

## **Caged By My Quadruplet Alphas Chapter 1 No.1 by Roanna Baleta**

Elena

So, I'm back.

I sit on my bed, thinking about everything that had happened in the last six months. I'm back at the city I never wished to return to. Last time I was here, I was eager to leave. But damn, now I'm back and I feel like this is one of the Quads' doings.

Diana, Ava's aunt, got wedded to her fiancé and he bought a new house for them in New York, hence she's moving out to stay with her husband. But it's suspicious that the husband bought a house in the same city that might end my life.

I had to return to the city of the Quads Alphas.

I was supposed to continue my senior year in Switzerland, and stay there even when I'm done with my senior year but here I am, back in my father's house, in my angry mother's zone.

Avera spoke to me only six times since I left the city. Yes, she called me only once in every month in the past six months I was away. I won't bother sharing how long each call lasted because you'll be as disappointed as I was.

I never thought I will be back here at the same school with my mates, my enemies. School resumes tomorrow. I took the half year of my senior high in Ivy Prose High School, and I have to take the remaining year starting tomorrow. With them. The Quads Alphas.

Yes, Ava told me Ryan was able to get out of the mess I put him through. And no doubt, he is coming for me anytime soon. They are coming for me. But he doesn't know yet that it was me.

Damn, my chest tightened the moment I got the news. He is fucking out? That means he could come to school as resumption begins? Hell no, this same high school?

Well, what do I expect? They are the richest kids in school and they own this city. It means nothing is impossible for them.

Ivy Prose is a school for the rich, and I'm in no way near the rich. I'm only privileged to study there throughout high school and college through scholarships.

I am too deep in thought that I didn't hear the knock before she comes in, but her voice snaps me out of my thoughts.

"Hey." my cousin touches my shoulder and I shiver.

She could tell that my body is trembling in fear, but she doesn't know the reason yet. She doesn't know that soon she might not see her cousin ever again. Because those bastards will kill me. I tried to destroy one of them, so they are coming for me. And even now that I'm their mate in the same school, it doesn't make it any better.

"Elena, I have good news. I am going to the same school as you!" she throws her hands around my neck.

What? She's going to my high school? I don't think it's good news but this doing is no other than my mom's. I think she's going somewhere and she doesn't want me to stay alone so she brought my cousin to stay here with me. And attend the same school.

"Ella, you can't!" I snap. Why didn't Avera put her in other high school? Because she knows it would've been better for me.

I don't get to worry about her because I have so many enemies in Ivy Prose, where those arrogant rich boys are. And I'm their biggest target, more so when they learn about what I did to Ryan.

"What?" she frowns, her glasses falling down her straight nose. "What do you mean?"

I know she's confused but I don't know how to explain this to her.

"I-I mean, why do you want to go to Ivy Prose? There are better schools out there other than Ivy." I stutter trying to put sense into her. Even a little.

"Elena, Ivy Prose is the best high school in New York." she's smiling and she's made up her mind. Yes, she can afford the school fees, her father has money. I don't think I can convince her not to go.

My phone pings a text in my pocket. I took it out to check who sent me the message as Ella goes out of my room.

Ava knows that I am back, and maybe that's why she's texting. She's the one lucky gift left in this life of mine. She reminds me of my dad, he was my lucky gift too. He was my life, but he left me. It only means I have no life anymore since he left. I am living, but horribly, if you care to know.

Ava Marcus: Hey, have you been to social media lately?

I arch my brow. Why would she ask? I have been off social media for the last six months. What could be the reason she's asking?

Ava Marcus: Elena, I'm beginning to get scared. Go check it out yourself.

I'm tensed, and now that I am in their city again, and being their mate makes it worse for me. I go online to check what Ava meant. My pulse rises and I gulp.

"Elena Deloris, anywhere I find you, I will break you. That's a promise, hold it dearly." - Ryan French. Quad Brothers.

Jesus Christ, am I thinking too much? It must be. I am overthinking that he would find out it was me. Now that I am back, he would do anything to break me just as he promised. They would break me.

But no! Elena, you are overthinking. I snap myself out of the horrible thoughts of what he could do to me, of what they could do to me.

My phone vibrates in my hand again.

Ava Marcus: Elena have you seen it? Do you think you should go to Boston, my other aunt can take you in? I will beg her.

I can't give her a reply, because I know I can't leave anymore. I don't think it's possible for me this time.

I'm sweating profusely again. Does he really know it was me? But how? No, that's not possible. I made sure no one saw me so it's impossible for him to find out.

They-he is surely going to break me just as he promised.

Elena

I've been staring at my car keys and backpack for the past hour, thinking about my life.

I'm already dressed up for school, and Ella planned to go with me in my car since hers broke down a few days ago. But I lied and told her, I wasn't planning to go yet, and that I have things to do before I leave for school.

I sigh.

I will be fine, I tell myself. They won't hurt me; I am their mate. But deep down, some part of me is telling me I'm wrong. They are the Quads Alphas, and I know who they are.

I'm going, I can't let them scare me away from school. I have to go to school to finish my studies and fulfill my dad and my dreams—our dreams.

I pull up to the school parking lot. I see one of their cars in front of mine. It was Tyson's. I don't see Ryan's, Darius', and Daniel's car anywhere close. It was Monday and it means the week is going to be long for me. Probably the longest week I will ever have in my life.

My window is tinted. But even if they can't see me, they can recognize my car, that's for sure. Elena Deloris has the only pink car in school. And now that I feel a little guilty, I hate the fact that my car can easily be singled out, among thousands car.

When I turned my head to the left, I see Ryan's and the other two brothers' cars on the other side. I'm gripping my steering wheel tightly as I see the four of them standing together. They don't just have similar faces, they also have the same standing posture. They are wearing the same outfit, the same color, looking intimidating like they've always been.

I'm not scared of them. I know what I did to Ryan was my right. He had been the one bullying me. What wrong did I do for paying back?

I wanted to be that soft flower who doesn't always stay quiet and let others push her around. I'm the soft flower that fights back. I don't think I was wrong for what I did, even for trying to ruin Ryan's life, because that bastard deserves it.

The four of them are known as the arrogant Quads Alphas. Tyson has a cheerleader between his legs with his two hands grabbing her ass. She's

smiling, she loves it. She likes popularity so she enjoys being around them, with her body as payment for their popularity service.

Girls crowd them like ants crowding sugar. One is sitting on Ryan's lap as he sits at the back of his car. His hands are crawling up her hips.

Fear sets in my bones like an arrow shooting into me. I take my eyes off them. I'm not out of the car yet but I know they are waiting for me to come out. They are all looking in the direction of my car.

I hold my steering wheel, releasing my hands from it steadily. "I can do this. You can do this, Elena." I'm drawing in a long breath as I say. The fact that I ran before, because of what I did to one of them or that I found out I'm their mate, only weaken my confidence because they are so going to destroy me.

Elena, you will be fine, I tell myself. I have been strong since my junior school and pulled through despite the blaze Ryan set around me. If I survived then, I can survive this, I tell myself, summoning the courage to get out of my car.

Everyone might think I try to ruin Ryan's life by now. Since he kind of found out I was the one who did it to him, then the news must have spread and soon, I will become the talk of the school.

That's why they all suddenly go quiet looking in my direction as I step out of my ride. I'm having difficulty breathing. My chest feels tighter like never before. My palm is sweating and maybe soon, it would start dripping.

I hear some chuckles from the girls as they stare at me. My legs don't make me lose my balance yet. I'm trying the best I can to start upright and not collapse with my heels. They are gossiping about me but am not bothered about that. What I'm worried about at the moment is the kind of stares I'm getting from the Quads.

They don't say anything yet, they just stare at me. Trust me, it's intimidating and I'm praying for the ground to swallow me up, but it's not opening. The bones in my legs are shaking, making me almost trip off my very own feet.

I'm wearing sunglasses over my eyes means they can't see the fear or tension in my eyes. I can only see their faces, but the moment Ryan took his shades off, I stumble backwards at the coldness from his blue eyes. They send shivers down my spine. I'm gulping more saliva down my throat, but my mouth feels too dry. Nervousness.

He has never look at me like that before. I mean, he has always hated me, but I have never seen it this much in his eyes before. His brothers' eyes almost say the same, and I can interpret it. I've never read eyes before but now I can, and their eyes say, "Welcome home, Elena."

God, they are going to kill me. It's all that rings in my head right now.

My eyes sway away from Ryan's, I don't know how, but then it lands on Tyson's. I haven't told you their surnames yet. It's 'French' and the fierceness from their surname sticks with them too.

Tyson is inhaling some drugs from his hands. I'm not surprise, typical Tyson. That is who he is; he gets high to stay alright, and if not, he might lose it. He isn't holding any girl but his green eyes are smirking at me devilishly. His smiles put some knots in my stomach. The eyes are telling me that since I'm their mate, I belong to them, and I cannot escape them. It makes me want to puke as I continue to read his smiles and his eyes.

Darius is another devil from a different planet. His dark brown eyes aren't paying much attention to me, but I know there's something huge and dangerous for me up there in his mind.

For god's sake, I'm their fucking mate gives them the access to teach me a huge lesson, for trying to ruin their twin brother's life. Now I'm regretting my actions and thoughts for trying a payback, knowing fully well that luck has never been on my side.

Whoever becomes their mates is very unlucky and shouldn't have been brought to this life. And that person is me. I haven't realized how much unlucky I am until this day.

My eyes find Daniel. He still has Jane Mark between his legs, rolling his hands on her hips. He smiles and raises two fingers at me as if he knows I'm staring right at him. My legs cripple in fear. It's a little cold but I'm sweating. I try to fight it out. I won't show it; I don't want them knowing I am scared.

"Elena!"

God! I sigh. It's as if God sends her to my rescue, because my feet refuse to leave the spot I'm standing at.

“Ava, thank goodness you’re here.” I breathe out hard as if I want to cry. If I do, I cry in relief from this killing tension. She’s dragging me away from my car. She knows I can’t move since I’m staring at the guys.

She doesn’t say anything, she just walks us out of their presence. And she’s heading exactly where in my mind I want to be right now—to the ladies’ bathroom.

Ava takes me inside and locks the door immediately. It is not safe to leave it unlocked. Anything can happen now that I am in their territory.

“Ava!” I scream, hugging her as I let out the cry that has been pressing down in my throat ever since I stared at them.

“Elena, you will be fine. I know you are strong.” she pats my back. She’s always been good at boosting my confidence.

I pull out from the hug, grabbing some tissues to clear my nose. We hear the first bell for our class and instantly stare at each other, and she says, “Don’t worry. I’m still by your side. We have a class together.”

I let out a sigh of relief.

Tyson

I see Elena and I smile. Of course, the smile isn’t a genuine one, but the darkest you can ever see. It’s good to see her back in school after the summer holiday is over.

She thinks she would never find herself here again, but she lies to herself. We’re the one ruling this school and the city, and anything is possible for us.

We are The Quads.

The look on her face thrills us like ants overjoyed when they see sugar. She’s in our world and that’s what we want. We want to show her what it means to play a silly game with the Quads.

And now that she’s our mate, it even makes it sweeter. We are so going to break her and bury her fucking face alive. She would forever regret what she did, even in her fucking grave.

Last summer, I had planned to take her. I wanted to have a taste of her and now everything is falling into place. Now all of her beauties belong to me—to us.

Our fucking doll.

Ryan doesn't say anything yet, because he has so much plans for her up in his mind. And me? What I am going to do to her would be noted down in the world history book. Elena is dead. I lick my lips, the big man between my legs is so hungry that very soon, it will fight to bring its head out of my trousers.

"Are you ready to strike, Ryan? She's fucking in our territory." I laugh devilishly. They say I have a devilish smile, and I'm afraid, they are fucking right.

"Not so soon, Tyson." a cruel smile curls on his lips. I know that smile. The four of us can't wait to teach that bitch a lesson.

"What do you mean not so soon?" I arch my brow, impatient. "She fucking tried to ruin your life, Brother," I say.

Ryan laughs, his ocean blue eyes are only fixed in one direction since the moment her car arrived at the parking lot.

"I know Tyson, but we should not strike yet. We want her to relax and think we don't give a fuck about her anymore," Ryan bites his fingernails. He has so many plans for her. "We don't want her thinking we know she's our mate. She belongs to us. And we would treat her like our very own doll and mess her up." he always makes sense.

I can't wait to have her. I have always craved to have a taste of her. Elena is the kind of girl that can make your dick stand even though she has no intention to. Her red hair matches the color of her lips.

She doesn't know we are her mate yet. We are the soon-to-be Alphas, and we are well-informed when we get to find our mate. Our bond tells us that, and it's so active. Elena Deloris is ours. Ours to use. Ours to break.

If only she had listened to me before the summer break, she wouldn't have been in this mess now. Maybe the Quads would have gladly accepted her as their mate, but the table is turned now. We won't just accept her because of



this fucking mate thing. Our goal is to break her, and we don't fucking care about her. Our mate or not, she's in big trouble.

"She's scared and I love that." Darius smirks, slapping Jane's ass as she sits on his lap. She let out a moan. That earns something from that body of his, making him slap her fucking ass harder. She screams, and it's melody to our ears.

"Why the fuck is Elena still alive, Ryan?" Riley says. She's still between my legs. She's the stupid cheerleader that opens her legs just to get popularity, but we, the Quads, don't mind. As long as she gives us our food and it's nothing but that thing between her thighs.

"Give it time. We won't just kill her yet." Ryan's eyes are red now and he's still smiling the way he had been since the girl left.

"She fucking planned to ruin your life Ryan," she is saying to Ryan but she's looking at my face. "Tyson, that girl tried to ruin your brother's life. Why ain't you burying her alive yet?" she's fuming in anger.

I know she's always hated Elena, because she's been the top student no matter what Riley tries to stop it. Elena is her biggest enemy as well.

"Shut up, Riley!" I snap at her. We need to put her in her place sometimes. Sucking our dicks doesn't give her the right to interfere in our matters. She's lucky I don't have my dick in her throat now, I would have choked her with it. Ryan's and my other twin brothers smile. I did what they had in mind to do—hutting this bitch up.

Nobody is talking to Elena in the school, and they all look at her with either anger in their eyes or scorn. They hate her now, because they think she tries to ruin one of their favorite Quads and they feel like messing with her up because of it. But we don't give them the permission to touch her, only we can do that. Elena is ours to deal with.

She has Ava by her side and that's all she needs to relax again and feel comfortable. She's smiling as she walks with Ava to her class. Let her smile, that's what we want for now. She feels safe with her, and we don't regret planning to snatch that smile away from her pretty baby face. Soon.

She's our Mate, our doll, and we will show her what it means to be 'ours'.

Elena doesn't have the slightest idea of what we have in store for her, and I can't wait to let it unfold before her very widely open blue eyes.

Elena Darling, we will break your bones and roast them in our very own flames until nothing remains of you, but ashes.

Daniel

My three brothers are addicted to sports—football, baseball, any sport really.

I'm a little different because I'm addicted to my books. Don't think I'm innocent because of that, I make my straight A's but I'm what they call a silent killer. I'm the quietest, but my silence is deadly like a snake's venom.

I walk out of my new Bugatti Veyron, leaving my twin brothers behind who prefer to spend their time on baseball than in class.

You might've guessed where I would like to sit as soon as I entered the classroom. Yes, behind our soft flower, our mate, and officially our little doll. We have a class together today. I'm sitting directly behind her and I can't help myself. I can't seem to control myself. I want to do many fucking things to her. Especially for trying to ruin Ryan's life and her damn bad luck for being our mate. I love how frightened she looks, it turns me on.

She's glued to her best friend, Ava, as though if she let go of her, the hungry lions will devour her. But Elena doesn't know that nothing can save her from us. Nothing. No fucking one.

Elena senses that I'm behind her and she suddenly gets nervous. She's constantly giving me a side glance but I don't say anything. Nope, I don't. Our plans would speak, not our lips. I can't concentrate in the class because Elena's scent torments my nose. She might have messed up but she's the most attractive girl I have ever seen. She's the girl my D has been crying for.

She's been hiding, more like an introvert, but her legs are the sexiest I've ever seen. Her red hair glorifies her beauty, coupled with the red color of her lips. Each time I look at them, I want to corner her to the wall and kiss those fucking lips so hard till they bleed. I don't care.

My phone vibrates in my pocket, taking me out of the world I got lost in—Elena's beauty. A message was sent to our group chat. A group meant for the Quads. Tyson sent a text, and I quickly click on it.

Tyson: These mates bond acts like a matchstick. It's setting something ablaze in me. Ryan, when are we teaching her the fucking lesson?

Tyson is so furious as Ryan is. He can't wait to deal with Elena, and I'm excited myself.

Darius: I haven't seen her since she left with her friend. She's using her as a cover for safety, LOML.

Darius text pings, and I read it in nanosecond. I might not be paying attention to the teacher, but I know what to do when it comes to my academics. Darius, is more into wrestling. Like Ryan, he's a fighter. I saw his 'LOML' and I'm laughing my ass out.

Daniel: Hey, man. I've seen her, she's right in front of me. You know what? I feel like finishing her up this minute.

Ryan is the first to see my message, and types a reply.

Ryan: Hey man, you know what to do.

My fingers are so fast, as I type a reply back.

Daniel: Sure, Ryan. I don't say anything to her yet.

I smile.

Ryan: Good, brother.

He sent an emoji of a smiling face, but I know deep down that Ryan's smile is not genuine. My smile broadens as I see the teacher packing up to end the class for the day.

"See you tomorrow, students." she says, being the first to walk out the door. As it should be.

Elena has been biting her pen and Ava has been trying not to take her eyes off her. What a faithful friend. But I'm laughing because she wouldn't be able to save Elena's fucking ass.

Everyone starts to walk out of the classroom. I think Elena is too scared to get up, because she remains in her seat and I'm not getting up myself either.

“Let’s go, Elena.” Ava holds out her hand.

“No,” I stop her. I stop Ava, not Elena. She opens her lips to speak, but I put my middle finger on my lips to silence her. She doesn’t dare to try shit with us too. Ava knows very well what we are capable of, and she wouldn’t want to be in the position her friend is in now.

“Ava, can I talk to you alone, please?” the polite way I say it makes my lungs want to burst. It’s an act to make Elena feel safe and think the guys have decided to move on.

“I will be with you soon, Elena.” she doesn’t blink like Elena is doing right now.

Elena doesn’t say anything. She just walks out of the classroom, leaving Ava and I alone. Ava is not in Elena’s rank. She is swimming in wealth. I wonder why she’s friends with her.

“What do you want?” now she’s speaking with fright. That’s what I want. I want all the fucking girls to fear me, and the Quads. I love the smell of fear; it makes everything fun.

“Ava, what do you think you’re doing?” I say, moving closer to her. I don’t have the intention of touching her, no, not one bit. My body doesn’t move for her, no one else apart from Elena. But scaring Ava would be plus to the fun.

“Don’t come any closer.” her breathing picks up rapidly. She’s walking backwards and I’m not stopping either. I continue to move closer, scaring the hell out of her.

“Or else?” I smirk. I’m laughing inside, the fear on her face is thrilling. It makes me want to scream out that I love it.

“Y-You all let the girl go, please!” she’s yelling her lungs out. Her face is getting red. She wants to break down in tears.

“Ava, don’t stress too much, because there’s nothing you can do to stop us.” I hold her chin, but not tightly. She’s breathing hard, claspng her two hands on the wall in terror. I let go of her before she lets out a cry, as she tries to calm down, gasping for air.

Elena

I'm strolling towards the entrance, away from the classroom. I'm not scared of being alone, but what does he want to do with Ava? I'm getting scared that I'm letting her get dragged into my mess. I can't let that happen. I can't let them touch Ava.

I don't walk too far from the classroom, I can't go too far and leave Ava alone. I'm walking slowly and I can hear every gossip about me. They are laughing and cursing at me, but they don't touch me. I'm sure it's one of the Quads' doings. They're not letting the students touch me because they want to punish me by themselves.

I should know better now.

I walk into the ladies' bathroom to wash my face. I've been sweating a lot for no reason, and my hands are quivering. I'm slapping them to stop but they're still shaking. I decide to wash them instead. Thank God, it's quiet. No student is around and I don't get to hear any gossip about me. I don't get to feel that ugly tightness in my chest.

I let out a long sigh, and it echoed since I'm the only living thing in here. The classroom is not far from the bathroom, so Ava can easily find me. Daniel might not touch her, even though they own the city. Ava is from a rich home as well. Maybe I should use this to calm a bit. I adjust my clothes and let my hands under the water.

All of a sudden, the door flew open and my number one enemy entered, throwing the door to the interior wall. It's the fucking bastard. I don't scream insults to his face because I value my life too. You don't play with fire when you know it's hot.

I swiftly turn to look him in the eyes. His eyes are deadly cold. God, I'm alone with him. Fear is gripping my body like a wet cloth.

"Elena?" Ryan uttered my name. I know that tone, it's full of anger. It's dangerous. It's deadly.

"W-what a-are you doing here?" I stutter, as much as I hate to in front of him, I can't help it.

I know what I did is right, it was my revenge. He's been making my life hell, and I only paid back once and they are all after my life now? Shit! Fuck that shit. It's not fucking fair.

“Elena Deloris?” it’s louder. I’m shivering, holding the sink tightly to make me stable. My legs aren’t shaking as I prepare myself to run for the door. I can’t be caged here by him. No. I can’t.

I run to the door, swinging it open when he grabs my arm. His hands are so strong. I look into his eyes again; he is fucking furious. I’ve never seen him this furious to me. It’s deadly. His clothes are wet from sweat. I guess he had been playing football nonstop that he’s sweating a lot.

His wet clothes clung to his body, showing me every curve of his muscles. He’s still gripping my arm tightly, staring deadly at me. His wet brows pull together, and his lips part as if to say something, but no words came out so he closes them again.

My breathing picks up. He knows I did that to him. “Ry—”

“Why?” his growls interrupt me. My teeth chatter as my brows furrow. His question confuses me.

“Why the fuck did you do that, Elena?” he growls louder. I’m shaking, drawing a shaky breath into my lungs.

This time the fear is washing away from me, and I’m getting furious. I deserve to be furious not scared! What does he mean by ‘why’? He fucking harmed and tortured me and he’s here asking ‘why’ for a petty thing I did?

“Because that is what a monster like you deserve!” I shout to his face, getting irritated.

“Is that why you fucking put out a video of me raping someone?” he’s angry.

“What?” I yelled, confused. No, I didn’t do that. That’s not what I did to pay back Ryan.

He steps closer, and grab my chin tightly. “When did you see me doing that Elena?” he growls. His blue eyes are bloodshot and I’m confused like a dump doll.

“W-What are you saying? I never did that, Ryan!” my eyes burn with tears. My head is spinning. I know what I did, I never put out a video of him raping someone.

I didn't do that, my throat is going sore from burns. My chest burns too. I don't understand. Confusion is swimming in my head.

He laughs devilishly. It comes to a stop when his shoulders refuse to straighten. "Elena, you just made the worst mistake of your life. You will regret it!" he growls.

"No Ryan! I didn't do that. All I did was put the exam answer sheet in your bag. I fucking didn't do anything relating to a video!" I'm yelling my lungs out. I didn't do that.

"Then who did that? Who fucking did that? Everything points to you Elena." he tightens his hand around my jaw.

"Ryan, I didn't." Jesus Christ, what's this? He wouldn't believe me. I fucking didn't do that. Someone is trying to frame me.

"Elena, there will be consequences for trying to ruin me, I don't care if you are my fucking mate, I will serve you what you deserve." he spins me around, slamming my back on the hard wall. And I let out a loud cry.

He presses me harder to the wall, and I see all the pains and anger in his eyes as I cry. Suddenly, he drops me roughly to the ground as he storms out of the bathroom. Pain sets in my bones, confusion swimming in my head. My eyes are being pricked by tears, that they are burning.

That's not what I did to Ryan.

I hear footsteps running towards the bathroom, then someone screams. It's Ava, she's running towards the bathroom. I can't stand, I can't move, I'm numb. I didn't do that to Ryan, that's all that screams in my head right now.

"Elena! Are you okay?" she shouted.

No, I should ask if she is okay, instead. Now I know why they are so determined to ruin me and I'm getting scared for Ava, they might get her involved in this, and for something I didn't even do.

"Ava, he didn't touch you right?" I'm wiping my tears as I get on my feet

"No, he didn't. Are you okay? What did Ryan do to you?" she asks, holding me to her chest tightly, not letting me up on my feet.

“Nothing yet. All I know for sure, he’s going to ruin me. THEM. THEY’RE,” I say, almost a whisper, tears are running down from my eyes.

“Ava, someone is framing me. I didn’t do that to Ryan.” I say as though I’m completely breaking down, which I am. I’m so pissed now that I think of it. I was running away when I didn’t even do that. They will never believe me now.

“Didn’t do what Elena?” she frowns and says reluctantly.

“It’s a video of Ryan raping someone. I didn’t put that video out.” I grip her hands to make her believe me. She has to, there’s no one else she would believe apart from me.

“I know Elena. I know you didn’t.” she tries to pull me up. She’s rubbing my back, trying to calm me.

“Let’s get going. Ella is waiting for you at your car. She couldn’t get a cab back home and wants to ride with you.”

Ava is trying to change the topic and I get it. She doesn’t want me more frightened. But she doesn’t know that I didn’t just get more frightened, I also just got aware that someone is after me. Someone wants me killed. The Quads are going to kill me.

“Thanks Ava. I will see you tomorrow.” I sigh, hanging my backpack on my shoulder, and my car keys in my middle finger.

Ava walks back to her car, and I walk towards the parking lot to where I parked. I see Ella standing by my car. She doesn’t notice me yet; she’s smiling and typing on her phone.

“Hey.” I say, getting her attention.

“Hey, Elena. Where have you been? I’ve been waiting for you for ages.” she grumbles like always, and I let out a small smile.

I press my car key to unlock my car, and she jumps into the passenger seat.