

## Read Novel Big Bad Alphas Chapter 31

Big Bad Alphas Chapter 31-I walk into the bedroom from the bathroom and find Eric laying on the bed, looking very worn out. I roll my eyes at the sight of him, like a child who spent all day playing outside, running around, and who has eventually exhausted himself. A smile creeps onto my face along with a subtle blush. He looks peaceful.

“Staring?”

My brows furrow. “No, just... I’m going to get some water downstairs.”

Eric’s eyes drift up to me and he motions for me to come over. I do, and he surprisingly tugs me down onto the bed, making me lay beside him. The bedcovers are soft and plush underneath me. “I won’t worry about Alpha Kenn anymore,” he says, and I smile, even more, approving of his statement. “I suppose you have turned me into a jealous Alpha.”

“Well, you are an Alpha. And it’s not too hard to make you jealous,” I joke and he rolls his eyes before pulling me closer. “Everything feels nicer in your arms. It turns the bedsheets softer.”

Eric suddenly leans down and places a firm and needed kiss on my lips. “How soft do they feel now?” He asks, hardly giving any space between us.

“Like silk,” I murmur and connect our lips again. “For a moment I was worried that we were moving apart.”

“I’m sorry, it was my fault.”

Eric stretches and flexes like the king of the jungle, like a fierce beast warning predators away. My hair lays sprawled out around me, and I pick up a stray end, twisting it around my finger. “It’s nice to be with you, just like this, just in your company. And I am about to ruin it by getting water.” I stand up from the bed and I hear Eric grin behind me.

“Hurry back, I already miss your sweet lips. Like candy, I recall.”

An angry blush overcomes me and I cross my arms like a pouty child. I feel somewhat embarrassed, wonderful, and annoyed at the same time, even with no crowd to laugh at me. A playful scoff leaves me and I flee the room for privacy downstairs, needing a moment to cool my cheeks.

The chilled water is heavenly as I greedily drink down all of it. Setting my empty glass on the sleek counter, I ignore the window and glance the opposite way, down the hall. Caroline and Alpha Kenn are in their guest rooms, Marina has gone home, and Eric is waiting for me like a little boy who waits for dessert. My feelings from this morning have

been turned around so swiftly, I can hardly take it in myself. I am just thankful that Eric was not actually disappointed with our entanglement. His reason, I am okay with.

A sudden spilling noise catches my attention, like a few books hitting the floor from further in the house. Curious and a little worried, I venture out and follow whisper-like movements, small shuffling noises, and I oddly come to Eric's office. Did he come down to grab something?

Peeking through the door, the room is dark and I hardly see anything at all. When a sudden shadow shifts in the corner of my eye, I have a mere heart attack when someone grabs my hand and pulls me inside, a beast swallowing me whole. A scream rises inside of me, but the unexpected sight of Alpha Kenn shuts me up. "What are you doing?" I question breathlessly.

"Sorry about that."

My chest rises and falls, and I move away from him in the almost black room. "What—why? I mean, what are you doing?"

"Looking for a certain something, just a paper I needed back from your mate," Alpha Kenn explains, but he trails off while watching me closely. "Are you still upset from earlier? You two talked."

"Uh—yes, we did. I'm sorry, I'm kinda confused on what's happening right now."

He shrugs. "Nothing is happening."

"Why were you looking in the dark?"

Alpha Kenn changes the subject. "Did he upset you? You seem a bit upset."

"Upset?"

"Yes," he continues, "your eyes, they are not as bright as usual."

"Bright? What are you talking about? I just came down to get a glass of..." I trail off as I notice him near me. "I-I better get back to Eric."

"What's the rush?"

"Eric is waiting for me, that's all," I lie. "I hope you find what you're looking for."

He smiles devilishly. "Oh, I have."

The next chain of events occur so suddenly that my mind cannot register what has happened. Alpha Kenn lunges like a lion and traps me in his beastly hold, his lips come

down on mine like a rushing wave, and my eyes bulge out before I manage to push him off. My back hits the wall and he steps away, seeing that I did not enjoy what he has done.

“What are you doing?” I ask carefully, keeping my voice down. “Y-You can’t do that, I have a mate. That was a mistake.”

Alpha Kenn has a look of regret in his eyes. “Isabella I—”

“You just k!ssed me,” my voice is now hard to control. “You can’t k!ss me.”

“I know, I’m sorry.”

“Why on earth did you do it then?”

He runs his hand through his hair. “I don’t know. It was in the spur of the moment, and it was wrong.”

My lips burn with betrayal. If Eric knew about this, Alpha Kenn would be... It is a dark thing to think about. “I can’t believe this.”

“Are you going to tell your mate?” Alpha Kenn asks me firmly, no longer bothered by my uncomfortableness.

“I-I don’t know.”

If Eric finds out and kicks Alpha Kenn, then what will happen to Lucas?

“I just, I need to go,” I tell him and head for the door.

“I’m sorry, Isabella. I’ve been hurt. My mate has rejected me, I have found her here, she rejected me just earlier today.”

A pang hits my heart in pity for him, but I do not know what to say. “I’m sorry, Alpha Kenn. I have to go.” With that, I leave the office and take my time making my way back to Eric.

My bottom lip drags through my teeth as if it will remove the memory of what has happened. Eric was right, he should not trust Alpha Kenn, but if Alpha Kenn is shut out then what will happen to Lucas’ search? He knows more than we do. The last thing I want to do is take away Carolines hope.

Standing in the hallway, I look to her door at the opposite end to where I am heading. I wonder if she has managed to get some shuteye, I wonder if she is laying awake, I wonder if she is crying silently so no one in the house is woken up. These thoughts pain me. Alpha Kenn needs to find Lucas, all his time is dedicated to that, and maybe I

should just wait until they find him to tell Eric. It should not be a problem, as Alpha Kenn is clearly just a man in pain, rejected just today. I cannot imagine the pain he is feeling.

I take a deep breath before entering the bedroom. Eric is sitting up this time, sitting on the edge with a tired expression on his face, showing greatly around his eyes. "You're still up?"

"I was waiting for you. I did not think drinking a glass of water would take so long," he lays back and I shut off the lights, leaving us in darkness similar to the situation I was in only minutes ago.

"Sorry," I mumble, feeling terrible. "I was more thirsty than I thought."

## **Read Novel Big Bad Alphas Chapter 32**

Big Bad Alphas Chapter 32-I feel guilty laying beside him, as the feeling of Alpha Kenn's lips on mine will not leave me—it is bullying me. The event replays in my mind while I lay beside him sleeplessly, the feeling returning and the panic also, my rush to escape when I should have stayed and questioned him more. Why was he in Eric's office? To find papers, he said, but should I believe him? Why else would he be in there? No good reason with strong evidence comes to mind.

Finally today I am picking up Kendra, and that will give me time to think during the drive. Eric has volunteered to come with me, but I have managed to convince him to stay here with Alpha Kenn. Without much rest, I say my temporary goodbye to Caroline and head out of the house to find Eric, to let him know that I am leaving.

The two guards taking me, weirdly the ones who detained me in that house a long time ago, tell me that he is by the border with Alpha Kenn. I head in the direction, ignoring the thoughts of awkwardness and embarrassment.

First I spot Alpha Kenn, and I painfully walk up to him. He notices me and looks uncomfortable also. "Hi, I'm looking for Eric."

He says nothing, but motions in the direction of my Mate, and I spot him in the distance. "Thanks," I mumble and take a few steps forward, yet something stops me. "What happened last night—"

"Now is not the time to talk about it," Alpha Kenn cuts me off and turns away.

I swallow my pride and walk up to Eric. A smile stretches across his face when he sees me, and I force one onto my own, wanting to spill all I have convinced myself to hold onto.

"I'm leaving now. I should be back around midnight tonight."

He nods. "I'll wait up for you two then."

"Oh, you don't have to do—"

"But I do," Eric pulls me into his embrace and I bite the inside of my cheek. It is as if he is trying to squeeze the truth out of me. "I can still come if you like."

"No," I answer all too quickly, "no, I'll be okay. It will only take the day."

"Alright." Eric leans down and places a soft, sweet kiss on my lips, and it is the first time we have kissed in front of many people. A few guards are scattered around us, their eyes casually glancing over. Once I receive the feeling, the feeling of my mate's lips again, I cannot get enough. What is a quick goodbye kiss is swiftly molded into an action filled with need. I need to forget about Alpha Kenn's lips, our kiss, the sensation of betrayal that it gave me. Eric quickly picks up on my hunger, and he pulls away, casually playing my unexpected move off with a hug.

Near his ear, I whisper to him, "I want you, now, right now, before I go."

I want my Mate. I want to forget. I want it right now.

He looks down at me with surprise only in his eyes, keeping a cool and collected expression in front of his guards. "I'll be back, continue on without me," he absently orders and tugs me in the direction of the house.

Maybe it is the urgency inside of me to have him or the clock ticking by speedily in the background, but as he pushes me up against the wall in the privacy of our bedroom, I cannot seem to quiet my moaning and shouting. The house is empty, Caroline off with Marina as she helps her grab more clothes, Alpha Kenn by the borders, and the animalistic actions between my Mate and I fill the empty air. Unlike the first time, this time is clouded with desperation and insistence. The roughness of the bedroom wall and closeness of our bodies makes me wild. I am depending on Eric to hold me up, to make all the thoughts of Alpha Kenn vanish.

Fisting his hair then breathing heavily past him, I squeeze my eyes shut when I can no longer hold on. My teeth clench from my body's intense and satisfying reaction of the spontaneous and heated sex. Moments later I feel the ground beneath my wobbling legs.

I walk past him, immediately heading into the bathroom and closing the door behind me. Half naked, I do not look towards the mirror, but sit on the edge of the bathtub. It is wrong to abandon my Mate in the emptiness of our bedroom after such an intimate action, but I could not let him see the tears streaming down my cheeks. All in an attempt to feel better, I have made myself feel even worse, more guilty at that. It is the fact that I am refusing to see the bad in Alpha Kenn, that I am keeping our kiss from my Mate, that

I selfishly used Eric to forget about a mistake with another, and it is nice to let the tears flow.

Maybe this is it, maybe I am simply a wreck from all that has happened.

After wiping my tears, I plaster on a smile and say my goodbyes to my mate. Maybe it is wrong to act okay, and maybe I do not care. I need a break, to distance myself from this pack, from my mate, and from Alpha Kenn, even if it is only for the day. Kendra will take my mind off of this and I will come back refreshed with old responsibilities, taking care of my sister again, like things used to be.

Back then I never worried about se.x, love, and a relationship. I never used others for a selfish escape. It was Kendra and me against the world, and I need to grasp that again.

My legs are glued together in the car as odd sensations prod at me, wiggling around, I try and make them go away. The two guards sit up front leaving the backseat all for me. I lean against the door and toss my legs up along the other seats, trying to relax. Being held up against a wall and thrust into repeatedly has my body in an unusual state, one of exhaustion and soreness. The particular spot underneath my thighs where Eric's hands gripped onto me roughly is tender, along with other specific places.

Being in the car with two other men does not make my situation any better. It is awkward, only for me. If only they knew. I will have to sober up for Kendra, but I have a couple hours before we arrive, giving me plenty of time. Part of me wishes to go back, to re-live the steamy moment over again, but the other is grasping on to the guilt, not letting me discard it. Surely Eric cannot be completely upset if he found out. It is not like se.x is not enjoyable for him. Would the meaning behind it bother him as much as it bothers me?

Resting my head against the window, which is rather uncomfortable, I close my eyes and hope that one of the larger bumps will knock me out. At least I could get some shuteye then. My mind is all over the place.

Maybe I should stay the night and leave the next morning. Saying something inappropriate in front of Kendra due to lack of sleep would be terrible, yet avoidable. I could sleep in my old bed again, the same bed that I cried for weeks on after my father's passing, the bed I dreamed about my future Mate on, and the bed that I had a panic attack on while packing my things—the night that I discovered Eric was my Mate.

I remember that night so clearly. The attack, losing my sister, finding Eric, being kept safe, talking with the Luna, it was all one giant mess. I rushed into my bedroom, locked the door and struggled to breathe. Soon after I pulled myself together and gathered my things before anyone could begin to worry.

I refuse to open my eyes during my battle for sleep, and eventually, I am victorious. No dream is conjured in my mind, only a peaceful nap, knowing that when I wake we will be

parked in front of my old house. Visualizing Kendra's beautiful, youthful face makes any nightmares cower away.

## Read Novel Big Bad Alphas Chapter 33

Big Bad Alphas Chapter 33-Walking up to the house, I glance behind me at the two guards waiting in the car before ringing the doorbell. An array of speedy footsteps and squeak-like cheers erupts from the other side, and I spot Kendra peeking through the side window. I smile and wave. The door is swinging open in a matter of seconds.

"Isabella!" She shouts and clings onto me. My arms wrap around her, a barrier between her and the world. "I'm so excited!"

I squat down and brush the stray hairs from her beautiful face. "Did you do your hair yourself?"

"Yes, Moms with the Luna. She told me not to open the door unless it's you. I brushed it and tied it up like you used to," she explains and twirls the crooked pigtails between her fingers.

"Alright. How about I braid it? My friend Caroline taught me how to do a Dutch braid, can I show you?"

Kendra's eyes beam.

The house is the same. Nothing has moved beside shifted magazines on the coffee table and a new living chair beside the couch. Kendra leads me upstairs as if I am in a stranger's house, and we sit on her bed while I weave the strands of her hair together. Glancing to the side, I see her packed bag. "You know, I was thinking that we could leave tomorrow. We can have a sleepover here."

"Why can't we go?"

"We can, I'm just a little tired that's all. If we leave tomorrow I'll have plenty of energy and we can do stuff all day."

Kendra's head bobs in all directions, making the braiding more difficult than it was on Caroline. "Like what?"

"Well we can get you unpacked, we can say hi to Caroline, my friend, we can go swimming in the lake if you like."

"I want to swim."

I tie the braid at the end and hop off the bed. "Then we'll do that."

While here, I grab some clothing I left behind in my bedroom along with some other things. Being in my room, staring at my white sheets, gazing at the old photographs, it all makes me anxious. Maybe I am a stranger in this house.

Kendra asks to go outside and we do. My heart jolts when I find the guards leaning against the car while their arms crossed, chatting. I rush towards them and apologize. "We're staying the night. I-I need rest, so we'll leave in the morning if that's alright. I'll get you two set up in guest rooms when we get back, for now, go on in and make yourselves comfortable."

Kendra pulls me towards the training grounds, which confuses me. I repeatedly ask her why we are going there, but she ignores me. Finally, I catch a glimpse of my mother in the distance, walking with my old Luna. Kendra shouts for them and I almost feel the need to hide. My mother's eyes land on me and soon enough we are too close.

"Isabella," she says my name, and it is unpleasant to hear, not like when Eric says my name. "I thought you two would be gone by now?"

"We're staying the night and leaving in the morning."

The Luna smiles at me, shifting the mood. "Well, it's lovely to see you again, especially since you are now a Luna yourself. Who would have thought."

"Not me," I mutter and look around the sparsely filled field.

"How is your mate, Alpha Tate?"

A sensation comes over the pit of my stomach as I glance back at her. "He's good. Everything is good."

"That's nice to hear. Causing no problems I expect? Attacking any other lands?"

My brows furrow together. "No. Not attacking any other lands, Luna. We should go, it's almost time for dinner and I was going to make Kendra breakfast."

"My favorite," she grabs my hand, wanting the meal right away now. "I love when you make pancakes at night."

"Go on," my mother releases us. "I'll be home late tonight. We have much planning since the Alpha has fallen ill."

"What's wrong?"

"He has bronchitis I'm afraid," the Luna informs me, "it's taken a toll on him, so I've volunteered to manage the pack until he's feeling better."



Kendra and I rush home, as her stomach is rumbling loudly, a fact from Kendra herself. She sits up on the kitchen counter and watches me cook, just like we used to. Her little fingers dip into the pancake mix and I watch her as she oddly tastes it. "I like it," she mumbles.

Pancakes, eggs, orange juice, and toast, Kendra's favorite meal, breakfast for dinner. I grab the house phone and wander into the hallway while she munches away. Holding the device up to my ear, I lean against the wall as it rings.

"Isabella?" His calming, smooth voice comes through and my knees become weak.

"It's me. I'm just calling to tell you that I'm staying the night here. We'll leave in the morning. Kendra is just too tired and I think it's best if she rests before the drive. She's never been one to sleep in cars."

There's a short pause. "Alright, let me know when you leave in the morning."

There's a short pause. "Alright, let me know when you leave in the morning."

Our conversation is minimal, and when it's over Kendra and I watch some T.V. before bed. The guards are set up in the guest rooms and I tuck Kendra in, doubting she will sleep at all, as excitement for tomorrow is sure to keep her awake for awhile.

Slowly, I end up back in my room and I shut the door behind me. Opening the windows, the cool breeze caresses my body and sends me into a sleepy state. The bed looks rather comfortable, so I reluctantly climb into it and place my head on the pillow. From the bed I can see the tops of the trees outside, they hardly reach the glowing moon. Stars clutter around the bright light, and my eyes scan each one of them before drifting closed.

Laying on the bed, I hear the bedroom door open. Without glancing back, I smile. "Eric, turn off the lights."

The lights stay on.

"I said turn off the—" Looking back, I do not see Eric, but Alpha Kenn standing in the doorway, a hungry look in his eyes. He stalks towards me, and I fly off the bed, meeting him in the center of the bedroom. "What are you doing here? Where's Eric?" My eyes wander to the place behind him.

Alpha Kenn says nothing as the room begins to spin.

"Why are you here?"

He moves closer.

“Why are you here, James?”

His hands grip my shoulders and shove me back, my body tumbling onto the bed behind me. Before I can question and panic, James climbs on top of me, caging me in against his body. I breathe heavy as he leans down, his lips leaving delicate kisses against my neck. My eyes squeeze shut.

Shooting up with a sharp inhale, I gasp for air in the familiar setting of my old bedroom. What has my mind conjured up? Touching another, chest to chest, on my mates' bed?

I throw the covers off of me and knot my fingers through my tangled hair. The room's temperature has dropped significantly, leaving a strong chill lingering in the air. I get up and frustratingly slide the window shut, harder than normal. My hands stay on the window, bringing warmth to the frigid glass, and a soft fog forms around my fingers. Letting them drop to my sides, I groan and sit back on the edge of my bed.

My once cozy sheets have released any hints of warmth, leaving my bed cold.

## Read Novel Big Bad Alphas Chapter 34

Big Bad Alphas Chapter 34-The car ride is not quiet at all. Since Kendra had plenty of sleep, she is terribly energized and bursting with excitement. The two guards up front have the skill of shutting people out, as their relaxed faces are not reflected onto me. I love Kendra with all my heart, but the girl cannot sit still. Finally, we stop the car so I can grab her one of the books she packed with her things. Once *A Wrinkle in Time* is locked in her hands, Kendra's lips are sealed.

My confusing dream had me up for most of the night, so I lay my head down on Kendra's lap, and I take a small nap. She rests the book on my head as she gets lost in the pages.

Time flies by and before I know it, Kendra is shaking me awake, cheering that we are here. “Come on; I want to get out!”

I tiredly sit up and rub my knuckles into my eyes. The guards get out and fetch the bags while Kendra pops open her door and jumps out. I have an urge to lay back down and forget about everything, but not a second later Kendra opens my door and attempts to pull me out. Why must everything come out?

“Come on, Isabella,” she whines, “I've been waiting all night!”

I groan and nod, giving in. When I walk around the car towards the truck, I notice the guard's attention is stolen by something in the distance. Peering in that direction, my eyes grow wide. Sebastian, Eric, Alpha Kenn, Heath, Evangeline, and even Landon, all clumped together while shouts are exchanged swiftly between them. Kendra asks me

what is going on, but I tell her to stay here with the guards before rushing over to the small mob.

“You caused all this, running off into unclaimed land and provoking—”

“I did not provoke anything.”

“You two calm down, this is not the time.”

“He’s the reason why Lucas is missing. Rogues that he led here probably killed him!”

“How can you say that? You’re sister—”

“Evangeline, please, go home. I’ll handle our son.”

“Handle me? Remember what happened last time.”

“Eric!” Evangelical shouts as I near. She notices me and crosses her arms. “All of this in front of Isabella, how wonderful.”

Eric looks my way, now realizing that I am here, seeing everything. “What is going on?” I question and gape at everyone, ignoring Alpha Kenn. “Why is everyone fighting?”

“Not everyone,” Evangeline mutters. “Those two.”

Glancing at Sebastian and Eric, I wait for an answer.

“We are leaving,” Sebastian says and pulls Evangeline with him. She bickers with him as they walk away.

Not looking to Heath, Landon, or Alpha Kenn, I grab Eric and lead him back to the car. When we are at a safe distance, I turn to him and cross my arms myself. “What the heck happened?”

“You k!ssed Alpha Kenn.”

The words leave his l!ps, I see them move, but I cannot seem to believe that is what he truly said. Where did it come from? The yelling did not sound like it was on this topic, the topic I have been avoiding and failing to do so.

“What?” The single word is all that I can manage to spit out.

“Why didn’t you tell me? How could you—”

“I did not k!ss Alpha Kenn, he k!ssed me, and I pulled away immediately.” Eric does not seem convinced as he begins to turn away, but my hands grasp onto his arm. “You

don't get to be mad at me. He kissed me. I didn't ask for it; it was all sudden and surprising and unwanted—"

"I do not want to hear about it."

My grip on him tightens. "Then how am I supposed to tell you that I didn't want it?"

"I just want to know why you didn't tell me that it happened. I had to hear it from Alpha Kenn himself, who is leaving as we speak."

I struggle. "I-It's complicated. I didn't want to hurt you; I didn't want Lucas' search to be put on hold, I was panicking after it happened—I panicked, and held onto it. Maybe I wanted to pretend like it never happened, but it bothered me, hardly let me sleep. Just please, don't be mad at me because you think I wanted it. I didn't."

Eric takes a breath, and before he can speak, Kendra's voice grabs me, and I spot her rushing towards us.

"I couldn't wait," she calls. "I want to do everything."

"Kendra," I wave for her, and she settles down. "You remember Eric, right?"

Her face is incredibly still. "I do."

"You remember my sister," I mumble, feeling embarrassed and uncomfortable. Hopefully, Kendra's excitement will blind her from it.

Eric gives me a look before turning to her. "Of course I do. It's about time you came for a visit."

I cross my arms. "Okay, we're going to get settled in, grab Caroline, probably go to the lake—"

"The lake is off my territory."

"We'll take some guards with us."

Eric clenches his jaw. "It's not safe right now, Isabella," he says lowly, not grabbing Kendra's attention as her eyes wander.

"I know, but it's only a few feet from the border—"

"I don't care if it's a step from the border. You're staying on my land."

Kendra looks to me, so I quickly wear a smile. "Maybe tomorrow then," I glance down at her, "today we'll hang around with Caroline. Grab your bag."

She joins the guards and I motion for them to take her into the house. Now alone again, I step back and let my arms drop. “So Alpha Kenn is leaving then?”

“What? You think I would let him stay after what happened?” Eric says accusingly, “Are you sad to see him go?” He begins to walk towards the house, and I trail behind him.

“So now you want to talk about it?”

Eric stops and stares down at me. “I don’t have time for this.”

“My fault,” I mutter, “I forgot you only put off work for me when I’m n.aked. I remember when you would listen for only a k!ss.” He tenses. “Alpha Kenn will sure listen for a k!ss.”

Eric grabs my arm with a firm grip as if I am a child who is acting up. His grip tightens, but I show no signs of pain. “You’re pissing me off. Go to the house with your sister and for God’s sake stay there.”

He lets go, and I immediately leave him behind, heading towards the house. I pass Kendra in the living room and rush up the steps, fuming. Without a knock, I swing Caroline’s door open, finding her with a book in her hands as she leans against the headboard of the bed. Her eyes shut to me as I shut the door. “Isabella what—”

“I can’t believe this. Your brother is a—a—”

“What happened? What did he do?”

“Alpha Kenn k!ssed me.”

Caroline drops her book. “He what?”

“Before I left, he k!ssed me, and I didn’t tell Eric.”

“What—why?”

“Obviously because he has feelings for me. I didn’t tell Eric, and now he’s mad at me, and I only made it worse, and—something’s wrong with me, Caroline. Why would I do that?”

She leaves the bed to lead me towards it. I sit down and fall back onto the sheets. “I-I should have apologized until he forgave me, not provoked him even more! I’m a horrible Mate. Eric, he’s—he grabbed me and said I was pissing him off. He never talks like that! He’ll never forgive me!”

“Isabella, you have to calm down. Take some deep breaths, collect yourself. Where is Kendra?”

I roll onto my side and grab the covers, scrunching them up in my embrace. “She’s downstairs. She can’t see me like this.”

“You have to calm down.”

“How can I calm down when my Mate thinks I’m attracted to someone else! How can I calm down when I ruined everything!”

“You’re being dramatic,” she rests her hand on my arm, over the red mark. “But—wait, he grabbed you here?”

“Who cares, I have to apologize, I have to—”

“He grabbed you, Isabella, roughly. That’s not okay.”

I look at her with hard eyes. “He didn’t mean to. It wasn’t like that,” I cover the mark, “how can you say that?”

Caroline takes a breath. “Obviously everything is a bit crazy right now. You need to relax, and so does Eric. It seems that you two didn’t really talk anything out. You have to collect yourselves and talk.”

I look away and curl back up into the bed covers. “He doesn’t want to see my face.”

“Give him the day and talk tonight then. Just focus on Kendra for now.”

After a few minutes of laying and taking deep breathes, I look to Caroline. “Okay. Come downstairs with me? Kendra wants to meet you.”

“Of course, let’s go.”

## **Read Novel Big Bad Alphas Chapter 35**

Big Bad Alphas Chapter 35-“Is it weird not having mom here?”

“It was weird without you at home,” Kendra tells me as she gets comfortable underneath the blankets. “I want to be here with you, Isabella.”

You are here with me.

The lights in the guest room are dim. I sit beside Kendra, looking down at her beautiful face as she fights to keep her eyes open. I shut all the curtains and made sure everything is perfect for her to sleep soundly, which included closing the bathroom door. Now that everything is settled, she yawns. “I know. But I want to stay here forever, with you.”

"Don't be silly," I mumble and brush back the dark, stray hairs from her face. "I'll be just a door away, okay?"

She nods.

I turn off the remaining light and leave the door cracked open. Today we walked around the pack with Caroline-luckily, there was no tree climbing -and Kendra took a liking to her Caroline is enjoying having a little girl in the house, placing her in the role of the younger sister, the one she never had.

I let go of the guest room door handle and glance to my bedroom doors. I swallow. Part of me wants to run downstairs and sleep on the couch, but the other needs to get past this bump in the road I inhale, then exhale, then reluctantly push one of the doors open. The main light is off, and the room is lit warmly by the bathroom light as it trickles through the almost closed door. Expecting Eric to be in there, my muscles relax, but when I turn to the bed, I spot him sitting on the edge with his head in his hands.

My heart starts up its rapid pace again, the one I just calmed in the hall. His eyes peer up to me, and the guilty feeling seeps through my skin. I want to say something, but I am not sure what. Eric looks away and I want to fall to the floor.

My lips part, ready for words. "What I said," I pause, "I just... I didn't want to hurt you, but I ended up hurting you anyways-worse than it would have been." His eyes continue to avoid me. "Eric-just tell me what you want me to say and I'll say it because you're not listening to what I'm saying. What do you want to hear?"

That I wanted it? Do you truly believe that I did?"

"Please, Isabella," he mutters, almost asking me to shut it as if I'm giving him a headache.

"What do you want me to say? I've told you that he kissed me, that I made a mistake, that I didn't ask for it. I want to tell you why I didn't say anything, I really do, but I can't."

"What can't you?"

All I want is for him to look at me, to see me, to see that I'm trying "Because I don't know why. I had reasons, that I didn't want to hurt you, that I didn't want Lucas' search to be put off, but none of them seem to make sense when I think hard enough. I just I wanted to pretend like it never happened.

Eric's eyes continue to avoid mine, and I can't take it. "Will you at least look at me when I'm talking to you?"

Eric stands up, turns, and walks towards me, something I did not expect. I watch him with a racing heart until he comes to a stop, right in front of me, "Better?"

"I tried to hurt you earlier, and I'm sorry. It was uncalled for. You didn't believe me and that hurt." His intimidating stature towers over me, making me feel small and weak. "I hurt you, you hurt me, why can't we both apologize and have this be over?"

"Because I did not k!ss anyone that isn't you."

Shaky breaths leave me as I try and grasp onto my anger, as I try to hold it down. "What do you want me to say?" I ask calmly, but it does not last. "I've told you over and over again. He k!ssed me. Alpha Kenn k!ssed me. I didn't want it. I didn't ask for it! You're being a child!

Just listen to"

"Enough, Isabella," he cuts me off and makes the move to walk away, but I grasp onto him.

"No, you're not listening to me, you're not hearing what I'm saying. Alpha Kenn's k!ssed me, I didn't k!ss him. He k!ssed."

Stop saying it, Eric shouts and encloses me against the wall. My chest rapidly rises and falls as he cages me in. "I can't hear it anymore.

I can't stand the thought of you with someone else-and you will not stop. The thought of you k!ssing Alpha Kenn makes me go mad, it makes me want to bring an end to the world," he loudly says with clenched fists pressed against the wall, ready to bust through. I can't live without you, Isabella. Don't you understand that? Don't you understand that without you life is no longer worth living?

It is a painful feeling, love. It brings tears to my eyes and makes my stomach clench with fear.

Eric's hand unfolds and rests against my cheek wiping the stray, hot tears from my skin.

"Don't you understand?" He says again, softly this time. "You mean everything to me, Isabella.

I would do anything for you. I would give anything for you. I will kill anything to protect you. You are my life."

Then, the gentle knock at the door causes my knees to give in. "Isabella? Kendra's sweet voice calls for me My head rolls to the door as tears leak from my eyes.

"Isabella?

I shake my head and cover my face Not now, the words so quiet, Eric barely hears them.



He leaves the room.

Drifting to the bed, I slowly sit down and uncover my face, clearing the tears from it with my hands. Time ceases to exist, then I hear the door open again. Eric walks through and softly closes the door behind him. "I brought her back to bed," he tells me. "She heard the shouting "I love you too, Eric."

My eyes find his "Eric, I love you

"Say it again,"

"I love you,"

He nears me. "Again.

"I love you so much it hurts," I tell him, my voice strained.

"Now never stop, please," he breathes out and pulls me into his embrace. "Never stop."

"I can't live without you either, I can hardly breathe without you," I whisper against him, not feeling close enough. "I hate being away from you. I hate upsetting you. I don't want anyone else but you, you re all I want, all I need.

It will only ever be you. I want you to mark me.

Eric gazes down at me, into my eyes. "You re Sure?"

Yes, yes I'm sure. I want you to mark me and then make love to me, I bite my lip just thinking about it. Our bond will be stronger than ever, we will be closer than ever, and nothing else will matter except our love for each other. It sounds like a dream. Like a thick fog being cast over all our problems, and then we will no longer see them, our eyes will singly fall upon each other.

I need to be with him forever. The idea helps my lungs take in air, helps my legs hold me up, helps my eyes see clearly, the idea organizes my bustling thoughts. A life with Eric, my Mate, my love, my life, nothing sounds more promising and wonderful. I am high on the idea of it, seeing the future and forgetting the

past.

"Please, Eric," I murmur. "Mark me."