

Read Novel Big Bad Alphas Chapter 26

Big Bad Alphas Chapter 26-I finish up in the bathroom and change into my clothes, trying to go about my nighttime routine normally. I hear many footsteps coming up the stairs as assume it is the group preparing to go to bed.

A few moments later Eric comes into the room, and I close the bathroom door before he notices. I hear him moving around, probably changing himself.

Taking a deep breath, my eyes find my own in the mirror, causing me to sigh. My head tilts to the side. "She's not like you," I whisper to myself, repeating his words. "She's been with someone."

My fingers grasp onto the thin straps of my plain nightgown before inching them down my shoulders, my mind always telling me that it will be his someday. His fingers will be pulling the straps down, leaving me bare.

My heart beats hard, and my hands become shaky before sliding the fabric off of my body completely. With my hair damp on my neck and sticking to my back, I stare at myself. The gown lays pooled at my feet, almost yelling at me to cover myself back up, to pull the straps back over my shoulders.

My fingers clear the stray hairs from my face.

My eyes shoot to the door when the handle starts to turn. "No!" I shout and quickly crouch to the floor to snatch up my nightgown. In my fit of panic, I fall to the floor and yank the fabric up my body the best that I can.

Looking up, I see the door cracked open.

Breathing heavy, I struggle to my feet and spot my red face in the mirror.

"Isabella?" Caroline's voice calls from the other side. "It's only me. I just wanted to know if you had any, uh, feminine products?"

I swallow and bend down to grab them from under the counter. Opening the door, I see her standing in the bedroom with her arms crossed. She sees me and relief takes over her face. "Oh thank god," she mutters. "I thought I was going to have to run all the way home and grab stuff. Do you mind if I borrow something to sleep in also? I don't have anything here."

"Sure," I mumble and wearily walk to the guest room as she follows.

"Why do you still keep clothes in here? I mean, you two sleep in the same bed and all, you shower in there, you even get ready in there."

"I don't know. I didn't want to barge in when we first met, and I guess I haven't thought about it," I explain while searching for clothes. "Here."

She takes them and smiles. "Thanks."

I watch her as she walks all the way to the room at the end of the hall before going back into the bedroom. When I do, I find Eric walking about, getting ready. He looks to me and asks why my face is flushed. I brush it off.

Getting in underneath the covers, I gaze up at the ceiling and collect myself. "You said that every night we tell each other a secret."

Eric comes out of the bathroom, and I can tell he has freshly groomed his face, as he probably did not have the time to do so when he was away. "Yes?"

"Well, I want to hear yours."

He nods and turns off the bathroom light. "Anything specific?"

"Who."

"Who?" He repeats before turning off the bedroom light, leaving us in darkness. The windows are the only thing illuminating the room, letting me see his face.

"Olivia right?"

The realization comes to him. "We should not talk about this now."

Looking away from him, I bite the inside of my cheek. "Who else but Olivia?"

"Isabella, please. This is not the right time."

"When is?" I turn to look at him.

He gets into bed, and I make sure to leave a significant amount of space between us. "Why do you want to talk about this?"

"Never mind. I don't. Let's just go to bed; I'm tired."

Morning comes quickly, and I find myself waking up before Eric, which is unusual. He must be taking a break from work today.

I leave the bedroom and slowly make my way into the kitchen. Caroline and Lucas are eating breakfast together, and they both greet me while I give them a half as enthusiastic 'good morning.' I pour myself a glass of orange juice and try to distract myself from their playfulness and flirting.

Lucas gets a phone call from his Alpha and takes it in the living room. Caroline turns to me and watches. "What's wrong with you? You look, well, sad."

"Just tired, that's all."

"Don't try to pull that with me." She stands up and comes over to me. "Now tell me what's wrong."

"Do you know how many people Eric has been with?"

Surprised, Caroline hesitates. "Why do you want to know? Can't you ask him yourself?"

I shake my head. "Can you just tell me."

Her brows furrow. "I mean, I don't know if I can recall exactly who because I wasn't around when he, ya know."

"But you know people?"

"I feel like telling you will just make you even more upset, Isabella. Why do you want to know all this, why does it matter now? You're his mate."

"Never mind."

Lucas comes back into the room, and I slip out before Caroline can question me more. Why can I not let this go? Maybe I need a break from this all; maybe I should visit Kendra like I planned. I am sure Eric will understand as long as I do not sneak off this time. We can catch up, and she can tell me how mom is doing and if she is being taken care of. Kendra would be so happy to know that I am coming to see her, as I ruined her joy by abandoning the plans last time.

"Isabella?"

Looking to the stairs, I see Eric coming down. "Yes?"

"I noticed you left. You never wake up before me."

Not knowing what to say to him, I simply nod.

"This is not happening," he starts. "I'm not going to let you close yourself off again."

I want to say something in return, to ease his worries. But I am guilty.

Since I am guilty, I sit down and watch as he joins me. "I don't mean to," I tell him quietly. "Something's are just difficult to go about. Everyone is scared of judgment."

“Why would I judge you, Isabella?”

“Because I’m not like you,” I admit. “Or Caroline, or Olivia, or Lucas—”

“And why does that matter?” He asks me, peering into my eyes as if he is stripping off every piece of armor.

I want to get up and run someplace where I can be alone, where his eyes cannot stare me down and yank the truth out of me. “Because I made it matter.”

“Why?”

“Because sometimes I get to my head, because I wonder if I’m enough, if I’m doing things right,” I whisper, not wanting Caroline or Lucas to hear my confession. “Because I still worry about Talia being right, or about Olivia taking you from me, or about my sister hating me for leaving her, or about my mother hating herself because my father died, or if things in the woods are watching me, or your father saving me from a rogue, or if you weren’t my mate and Landon got me. Am I doing things right? Am I the cause of all my problems?”

Taking a deep breath, I glance up at Eric.

His hand soothingly rubs my back, moving in circular motions. “You cannot hold onto these things anymore. If you do not let them go, they will consume you even more than they are now.”

“I try,” I mumble. “I’m supposed to be helping you; I’m supposed to be the one who has it all together.”

“Why do you have to be that one?”

“Because I’ve always had to. Someone had to.”

“Isabella, you do not have to pretend to be that person anymore. You do not have to suppress everything anymore,” Eric tells me seriously. “Please be open, tell me how you are feeling. If something is bothering you, next time tell me then and there, okay? Now I’m going to hold off asking about my father saving you from a rogue until later because I am sure it would just make me never want to leave again.”

“Okay,” I mumble. “Your father isn’t that bad, I mean, he did save me, and he was respectful at dinner. Why don’t you try and fix things?”

Eric’s hand leaves me. “Someday, maybe.”

Read Novel Big Bad Alphas Chapter 27

Big Bad Alphas Chapter 27-“You saw the rogue, then my father, and you decided to walk outside and follow them?”

“Well, when you say it like that it sounds bad.”

Eric takes a breath. “Because it is bad, Isabella, because you could have been killed. Why did you follow—what told you to go out in unclaimed land and make yourself vulnerable?”

I watch him pace back and forth from the bed. “I don’t know. I was intrigued, I suppose.”

“Intrigued? Intrigued by death?”

“You’re overreacting,” I tell him.

“What if the wolf wasn’t my father, what if you walked out there and he didn’t find you in time?”

“But he did, and that’s all that matters, right? Can’t we just move on? I have learned my lesson.”

Eric sighs. “I cannot understand why you would put yourself in danger like that.”

“I don’t either, but it happened, and now it’s over. I really just want to forget about it and move on.”

I do not want to forget about; I cannot. Why was a rogue so close to the pack house? Did they have a motive, a reason? I keep running scenarios in my head, ones where Eric is attacked, me, or Caroline by a rogue like the one in the forest. What if Caroline is walking over to the pack house and one suddenly pounces on her?

Eric sighs. “I’m sorry, you shouldn’t have been in the situation, and because of me, it was made possible. These rogues, they’re getting to me.”

“Well, I can help, and your father too.”

Eric gives me a look, not approving of his father.

“He was Alpha, so he must have some ideas. Just because you two don’t get along doesn’t mean the pack should suffer from it. Just reach out to him, ask him what he would do.”

Eric sits down on the bed. “I can’t give him that. He would think my taking over was a mistake.”

“I’ve said this before, but you two need to resolve your issues. It would benefit the pack if you worked together, instead of treating the leadership like a competition of who can do better. Your father helped me; he fought a rogue for you—to keep me alive for you. I think you should give him a chance.”

“Alright, I’ll talk to him tomorrow,” he says and climbs into the bed. “In case anything happens and I’m not here, there is a gun in the closet downstairs.”

I quickly sit up and look down at him. “A gun?”

“I don’t want to think about you being in danger, but I would never forgive myself if something did happen and I gave you no way to protect yourself.”

I lay back down and stare up at the ceiling. “I don’t want to think about things coming to that,” I murmur.

The next morning I wake up alone, as Eric had work to do by the borders, and hopefully, he was working with his father.

I sit with Marina in the kitchen as we eat together, something that I have begun to ask her to do lately. It was nice having Caroline here yesterday, even if she was distracted by her mate. She must be missing Lucas. Last night, when he left, she went straight home to check on Olivia. Olivia has not been doing much lately, especially after hearing that Caroline found her mate.

She did not know of our plan to find him at the party, but the outcome upset her anyways.

“A lot on your mind?” Marina asks me.

“No, just tired,” I tell her. “How are things with you?”

The morning goes by slowly, and I am tempted to find Caroline. While walking to her house, I notice something out of the ordinary, a group walking from one of the border posts. It is not just any ordinary group of guards, but an Alpha, as I can feel the power as the people near.

“Isabella!”

Looking to the side, I notice Caroline hurrying towards me. “I was just coming to find you, what’s—”

“Do you know why Alpha Kenn is here?” She interrupts. “I mean, Lucas left just last night—do you see him?”

“No, I don’t see him, and I was just about to ask you why he’s here. I don’t see Eric with him either.”

Caroline frowns. “I’m going to go ask him where Lucas is, maybe why he’s here too.”

I follow her nervously as she makes her way over. “How is Olivia?”

“She’s still depressed, and my talking about Lucas didn’t cheer her up.”

I grab her arm, forcing her to stop. “Why would it?”

“Well, I just missed him, and I couldn’t stop myself,” she gushes. “I miss his scent, and his face, and his voice—”

“Okay I get it, let’s—”

Before I can collect myself, we are too close, and Alpha Kenn notices our nearing presence. Caroline gives me a look and shifts to him with a bright smile. “Alpha Kenn, what are you doing here? Is Lucas with you?” She asks impatiently.

The group and the Alphas attention turns fully to us. Alpha Kenn, a few years older than Eric, tilts his head to the side. “Caroline, I have not seen you in years, and the fantastic news that you are mated to my Beta—what a surprise. Though, I do not know why Lucas would be with me, as I came to retrieve him. We have business south.”

“Retrieve him, but he left last night?”

Alpha Kenn’s eyes wander to me for a moment then find their way back. “How odd. He hasn’t come home, nor did we run into him on the way here.”

“Caroline,” I place my hand on her shoulder, “we can send people out to look for him.”

She turns to me, a worried wreck already. “What if a rogue—what if he’s hurt?”

“I will find your brother,” Alpha Kenn tells her, “we will search for him. While I am gone, show my men where he entered the forest.”

“I’ll take you to him. He’s probably on the training grounds with Heath,” I offer, wanting to help find Lucas as soon as possible.

Alpha Kenn nods, and we split into two groups. Caroline heads off in the direction of the northern forest, where we said goodbye to Lucas, while I lead the Alpha to Eric. The pack land is peaceful before noon, as most guards are preparing for today’s primary tasks and members are with family. I always wonder what it would feel like to wake up beside Eric every day. He has the luxury, and I do not.

"You're Caroline's friend?" Alpha Kenn asks.

"Well yes, but I'm also Eric's mate."

"So you're his Luna. I'm surprised that I have not heard."

"It isn't a public thing really. Not many people know, there was no announcement or anything," I explain.

"That is strange," he comments.

"Is it? I would not know. At my old pack, I have only been through one Alpha and Luna."

"Well, you are beautiful, you have a head on your shoulders. I would have expected to know right away, but Eric must think differently than I do."

I slow down. "What do you mean?"

Alpha Kenn catches himself. "Ah, with announcing personal things. He must not want to share too much."

We continue on the path, and I cannot help but think too deeply about his words. Should Eric have announced me to the pack, to friends? "I'm guessing your Luna is at home?"

"No, I have not found my mate yet."

I nod. "Soon, I'm sure. Maybe she is here, at the Tate Pack?"

He smiles. "Maybe."

Read Novel Big Bad Alphas Chapter 28

Big Bad Alphas Chapter 28-"Eric!" I call to him as the two of us make our way onto the training grounds. Eric's eyes find mine then they move to Alpha Kenn, probably confusing him.

"Alpha Kenn," he greets. "To what do I owe the pleasure?"

"My Beta, Lucas, your sister's mate, I have come to collect him and move south, but I recently discovered he left last night. The issue is, no one knows where he has gone."

"What if he was attacked," I cut in.

Eric sighs, taking a moment to think. "I'll have search parties organized. You and your men are welcome to stay here as long as it takes. Caroline must be worried."

“That’s an understatement,” I tell him.

“I should join my men. Caroline is showing them where Lucas entered the unclaimed land. We’ll be looking around there for now, and thank you for your hospitality.”

Before anyone can mutter another word, Alpha Kenn hurried off in the direction we came. He must be worried too. I look back to Eric. “What if a rogue actually attacked him?”

“He’s a Beta; he can put up a fight.”

“What if it was a group? This cannot happen to Caroline. God forbid she loses her mate so quickly.”

Eric places his hands on my shoulders, reeling me in. “Don’t worry. I’ll find him. I’ll have search groups set up as soon as possible. The only problem is, if rogues did attack him he might have run off, which would be the right choice if it was a group.”

“What will happen if he runs off?”

“He might get stranded, lose his way in the unclaimed land,” Eric explains. “That land is littered with rogues, especially further west.”

“I’ll tell Caroline to stay with us until Lucas is found. The last thing she needs is to be all alone.”

Eric glances down at me. “What about Olivia?”

“She’s going through something; she wouldn’t give much emotional support. Caroline needs me.”

I walk with Eric around the training grounds as he observes. Alpha Kenn’s words will not leave my mind. He said I was beautiful and that Eric should have announced my presence, and I know I should not be so hung up on such silly things. Why does everyone need to know that I am his mate anyways? Things have been good so far.

My eyes narrow in on a particular person as we weave through the people training. Landon. Promptly, I feel my cheeks heat with annoyance. The memories still manage to rile me up. “Let’s walk the other way.”

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Eric looks ahead, seeing the problem that I am trying to dodge. “He won’t cause any more problems, Isabella. I’m sure he has learned his lesson.”

Landon notices me and his muscles tense.

“Every time I see him I can’t help but imagine Kendra in danger.”

We walk past with no issues.

“I wish he was Olivia’s mate,” I whisper to myself, making sure Eric cannot hear me. It may sound petty, but Landon almost killed my sister and Olivia almost killed me, they deserve each other. They can bond over their sinister acts. “Maybe I can help find Lucas?”

Eric shakes his head, not even giving me the pleasure of hearing him say ‘no.’

“Well, Caroline and I can’t just sit at home and wait for something to happen. I’m sure she wants to help too.”

“Caroline is too emotionally attached to the situation if we find him and things did not go as planned, she’ll be traumatically scarred—and you’re going to stay with her. She needs you, right?”

I huff. Way to turn my own words against me. “Fine. But I want to know right away if anything happens.”

I walk back to the pack house alone and find Caroline inside talking with Marina. She explains what is going on and Marina takes her mind off things by asking for help with lunch.

Caroline spends the rest of the day by the phone, waiting for any updates. Eric said he was going to set up search groups and I am sure he has. I wonder if he went with them, though he probably did since Alpha Kenn most likely joined also. Since I cannot go out and search with them, my mind invariably conjures up different scenarios and theories to what happened to Lucas. What if he is fine and was just a little slow getting back to his pack? That is one of the more positive theories.

“Want to come with me to get some stuff?” Caroline asks, pulling me from my thoughts.

“Yeah, of course.”

At her house, Caroline grabs a bag and fills it with clothing and other necessities, leaving me to wander while waiting. My eyes drift down the hall and land upon Olivia’s bedroom door. “When was the last time she went outside?”

“At the party.”

I sigh. “We still have to find her mate. We just have to come up with more ideas.”

Caroline glances back at me. "What if we never find him? What if he's dead?"

"Why do you say that?"

"I mean, she is all depressed and whatnot. Marina talked about her sister when she lost her mate, so what if Olivia is feeling those same feelings."

I lean against the wall and look at her bedroom door again. "Maybe Marina can talk to her about it."

"What, ask her if she is feeling death?"

"If not that, maybe she can cheer her up a bit. She's always been good at that," I mumble. "I want to hate her, I really do."

"Then why don't you?" Caroline questions.

"Because if I hate her, then I won't want to help her."

Back at the pack house, Caroline brings her things up to one of the guest rooms while I wait for her downstairs. I hear the front door open, and I turn to it. "Alpha Kenn?"

"Eric told me that I would be staying here."

"Oh of course," I smile. "Would you like me to show you upstairs?"

I lead him to one of the guest rooms then bring him extra towels and such. I set the things on the bed and figure him to be in the bathroom when I discover the bedroom to be empty. Just as I head for the door, he appears. "Thank you," he says. "And please, call me James."

"Alright. Good night, James."

In the hallway, I catch Caroline leaving the guest room, so I walk with her back downstairs.

"Alpha Kenn is staying here?" She asks, and I nod.

"It seems right, I mean, he is an Alpha. James appears to be a nice person and—"

She interrupts, "James?"

"He asked me to call him James," I shrug.

Caroline watches me carefully as we make our way down the steps, and I am not sure why.

Read Novel Big Bad Alphas Chapter 29

Big Bad Alphas Chapter 29-After finishing up in the bathroom, I swipe my hair from my face and walk into the bedroom. Eric comes in, and I promptly turn to him. “Are you going out tomorrow to search for Lucas?”

“Yes, everything is ready.”

“Caroline wants to go really bad, but I told her that I would stay with her like you said. I feel for her. I can’t even imagine what she must be thinking.”

Eric disappears into the bathroom while I close the windows, knowing that it will get too cold to leave them open. Caroline has retired to her temporary bedroom down the hall, though I doubt she will be doing much sleeping.

“She told me that you are getting along with Alpha Kenn,” Eric calls to me. “Calling him James?” His tone changes to something accusing, as if I had done something wrong.

“He asked me to. I don’t see the big deal; it’s just his name. He hasn’t found his mate yet. Maybe she is here. Wouldn’t that be nice for him to find his mate and for Lucas to come home safe?” I spurt random words, all to get Eric off of the idea that I am cozying up to James. He is a good man, and to think such things is utterly ridiculous.

Eric comes out of the bathroom and stalks towards me. Unexpectedly he pushes me up against a near wall and cages me in with his arms. “What are you—”

“You’re my mate, you understand?” He looks me directly in the eyes and my chest rises and falls dramatically. “Mine.”

I have to admit, hearing Eric call me his has my stomach in knots. “You’re being—”

“Tell me that you understand.”

“Alright. I understand,” I tell him while continuously glancing down at his lips. His sudden, riled up actions has my heart beating heavily. I want his lips against mine, his hands roaming my body like times before. I want to feel it all again, but more.

“Do I have to show you that you’re mine, Isabella?”

“Yes,” I breathe out while squirming in my spot. I want him to show me everything. My body wants him.

Eric picks me up abruptly and tosses me onto the bed. The sheets pulse around me, flying up in result of my impact. Eric climbs over me, his lips hovering over mine until they come crashing down. I have missed the sensation of his lips against mine, the burning feeling it gives me in my core. Unlike before, this kiss is full of hunger and

impatience, the unspoken desires between us have broken free. The pressure increases, but no matter how roughly we kiss it is not enough anymore, my mind and body have grown to need something greater, something more intimate.

His lips leave mine as he kisses down my jaw and neck. Eric's arm snakes underneath me and boosts me closer to him. My feet point like a ballerina as he continues his hot assault. Shaky breaths slip from my lips, and fingertips dance on his strapping back, drawing intricate designs against his skin. My nerves are at his mercy.

Eric stops and looks into my eyes. "Isabella—"

"Don't stop," I beg him and he kisses me again briefly before lifting me up and setting me down on his lap. My legs branch out on either side of him as my hands slide up his shirt, revealing the body I love so much. I feel his harsh gaze on me, and I tug the fabric completely off of him. I run my hands over his shoulders and down his chest, feeling every muscle underneath them.

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Eric grips onto my hips, making an intense feeling rush through my body. His hands glide up the sides of my torso, leaving a blazing trail behind, and I know once my top is off that I will be bare in front of him. I do not stop him as he fists the fabric and slips it off of me. My face flushes as he seems to study my body, his eyes roaming over every dip and curve. He ravishes me with his hands, caressing, massaging, and kissing. My head tilts back, exposing myself to him as I close my eyes and take in these new sensations. A soft moan sounds from my throat, and I feel him getting worked up beneath me, which only excites me even more. His hands latch onto my arching back once I feel myself sliding off of his lap.

I clutch Eric's jaw, bringing his gaze up to meet mine. His scent floods my nose, clouding my mind with an unquenchable need for him.

"You're breathtaking," he murmurs in my ear, making my underwear a mess.

He pulls me forward as he falls onto his back, rendering me on top of him. One of the pillows scattered on the bed keeps him somewhat upright as I lean down and connect our lips once again. I feel him underneath me, making a fierce feeling pull at my core. Another moan escapes me. The undeniable need I have for Eric in this moment will not rest until it is conquered. Nothing else is on my mind but my mate and the pleasure he is giving me.

Eric switches our positions and backs off of me. My eyes stay gazing up at the ceiling as I prepare myself for what is about to happen. My heart jolts when I feel his hands dragging down my shorts then lastly my underwear. I have never been completely bare in front of anyone before.

I look up at his handsome face when I notice that he is climbing back above me, as he gently spreads apart my legs, giving him room. Eric's fingertips teasingly stroke the inside of my thighs. My hands reach out for him, enticing him to come closer. This is it; I am going to be as close with Eric as I can be. My body is screaming for him, wanting to feel everything he has to offer.

His fingers are inches away from me, and I find myself wanting to shout in impatience. When he does finally touch me, my hips jolt in reaction, and I take a quick breath of air. My bottom lip is between my teeth as he continues to play with me while his lips kiss on my neck. My head spins from pleasure, and I fist the sheets beneath me. When he slips them inside a whine escapes me, something mixed with a moan, but I do not care. My body is taken by the sensation. When he looks into my eyes, my entire body seems to jerk forward, not being able to handle all that is happening. I throw my head back and squeeze my eyes shut as another moan-like cry escapes me.

His fingers continue to move back and forth, and I do not think I can take any more of it. My toes curl, my back arches, and my body seems to clench as a wave of satisfaction and pleasure takes over me. His name is on my lips, and I cannot help but cry it out. A split second later his hand latches over my mouth, and he pulls me up.

"The Alpha and Caroline, they are sleeping down the hall," he reminds me softly and my cheeks flood with color.

"I can't help it," I breathe out.

Eric's face hardens before he switches our places again, setting me back on top. He easily throws me around, and the idea of being at his mercy makes my heart beat heavily. He adjusts our position, and I feel his stiff length against me, making my core tense up. The moment that he enters me his hand covers my mouth again, stopping a deafening cry before it causes Caroline to rush down the hall and make sure that I am still alive.

Eric's hand over my mouth excites me, making my hands grip onto his shoulders. He slowly begins to thrust in and out, and my loud, throaty moans are muffled. The feelings in my core are driving me to near madness; I cannot get enough. Eric groans as I begin to move up and down myself, taking over. His hands grip my waist, uncovering my mouth and I bite my lip to try to keep quiet. It makes me feel like we are doing something wrong, and I love it.

My heart beats rapidly in my chest as the build up commences. Eric suddenly grabs onto me and sets me on my back. He enters me again, but this time the thrusts are

steady and deep, starting a deadly rhythm that may just be the end of me. Eric's arms trap me in, and he watches me squirm beneath him until he has to hold me still with one and cover my mouth with the other. I reach my peak with one more thrust, and my body grasps onto him, my hands gripping onto whatever they can muster. Eric lets out heavy breaths as he holds me against him. Moments later he collapses down on me, and my arms wrap around his body.

My skin is hot and slick against his.

"Eric," I hardly whisper to him, and he pushes off of me, now laying at my side. "That was... I don't know; I don't know how to describe it."

My chest rises and falls as I close my eyes and breathe in the moment. I feel temporarily weak, as if every muscle in my body contracted and tensed. Never have I felt more protected, more secure in my life. Eric rests his hand on my thigh, as if he is holding onto me, stopping me from floating away. I gaze up at him, only to see his eyes already on me.

Read Novel Big Bad Alphas Chapter 30

Big Bad Alphas Chapter 30-I do not know where last night came from. It was sudden, a spur of the moment kind of thing, and it has me second guessing everything. In the moment my mind was clouded with lust, a need for him that I wanted to conquer, but now that the sheets have settled, questions come to mind.

There is no doubt that what we did has me walking a little funny this morning, and I wish I could only focus on that. When I woke up, Eric was gone. I cannot be upset about this, as we laid together for a long while afterward before falling asleep, though he did not talk much. Either way, I woke up wrapped in the sheets, alone and nude. It is a weird thing to wake up like that. My head was a little dizzy, I was looking for Eric, and I could not present myself downstairs without showering first. The entire event last night felt like a dream.

When I finally made my way downstairs and into the kitchen, Marina and Caroline were talking normally, chatting about Lucas. They told me Eric and Alpha Kenn went back to work again, working to find Lucas, and I sat down beside Caroline. They looked at me oddly, asked me if anything was wrong, and when I said that I was okay, the questions were dropped. It is not like I wanted to talk about it anyways, as mentioning what we did in front of Eric's sister would be terribly uncomfortable. Now, sitting in front of them, I do not know how I feel.

The part of me that felt complete last night, feels quite empty now.

Throughout the entire day, I wander around the house, thinking. Eric does not stop by once, usually, he stops by once. While Caroline's paces and naps—as she did not sleep

much last night. She has not slept solidly since Lucas' disappearances—I sit and wait. She asks me to wake her up if anything happens, so I stay nearby.

Suddenly the front door opens and my eyes shoot to it, expecting to see Eric walking through. Instead, Alpha Kenn enters and I immediately stand up. "Alpha Kenn, is something wrong?"

"No, I just came to grab something from Eric's office, I offered since I needed a drink," he explains and I walk with him into the kitchen. Marina fetches the water, as she insists, and I speak up again.

"Has Eric mentioned me at all?"

Alpha Kenn thinks for a moment. "No, no he hasn't, should he have?"

"Oh, no, I'm just curious."

Alpha Kenn takes the glass of water from Marina and takes a sip while keeping his eyes on me. "Is something wrong? You look upset."

I lean against the wall and sigh. "I don't know. Eric has been acting odd."

"Well, I'll keep my ears open for your name," he tells me before setting down the glass. "Now that I think about it, he has been acting a little absent. He might just be thinking as much as you are."

"You can tell?"

"It is hard to not look closely at a beautiful face," he says then takes down the rest of the water before leaving for the office. I do not follow him. Instead, I grab the phone and dial my old home phone number. I hold the device to my ear and lean against the wall while waiting for an answer.

"Hello?"

"Mom?" I ask. "It's Isabella."

"Wow. How are things going? Kendra misses you." It is weird hearing her voice like I never even left.

"It's—it's going well. Is Kendra home?"

After a few rustling noises, a smile comes to my face. "Isabella?" Her soft, angel-like voice brings warmth to my cheeks.

"Hey, Kendra. How are things going? How are you?"

“Oh, Isabella I missed you so much! When are you coming home? You said you were going to come visit.”

“I know, I know, I’m sorry. I’ve been busy over here. How about I come and pick you up, so you can spend the weekend with me? We can hang out and have fun—do whatever you want.” Maybe it is because I feel lonely, but the idea of having Kendra here with me fills up the emptiness currently bugging me.

“Yes! Yes—I’ll ask mom right now!” Static sounding noises mix with distant voices, and I assume she is asking right now, staying true to what she said. I hold back my laughs. “She said okay. When are you coming? I’m ready right now,” Kendra rushes.

Unexpectedly, I hear the front door open, and my eyes drift over to it. My breathing comes to a halt when Eric appears in my view.

“Isabella?” Kendra mumbles through the phone.

“I’ll be there tomorrow, alright?” I say the words while Eric watches me. “Get some sleep, you’re going to need it.”

More excitement shows through the phone, and the small cheers from her make me smile. “Okay Isabella, I’ll be ready!” She swiftly hangs up the phone and I glance down at it, wondering if she really is that excited. Reluctantly, I set the phone down and turn back to my mate.

“And where are you going tomorrow?” He questions, sounding quite stiff.

Alpha Kenn appears through the hallway and briefly observes us both. “I’ll be outside,” he tells Eric and heads right out the door, placing me alone with him.

“I’m going to get my sister. She staying here for the weekend.” Is it rude to invite someone into another’s house? Hell, it is my house too. Considering that fact that Eric and I are mates, and that we had sex last night, I think I deserve to invite my sister over, especially since he is acting cold. I deserve someone to talk with, and Caroline is much too busy with her fits of worry.

“She is?” Eric questions again, acting as if I have no power as if I have to ask him for permission.

Feeling hurt, overwhelmed, and confused, I plan on escaping to the guest bedroom upstairs, but he grabs my arm before I can make it too far. “Now you want to talk to me?” My eyes stare harshly into his. “Will you tell me what’s wrong with you then? What did I do?”

He lets go but says nothing.

“So what? You’re going to shut me out now?”

“I don’t want you around Alpha Kenn,” he says with a demanding undertone, causing my cheeks to flare up.

“How are you worried about him? A-After what we did—”

“I don’t trust him around you.”

“That’s pretty clear.” I cross my arms. “I just... I thought what we did would bring us closer, but now I feel rejected by you. You hardly said anything last night, and this morning you didn’t wake me up to say goodbye—I woke up alone and naked, it was... Did you not, um, enjoy—”

“Isabella,” he cuts me off, most likely saving me from embarrassment, “what we did last night was wonderful.”

“Well, it didn’t seem like it. For all I knew, you were unsatisfied. So quiet, and then you’re gone the next morning.”

“What I experienced with you, Isabella... You are all that’s on my mind. Alpha Kenn, I see the way he glances at you, how he asks about you—”

“He asked about me?”

Eric nods. “When we were out searching. He was very curious about you. I have wanted you for a long time, and last night I couldn’t have waited any longer. Your words, your personality, your body, all of it... You tease me without even knowing. I needed to be with you, I needed you to know how much I care.”

My cheeks are rosy and warm. “Then why didn’t you say anything afterward, why did you leave in the morning?”

“Because after being as close with you as I can be, all I could think about was losing you.”

My shoulders drop. “Eric. Lose me? This isn’t one sided. I need you as much as you need me. Now you know how I feel about you and Olivia, your history with her. Sure at first I felt threatened, but I realized that she could never give you what I can. Olivia’s mate is out there, and my mate no longer belongs to her.”

I reach out to him, taking his hand in mine.

“Alpha Kenn’s mate is out there, and he could never give me what you do. I could never be his.”

