded like a bang. Glancing away from the chair, I gazed at the source of the sound.

It was the door.

The door was swinging open with a bang, the hinges creaking as it moved. In the doorway stood Alexei, his vest nowhere to be seen, as it was replaced by a black tank top.

"You came earlier than I expected," I uttered, standing to my feet.

Surprisingly, there was no glass, or equipment with Alexei.

He walked toward me steadily, with some dark aura radiating around me. Just then, I recalled that Alpha Xander wore a black tank top and he was certainly the one who barged in, not Alexei.

Moving back slowly in fear, I stumbled, falling back with my butt hitting something soft. I glanced back and realized that I was on the chair.

I gazed back at Alpha Xander quickly, but he had already approached me. He had his hands resting on the chair's armrest and his face was an inch away from mine.

"Stay away from my family," He snarled with bared teeth.

I nod my head quickly, as more sweat drips from my forehead. The dark aura that radiated from him was enough to make me submit to his command.

Creak!

The door opened slowly, but with the way Alpha Xander stared at me coldly, I dared not to move.

"Ahem!" A cough echoed from the doorway.

Instantly, Xander turned while I crooked my head to see the person who came to rescue me from this chair trap.

Thankfully, it was Alexei, Anji, and some females whom I did not know. The females were a bit muscular, perhaps they were female warriors.

Their eyes darted from Alpha Xander to me, then me to Alpha Xander.

"We didn't mean to disrupt, we will leave now," Alexei spoke quickly.

Alpha Xander noticed the way the female warriors gazed at us; some with their jaws dropping in surprise. He pulled his hands away from the armrest, pushing his hands into his pockets.

Meanwhile, Alexei turned around in an instant and he gestured to the others.

Everyone evacuated from the area, leaving me and Alpha Xander. I stood up quickly, not wanting to be trapped between the chair and his gaze.

This time, his dark aura suddenly vanished, and from the pit of my stomach, I felt the need to stand my ground, and voice my opinions too.

“I’m not comfortable with you behaving that way around me. I know this will only last for a limited time, so can we just act natural?” I spoke, recalling my final decision.

After I returned from the hospital, I decided to hand the Crystal Moon over to Alpha Darwin, get my mother to be released and we shall become rogues. I don’t want to have anything to do with Crescent Moon Pack.

Alpha Xander didn’t reply to my statement, and I didn’t even want to hear him.

I walked towards the door of the training area, and maybe, just maybe, having a tour wouldn’t be a mistake if Alpha Xander didn’t appear.

As I was about to leave, I felt a strong grip on my hand. The grip turned me around and pushed me against the wall.

A few inches away from me was Alpha Xander with his breath fanning my face. His gaze lingered on my lips, as he questioned, “Is this natural enough?”

Chapter 37



ZIVA

“Huh?” I murmured, with my gaze landing on Alpha Xander’s lips.

His lips were full and inviting. As I looked at him, I felt a flutter in my stomach. I tried to keep my expression neutral, but inside, I was melting under his intense stare.

“Some distance will do,” I replied, my voice betraying me as I stammered.

Alpha Xander in response released his grip from my hand, and voiced out, “Whatever thing you are planning, I’m watching you... Always.”

Then, he moved away from me, and it was only after he left the area that I was able to breathe properly.

The door opened slowly afterward, as Alexei walked in, “He seems to not be in a good mood today.”

“He isn’t,” I replied, diverting my gaze to the equipment Alexei held, “I feel more interested in this shooting of a thing.”

“Oh oh! That’s great!” He exclaimed, throwing a vest at me. I took the vest swiftly and wore it.

“I selected a training coach for you, and I will be your other coach.”

“Male or female?” I questioned.

“Xander is very possessive, so female,”

“Huh?”

“Never mind,” Alexei replied. He arranged the equipment he brought on the table, while I analyzed them.

Later, he introduced me to a female warrior named Sorcha. She was very friendly, and I managed to learn how to hold a pistol properly. However, the shooting was not as great as I expected.

The bullets didn’t hit the target as they rolled helplessly on the floor.

I laughed when it missed the targets, as it was funny to know that I could hold a pistol... More like playing and wasting expensive bullets, lol.

But why would I care about that? My husband is rich, duh!

I heard chuckles from outside. I turned to the source, intending to know the owner of the chuckles as the walls were transparent.

I spotted Anji laughing. I chuckled too, and my gaze fell on the other training area. Xander was there, shooting the dummy, with no one around him. Even Alexei and Sorcha were laughing, meanwhile, Alpha Xander had a serious, cold demeanor.

He wasn't laughing, and he didn't have a smile on his face, even though he was reaching his target.

I was losing, yet I was a bit happy. But it somewhat felt dark and different at his side.

"Aren't you shooting the floor again?" Anji yelled, attracting my attention.

I jolted to reality, and laughed, "No worries, I will improve and I will get perfect shots next time!"

With that, Sorcha, Anji, and Alexei laughed in unison. I turned to Alpha Xander's side, and my heart leaped.

He was staring at me, but when he caught my gaze, he turned his face away.

He pulled the headphones away from his ears. Then, he threw them, causing them to slam into the wall.

Afterward, Alpha Xander walked out of his training area, exiting the place.

My heart sank. Perhaps Alpha Xander is more than the cold-hearted husband I thought he was.

“Come on, stop staring at him. You can have him all you want at night. So, focus on the dummy for now,” Alexei joked.

Faking a smile, I focused on the dummy, not without turning to see Alpha Xander’s figure every second.

I turned, promising myself that it would be the last time. But I didn’t see him. He left...

Later on, I focused on the target. It didn’t take a minute before Alexei intimidated me to return to the mansion.

He playfully said that I was thinking about Xander, and my mind was not where I was training.

I recalled denying that, though it was true. I somewhat could not get Alpha Xander off my mind. It felt like he was plastered there.

I was grateful Alexei made such a joke. I left the training area early with Anji. When we reached the car that would drive us to the mansion, Anji let out an uncontrollable laughter.

I could not believe that someone as strict as she was could laugh that way. She felt different to me at that period.

We reached the Alpha’s mansion in no time. Passing by the driveway, I noticed the dark clouds that covered the sky. The weather was changing, and it was almost nighttime.

I rushed into the mansion, aiming for my room since this was the best time. For the first time in this pack, in my perspective, it rained.

Right now, I’m not a slave or an Omega who would be cleaning the packhouse at this time. I’m more like a Queen.

To be honest, this is the best time to get a book to read as I wait for it to start raining or snuggle under the neat, soft blankets.

Upon reaching the landing, something struck my mind.

My room was on the right side and Alpha Xander's room should be on the left side, right next to his office, right?

His cologne is still here and I can follow it up, so I won't miss my way.

Foolishly, ignoring how cold he had been to me, I tip-toed. His cologne scent stopped before a door.

So, I took a peek from the door, ensuring that my breath was not very audible for him to hear.

With the open distance between the door and the wall, I looked inside.

Strangely, it was dark, pitch black!

It doesn't seem like anyone is in the room, too.

"Who is there?" A deep voice growled... Alpha Xander's!

Without thinking twice, I turned, holding my breath.

My back faced the door, and I was frightened. He caught me. He will be furious if he finds me here.

Holding my breath, I decided to tip-toe to my room.

Creak!

The door made a creaking sound.

Thud!

I fell, my butt hitting the floor as it caused pain.

Click!

The sound of light turning on echoed.

I turned back quickly to understand what happened. Then, I realized that I had fallen because the door moved.

A room brightened with a night lamp came into view, Alpha Xander's room, I guess.

Realizing that long legs were obstructing my view, I glanced up. My eyes met those blue eyes that were neither dark nor cool. His hair was messed up, too.

Alpha Xander's brow furrowed. He glared at me, and voiced out, "Why are you here?"

Chapter 38



ZIVA

Running his hand through his hair, Alpha Xander asked, "Were you eavesdropping?"

I moved away from my position and stood on my feet. Then, I turned to him.

"You weren't even talking."

"Go away then," he spoke, making me more curious. Why didn't he turn on the lamp when he was in the room?

"Can I come inside?"

He narrowed his eyes, speaking firmly, "Go away, I need some space. Distance will do."

Hey, that was my statement! Why is he copying me?

"I said you should go," he voiced out.

Respecting his order, I turned around to walk away. But over my shoulders, something caught my eye... A bottle.

I turned back quickly. Surprisingly, I caught a bottle of alcohol on the table in the room... Two bottles, three, four, five... I can't count!

Alpha Xander moved his tall figure to the side, obstructing my view and calculation.

Was he drinking? Why?

"How many times do I need to tell you to leave? Do I need to force you?" he questioned, his voice slurring a bit.

Oh yeah! He is drunk! No wonder.

I rushed past him, pushing myself into the room.

Upon entering the room, I scanned it. It was beautiful, with a king-sized bed, but the bottles of alcohol that were on the table made me feel concerned.

His cologne surrounded me, and I felt his body behind me. His hands encircled my waist, and his breath was fanning my body, with his neck crooked on my shoulder.

I felt sudden heat wash over me, and I voiced out, "Umm... It's me, Ziva."

I intended to make him move away or shove him off, but he didn't. Instead, he replied sweetly.

"Yes, Coniglio. I know your name."

"No, no. It's not about knowing my name. You are too close," I explained quickly. He moved away obediently.

I expected him to completely move away and usher me out of his room. So, I turned, intending to leave.

.

However, he didn't do what I was expecting. Alpha Xander stood tall before me. He placed his hands at my sides, on the table, trapping me again.

"You must be a very good fan of trapping someone." I faked a chuckle, hoping that he would move. He was drunk anyway. He should be sweet and obedient.

He leaned forward, whispering, "This is what I do to my prey. You are one of them, Ziva."

Huh? I realized that his eyes had transformed to pitch black. His wolf might be trying to control him.

"Snap out of it," I muttered, snapping my fingers like it would bring Alpha Xander back, just like those magic shows that played when I was very young.

A smirk ran down his lips, and he spoke, his voice not slurring one bit. "I knew you would get caught in this web because of your fake naivety. I'm happy you did."

My palms became sweaty, and I moved back. My legs hit the wooden table, and he was right. Foolishly, I walked right into his wolf's trap.

Leaning closer, his nose brushed against my hair, and he took a deep breath.

His eyes closed, and I wondered if he was unconscious. I didn't even care. All I wanted at that moment was to leave. So, I took my chance!

Almost pushing him off, his eyes flashed back to its normal blue color.

"How do you do it?" He asked, his voice slurring.

"I use shampoo! Anji's recommended hair shampoo," I replied quickly.

He rolled his eyes. "That was not what I was referring to."

He moved away, and continued, "How do you make people easily get attached to you? How do you look pretty, annoying, and cute altogether?"

Garr!

A boom of thunder echoes through the room, and I could hear the rain splattering on the floor outside.

“I behave as myself, and let myself free,” I said.

“Then how do you make me feel like-”

“You are drunk! Get some sleep,” I interrupted, striding towards the door.

“Yes, I’m drunk. I’m spitting nonsense, and your hair smells nice. You have a delicious lavender scent. You always look gorgeous.”
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My eyes widened at what he said. Does he always see me like that? Or is he spitting out nonsense just like he mentioned?

“Don’t drink too much, and rest,” I replied, and I heard him scoff.

“Like you care about me?”

“I do, everyone does. You are the one pushing everyone off.” My words hung in the air, and a deafening silence followed. Alpha Xander didn’t reply.

I turned around, and my gaze landed on his figure that sprawled across the king-sized bed.

His arms and legs were splayed out, and his face half-covered by his messy hair.

Also, a blanket lay crumpled at the foot of the bed, so I picked it up and draped it over him to cover his body.

Upon leaving his room, I returned to my room, sinking into my bed. Outside, rain continued to pour down, and just then, a soft voice echoed, “Save me.”

I looked away from the blankets, with my brows furrowed in confusion. I was the only one in the room, so who spoke? I turned, and the voice echoed again, "Save me, Ziva."

I glanced sideways, hoping to see someone. I mean why was I hearing voices? The same voice echoed again. I could not bear the thought of going crazy inwardly.

I rose to my feet, yelling. "Show yourself!"

Then, I didn't hear the voice anymore. I blinked, and when I opened my eyes, I was back in bed.

How did I get here? I was on my feet two seconds ago. Was that a dream?

Goodness, it felt so real.

I stood up and walked toward the nightstand, where my phone sat. I needed to check the time because it felt like I had been asleep for a long time. To my surprise, it was past midnight, and something attracted my attention.

My phone screen had my reflection on it, but I did not see my face. Rather, it was a silver-furred wolf that appeared on my phone screen.

"Ah!" I screamed, dropping the phone out of shock as I jumped on my bed. My heart raced, but I wanted to know if what I saw earlier was real.

Carefully, I got down from the bed and took my phone. I gently carried it and turned it on, causing the screen to light up. But my reflection was not me, it was still a silver-furred wolf!

Chapter 39



TANIA

It's relieving to know that Ziva is gone. She has always been a headache when we were younger as she dislikes me a lot. The look on her face when she realized that she was an illegitimate child was very much satisfying. Meanwhile, I found my mate, Nikolas.

Strangely, Nikolas persisted that I stay at Granelma pack and not come to his pack, because there were some problems he had to solve. I believed him, but I couldn't take it anymore. Other Alpha's daughters are in their mate's pack, why should I not be in mine?

With an Omega, I went to his pack. Sadly, some men stopped me, as my car reached their pack's border.

I pressed a button, causing the car's window to roll down. I took a swift glance at the men. They were hefty and muscular.

"Hello," I spoke, smiling widely.

"What pack are you from?" A muscular man asked politely.

"Granelma Pack," I replied softly. Inwardly, I chuckled, because I would be their Luna and they would bow to me.

The man paused for a moment like he received a mind link. Then, he turned to me, "Alpha Nikolas does not have an appointment with anyone from the Granelma Pack."

"Excuse me," I chuckled amidst my statement, "I'm not here for any appointment. I'm here to stay with my mate, Nikolas."

The man moved away and stared into the air for a minute. Perhaps, he is mindlinking Nikolas. Goodness, whatever they want to do, they should make it snappy.

“Let her in,” the man spoke authoritatively, and the other men obeyed instantly.

The driver drove into the pack. Glancing at the pack’s environment from the window made me feel giddy.

Finally, I can meet my mate, and be the Luna! Yipee!

I was welcomed by some well-dressed Omegas. At that moment, my mate’s scent mingled in the air.

“Here he comes,” My wolf uttered. I adjusted my hair and checked my body.

Alright, I look gorgeous, intact, and ready to be his Luna.

I faced the direction of Nikolas’s scent and spotted Nikolas. He walked towards me with a smile. Afterward, he pecked me on my cheeks.

“You look... Gorgeous,” He complimented, causing my wolf to wag her tail, while I blushed.

“I always look gorgeous,” I smiled, flaunting my hair.

Nikolas ushered me into his mansion. Hmph, I wasn’t surprised with the building, it looks similar to my father’s building.

“I told you, I need to solve some problems,” he whispered, causing me to pout.

“Fine, you have some problems to solve. But that should not mean that I can’t stay in your pack.” I replied.

“Tania, you aren’t reasoning with me,” Nikolas spoke. He turned, faced me and he held my hand.

“You shouldn’t be here, Tania. It’s very dangerous.”

“Hmph, I’m not listening to you,” I replied, crossing my arms.

“Alright...” Nikolas responded. He released his grip from my hands and continued, “I need to attend to some things.”

“Okay,” I replied. Meanwhile, my Omega packed my luggage into Nikolas’s bedroom.

A few days later, I took a tour around the pack and everyone in the pack seemed to love me.

Then, I met Nikolas’s Betas, a male and female. The male Beta was very nice and respectful, but the female Beta was the opposite.

I heard that she is very strict, and she accepts no nonsense. She protects the pack confidently, even though she is an inferior Beta.

The moon cast its light on the window pane. It was nighttime again, and Nikolas had not returned.

Earlier, he mentioned that he would be very busy with a note that he may return very late.

It makes my wolf excited to know that he is a hardworking Alpha, but she feels lonely at times. I mean, Nikolas did not complete the mating bond after marking me.

He has not accepted me as his mate and future Luna, even after being intimate with him in the dining hall. Sigh... If Mother knows about this, I will get an earful.

Creak!

I heard a soft, quiet creak from the door. I turned my head, hoping that it was Nikolas.

“You came... Earlier than I expected,” I uttered, chuckling nervously, but Nikolas didn’t respond.

I could not even detect his scent.

“Nikolas,” I called out playfully. I approached him and embraced him, and he didn’t say a word.

“What’s wrong? You are acting strangely,” I uttered, glancing up at my Nikolas.

To my utmost surprise, his face was masked. It was very dark in the room, and I could not see his figure properly.

“I can’t sense Nikolas’s wolf,” My wolf uttered and fear gripped me. Isn’t he Nikolas?

If he is not Nikolas, then who would it be? Who would come to my room when it’s this late at night with a black mask on his face?

My legs wobbled. Quietly, I moved back, and the man in the doorway squinted his eyes. Perhaps, he was suspecting my movements.

“He-”

Before I could complete my statement, a soft handkerchief was wrapped around my face. The handkerchief caused my yell to sound like a muffled sound.

I struggled to move away from the handkerchief. But with a strong grip on me, I could not move. I was stuck and my body was moved slightly.

“Tania?” I heard a faint voice say and it sounded like Nikolas’s voice.

Then, darkness clouded my sight, and I succumbed to it.

~~

“Tania? Tania, are you awake?” Nikolas’s voice echoed around me, causing my eyes to flicker.

Upon seeing his face, I raised my hands and reached for his cheeks. Cupping his cheeks with my bare hands, as my skin made contact with his skin, I realized that I was not daydreaming.

“I am alive,” I muttered, my voice slurring. My gaze wandered around the room, as it met two other people; Nikolas’s Betas.

The superior had a concerned look on his face, meanwhile, the inferior Beta had an angry look on her face.

She seemed annoyed at my appearance.

Chapter 40



TANIA

Nikolas touched my hands, causing me to glance back at him. His green eyes flashed lovingly at me, and I forced a smile on my face. I didn’t want him to be worried.

“I was so worried about you,” Nikolas muttered, and the sounds of footsteps receding echoed.

“I’m fine now,” I replied. He took my head and kissed it, “The pack doctor had a physical examination done, and thankfully, you weren’t hurt.”

“Hm, but what happened? I mean, someone broke into our room,” I questioned, with concern filled in my tone as I tried to sit up.

Hastily, Nikolas rushed towards me and he assisted me. He pushed a pillow to my back, as I rested on it.

“That was what I was talking about,” Nikolas spoke softly, and he faced me, “The pack is not safe now. You should return to Granelma Pack.”

I nodded, realizing that I should have obeyed him when he told me to not come to his pack.

“You are right,”

Nikolas sat on the bedside, as he held my hand.

“So do you plan to return to Granelma Pack?” He asked. The pitch of his voice was increased and his voice sounded a bit excited.

“And why are you happy about that?” I questioned, furrowing my brows. He paused, and blinked.

“Happy? Why will I be happy about that?” He spoke, with a grin on his face. Then, his hand reached for a strand of my hair and he placed it behind my ear.

“I’m only excited that you are not hurt.”

Sounds like a lie.

“Alright,” I faked a smile, and he pecked me on my lips.

“I will prepare a car to return you to Granelma Pack safely,” Nikolas spoke softly. He dropped my hands swiftly and rushed out of the room.

He is definitely happy about my departure! But why? I’ve been a very good mate, a submissive one to be exact. Is there something he is hiding from me?

Goodness, what if he doesn’t want me to be his mate anymore?

I shook my head at that thought. Nikolas will not dare to do such. He loves me, and my separation from this mate bond will cost him a lot.

Night dawned on my room quickly. Thankfully, Nikolas came into the room very early this time. Also, I ensured that I turned on the room's lamps that brightened the room, to avoid the previous event.

I had changed into a revealing lingerie, and as soon as he walked inside, I approached him swiftly. But, he wasn't paying any attention to me, like I didn't exist.

"Is anything wrong? You look worried and annoyed," I uttered, breaking the silence in the room.

"Nothing. Oh, yes! The car has been prepared, you will leave tomorrow," Nikolas spoke hastily like it was an exciting thing for me to leave.

Am I a burden to him?

"I don't understand you anymore, Nikolas. First, you return home very late at night... Let's say that's because of pack works. Now, you are not being attentive to me and it feels like you are eager to make me leave this pack."

"Will you stop it?!" Nikolas snapped, startling me as my legs became wobbly.

"Stop acting like a child," Nikolas yelled. He pulled the tie away from his shirt furiously, moving away from me. "All these years, I've known you as a rude, tough she-wolf, not this!"

"Not this?" My voice almost croaked, or perhaps it croaked. I didn't care.

"What do you mean by not this?" I asked. He turned around and exhaled.

"This is the reason why I broke up with Ziva. I do not want a weak she-wolf as my Luna or mate. I don't even understand what made me mark you," He spoke, his voice tinged with frustration.

I approached him, trying to make him recall, "The Moon Goddess can not give anyone the wrong mate. We are destined to be together, Nikolas."

"Perhaps she was wrong." I gasped at his response. How can he say such?

“Everything will be fine if you do as I say. Return to the Granelma Pack early tomorrow morning. Also, you should inform your parents that you almost got hurt, so I became worried and persuaded you to go.”

With that, Nikolas walked into the bathroom, without glancing at me. Oh, moon goddess, what have I done to deserve this?

I rushed over to the mirror to observe my appearance. Perhaps I do not look appealing enough.

Glancing at my reflection, I noticed that my body looked a bit bigger like I had become fat. Goddess, I missed my diet recently, and I’m this fat already?

I will need to meet my Omega tomorrow. I want an appealing slim figure for Nikolas, I really want my Nikolas back.

The sound of water rushing out of the tap paused, and I assumed that Nikolas would walk out of the bathroom. Just as I expected, he did.

But this time, he went directly to the bed and laid on it without glancing at me again.

I will do what he wants if that is what will strengthen our bond. I will leave tomorrow and do exactly what he said.

~~

I woke up very early and crept away from the bed to avoid waking Nikolas.

I took my bath, applied more makeup, and used Nikolas’s suggested perfume. I recalled how he said the perfume made my scent inviting, as it made him long for me.

What can make this day better if not recalling his sweet statements?

My Omega sent some weight loss pills. She suggested that I use two pills, but I’m certain six will be good. I gulped the six pills in a go and ate a light meal.

Afterward, I and my Omega stepped into the car that Nikolas arranged. But, I forgot my purse. I rushed back inside to take it.

When I reached my room, I grabbed it. Then, the sounds of footsteps approaching and my name mixed in a discussion echoed in my ear.

Curiosity got the better of me. Instead of walking out of the room, I walked into my closet and hid in it.

The closet had see-through stripes so I could see who was discussing and hear what they were saying.

My gaze caught Nikolas's inferior Beta, the lady who always seemed annoyed at my appearance. As soon as I saw her, my wolf curled, sensing that she had bad intentions.

"Finally, Tania is gone," She spoke, with excitement brimming in her voice as her gaze analyzed the room.

Her gaze fell on my closet like she sensed me, then a smirk appeared on her face.

I hid beneath the clothes quickly, intending to stay hidden in the closet.

"Yes, but her scent is still in this room. It makes me want to puke," Nikolas's voice echoed, and a short laughter followed.

Nikolas will never say such about me. But, I recognize his voice, I can never mix his sweet voice with another man's voice.

I raised my head to confirm and I took a peek at the room.

My gaze fell on Nikolas who chuckled, as he pulled his inferior Beta by her waist.