## Chapter 71

A part of me knew I was asleep when my heart started to race. The incident was three weeks past but still my body froze and a familiar pain seemed to slam into me. I was hyperventilating and trying to get myself to wake up but the more I tried, the more I slipped deeper into the nightmare.

"Wake up, Sagira," I heard a voice that sounded around me as if it was coming from a room lined with speakers. "I am here," the voice continued. "I've got you." The last words were spoken in a quiet voice that seemed choked with emotions.

I felt a hand gently combing through my hair as I started to regain consciousness. My head was in someone's thighs. The room was dark and then cold lips pressed against my cheeks, my forehead, my eyelids.

My eyes snapped open and I bolted upright with a gasp, my hands flying to my chest and then every other part of my body as if taking inventory.

"You're fine." Firm hands gently pried my fingers from my hair when I gripped them hard. "I am here." I turned to Valens as he pulled me back to him, wiping tears from underneath my eyes. "I am here, little moon. I've got you." Tears fell faster from my eyes as my heart raced from my throat.

He held me for however long it took my heart to calm again. His fingers combed through my knotted hair while his other hand rubbed my back and he whispered reassurances into my ear.

The last time I had such a dream had been in the hospital the day after I woke up. I'd pushed everything to the back of my mind after that to avoid the pitiful gazes Celeste and the others kept giving me after I got settled but the memories of the accident which I thought I'd buried, crept up on me while I slept.

"I am fine now." I pushed away from Valens' chest to look up at him. His expression was mostly guarded but a flicker of worry crossed his eyes as I looked at him. "I'm fine now, really." I tried to roll to my side and pretend to go back to sleep but he caught me before I turned.

"You do not have to lie to me." He held my hand, running his thumb on my outer palm. "You should not have to pretend to be fine."

I didn't know what to say to him. For some reason, I didn't want to admit I'd dreamt of the crash, and once again, it had rattled me to my core. It felt as if it was happening over again and this time, I knew what was coming but I still could not prevent it.

"Don't pretend with me." He pressed a kiss to my cheek when I didn't say anything. He turned my face to kiss my other cheek but I turned and his lips grazed mine. He pulled away with the speed of light. "I did not mean to do that. I know you do not —" I pushed up to my elbows and silenced him with a kiss.

He closed his eyes and I followed suit as I looped my hands around his neck to kiss him deeper. Pressing his palms into the bed, he held us upright while I explored the inner crevices of his mouth, sucking on his tongue and tasting his mint toothpaste. I kissed him fast and hard as if it was our first time and I feared interruption.

I pulled away with a gasp, trying to catch my breath. I took in a big huff of breath and attacked his lips again with fervid urgency. Then I bit his lips and he hissed. "Oh, my goddess, I am so sorry." My hands fell from around him as I pulled away, a bit of my senses returning. I'd been kissing him as if chased by my nightmare.

"It's alright," he gave me a wolfish grin and his eyes glowed red. "Let's take things a bit slower." Placing a hand on my shoulder, he pushed me to my back, following my slow descent until my back hit the bed. "Let me take away your nightmares even if it's for this night alone."

His voice was low, his tone sultry and his eyes blazing, seizing my attention and making my heart pick up speed again. My throat dried, my skin heated and my eyes fluttered half-closed when he kissed my throat, his warm hand snaking into my nightdress.

"V – Valens –" I choked out his name when his lips trailed down my throat, kissing down to between my breasts.

"Hmm?" He murmured, lifting his head for a second with a smirk on his lips.

"Ohh, ah – nothing." I closed my eyes at the pleasure-pain from his tweaking my nipples. "F\*\*k," I whispered when I felt his tongue against my nipple. He abandoned that nipple for the cool air to harden while he moved to the next but I cupped that breast myself, rolling the bud between my thumb and index finger.

"Oh —" My hands were pulled to the top of my head and secured there.

"Let me do the worshipping, little moon." He placed a chaste kiss on my lips with his eyes twinkling. It occurred to me then that he was enjoying this.

I cried out when he took my breast in his mouth and fondled the other one, kneading it softly. My breasts were more sensitive than I remembered so it felt like a jolt of electricity passed through me when he did that.

"Oh goddess," I m0aned when he continued to suck hard, heat traveling to my core with every firm suckle. In time, I was reduced to a mumbling mess, crying out his name. He released that breast and promptly attacked the other.

I mumbled his name, cried it, moaned it, and sometimes screamed it. He kissed down my ch3st, to my stomach, his tongue encircling my belly button before he kissed lower. His hands gripped my waist, holding me down to the bed as he went down.

I froze when his tongue licked my clit, then my hips bucked but his hands held me still. With my hands now free, I tried to force his face out of my inner thighs which he'd moved to inhaling and kissing but he would not be deterred.

When I felt his tongue lick my opening again, my whole body spasmed. He went at it with fervor, holding my legs as I writhed in bed with pleasure. I felt release building up in my guts before my whole body froze. Then I tipped over the edge.

He didn't stop going until my body stopped shaking, his tongue did wicked things to my clit while I rode the waves of orgasm. He only raised his head when I calmed, a wicked glint in his eyes, lips glistening.

"I love your taste." He kissed me and I tasted myself in his lips. "I want to eat you for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, every day of my life," he declared.

My muscles started to loosen, my spirit lightened and I felt as if I was floating on a heavenly cloud.

"Li —" He cut himself off. My eyes fluttered shut as my body tingled. "You — Are you glowing?" I never thought I'd hear Valens sound so afraid.