

## D Desires 66

### Chapter 66

#### 66 Trying

Luke.

We were silent after Kimberly laid out her plans, and I did not know what to say. Caleb looked at Tia and me to chip in, but this was his mess. It was his problem. "Kimberly, please reconsider," Tia said, begging the girl.

"It is easy for you to say, Tia. Luke doesn't let you out of his sight. When you two were getting married, the news went round that you would be miserable because of the rumours we heard but look at you now. You are an object of envy. My only offence was being sloppy, Tia. I actually believed that women only got pregnant when they had sex during their heat. It hit home when Luke used me as an example when Stacy was trying to convince you to rest so you can get pregnant after your first heat. My mother was all about looking nice and spending money; she never taught me anything about being a woman. Everything I know I learned on my own by making mistakes and correcting myself. I did not get pregnant deliberately. Who wants to be a mother at twenty? No offence Tia, but I would not have chosen this path otherwise. I had broken up with him. It doesn't matter what the DNA result says. In the eyes of everyone, I am a slut, which is why he doubted the paternity of my daughter. No one will know he was my first, and I never cheated on him. No one would know there was no need to doubt me. Above all, I cannot hang around for someone who chooses to settle for me because the woman he loves is unavailable. I have my dignity. I only hung around the Moons so that I would be cared for during my pregnancy. I ended up doing everything for myself. Apart from the bills that were paid, I did it all by myself. I went through everything alone, with no one to talk to or lean on. It is too late for Caleb to ask me to stay. I have made peace with my shame and am moving on from this. I would have died, but the goddess spared my life. I feel reborn. I do not want to walk the same path I was on before I went into a coma," she said, and Tia could not say a word because no one could argue with Kimberly right now. Everything she said was true. Caleb had many chances to redeem himself but blew all of them.

"Please, Kim. I am sorry. I will tell the world that I misjudged you, I will marry you, and we will move out of the mansion, but don't leave me. Please, right now, you and our daughter are all that make sense in my life. I cannot lose both of you, please. I will do anything you want. I will do whatever you say. I will be a fool for you, I promise. I will follow you about, and you will never be alone. Please do not leave me, Kim. I am sorry about everything; I was sorry before all this. I honestly thought you were trying to trap me because of my past. Most of the girls that claimed I got them pregnant were lairs. Most of them were not pregnant by the time we offered abortion. I am sorry I categorised you like them. I really am." He said and went to his knees.

“Please tell me what you want me to do, and I will do it, Kim. I swear I will do it.” He said, and just then, Stacy and our father walked into the room.

“Caleb!” Stacy exclaimed. “Don’t you know you are an Alpha?” She said, but he ignored her entirely and continued to plead with Kimberly.

“What is the matter?” My father asked me quietly. “Kimberly is leaving with her child,” I told him, and he was shocked. “The girl is a Moon; she can’t take her away,” My father protested.

“Well, she can. Caleb did not marry her, so the baby is also a Miles.” I said to him, and he was silent. Realising what was happening, he pulled his mate so they could excuse us. We wanted to excuse them, too, but Kimberly insisted we stayed because she wanted us to take her home

“Kimberly, you cannot do this alone,” Tia finally spoke. “I have cared for her for two weeks, and I needed everyone to chip in. Why don’t you two come and stay with us in our house and see how it goes. If you still want to leave, no one will stop you, but let your daughter grow a bit to the point that you would be able to care for her without others,” Tia pleaded with her trying to buy Caleb ample time to redeem himself.

“Better still, I will rent the house next to ours for you two, so you can have some privacy,” I said, and Kimberly looked at Tia. It was clear the girl trusted Tia completely. They were communicating, and I did

not know what it was about

“I do not want to be around Caleb, Tia; he hurt me to my soul,” she said in tears, and Tia went to hold her while I collected the baby from her. Kimberly was in pain. So I asked Caleb to join me outside the room to talk. He reluctantly left to join me outside.

“Are you serious about all those things you said?” I asked him, and he nodded.

“I have been before she gave birth, but I thought she got pregnant to trap me,” he confessed. “It will be hard to convince her. You really hurt the girl. She went through this alone. Three months in her father’s house and six months with us. You refused to even stay in the same room with her. Tia is just a few

weeks gone, and I will tell you, it is not easy. She needs a lot of care and pampering. I do not want to imagine what Kimberly went through all this while. You need to do a lot more than making promises and keeping them to get her back, you need a miracle because that girl's mind is made up. Remember what father tells us. He says to always remain relevant, you have to make sure people do not find a replacement for you because you are no longer needed once they do. Kimberly has learned to live without you, and your lack of care has given her the understanding and courage that she can do this without you. If she considers staying, it will be because Tia said so, not because she wants to rekindle anything with you, Caleb." I said, and he was confused.

"Give me pointers, Luke. You won Tia's heart. Help me win Kimberly's heart," he said, and I shook my head.

"The damage between Tia and me wasn't this extensive, and both of us were willing to try. I also showed her care from our wedding day. You practically ignored this girl; I do not know what to tell you, I will offer advice: if she says yes, ensure you show her a lot of love and protect her from your mother and cousin. Those two are poisonous in our home, and you should always come to her defence. If it is possible to move out of the moon mansion to avoid those awful breakfasts, then do it. Father is powerless right now; gone are the days he would threaten to cut us off and leave us to fend for ourselves. I will gladly do it if

you need me to get you a place like mine. But as this is, you have just six months to redeem yourself, Kimberly is too determined to hang around longer than that.' I told him, and he decided to link me with his next question.

"What if I marry and claim her?" he asked.

"If she agrees, then go for it, but you will have to prove yourself to her," I told him, and he was silent. Soon we returned to the room to find Tia and Kimberly playing with the baby Caleb went to kneel by her bed again.

"Please, Kimberly, Don't go yet. Give me a chance to redeem myself and prove to you I am for real this time," Caleb said in the most honest way he could

"Okay, but I do not want to stay in that mansion." Kimberly agreed reluctantly. I did not know what Tia might have said to her, but it worked.

“Fine, we will get your stuff from the mansion and move you to our house for now. We can find you a place from there.” I said, and Tia smiled with joy.

“We noticed you didn’t prepare for her arrival, so we set up a nursery in our house with the hope to move the things to wherever you will be. Everything is set the” Tia said, and Kimberly smiled at her.

“I will leave once my baby is eight months old. Promise you won’t try to make me stay,” Kimberly said to Tia, and Tia reluctantly agreed. Caleb had eight months to prove to Kimberly why she should trust him with her heart again. I hope he succeeds. We did all that needed to be done, and Kimberly was discharged from the hospital. Her wolf had helped her heal fast. There was no need to hold her for observations. We first drove her to our home. Then Caleb and I went to the Moon mansion to get her things. Upon getting there, Stacy questioned us in the presence of our father. Although she was respectful, her voice still made me cringe.

“Where are they, Kimberly and my granddaughter?” She asked again.

“In my house. Kimberly doesn’t want to live here. She hates the breakfasts and can’t stand everyone in this house. It was either that, or she leaves for good,” I said and walked past her. My father returned to the office not wanting to get involved with the matter. He had bigger issues to deal with, Like Luis ‘Moon’. Kimberly and Caleb’s relationship was not on his list.

On the other hand, Stacy was trying to make it about her. I had to shut her down. We packed all of Kimberly’s stuff, and I gave Bart and Norman the mandate to sack all the care staff in the right-wing and hire new ones. I told them the reason, and I gave a new rule for the new ones so they did not make the mistake of committing the same offence again.

Tia allocated a room downstairs to Caleb and Kimberly. It was close to the nursery. Kimberly said she wanted to sleep in the nursery, and Caleb told her he would sleep in another room. Hopefully, they will be sleeping in the same room within a month. As things were, I intended to delay getting them a place. The smaller the space available, the more difficult it would be for Kimberly to avoid Caleb and remain mad at him. Tia and I hoped our plan worked out.

Kimberly named her daughter Emma, and Tia loved the name. I watched Caleb put a lot of effort into the first few days, and I was proud of him. He had also stopped looking at Tia, which made me happy that he was serious about making it work with Kimberly. She wasn’t free around him yet, but she tried to be civil. We all knew it would take some time, I just hoped Caleb succeed at it.

We decided to have breakfast a week after Caleb and Kimberly moved in. The breakfasts at the mansion had scarred us, and we avoided eating together because of it, but we couldn't help it this time; we had to eat and go to have a meeting with a spy we planned on hiring to dig into Luis and Regan Adhit for us. We needed to find Luis to protect our family, especially now that we were parents, and we needed to find Regan to protect Caleb's reputation. It wasn't long we started eating when Bart called to inform me that Elisabeth was in labour

Chapter 67

67 Elisabeth's Child

Luke.

When I hung up, I looked at Tia, and my stomach churned. I really did not want to say anything, but I knew I had to be at the hospital for the birth of the baby and the DNA test.

"What is it, love?" Tia asked me, and I squeezed her hand. Caleb knew something was up with how he looked at me and motioned Kimberly to excuse us. They both left immediately, and I looked at my wife.

"Elisabeth is in labour, and she is currently in the hospital," I said to Tia, and she got up immediately.

"What the hell are we still doing here, Luke? Come on. We have to leave now. Whatever it is we had planned for today must be postponed." she said, and I was surprised by her reaction. We dressed, and I told Caleb I was going to the hospital. He wanted to come, but I said he should stay home with Kimberly and his daughter. It really wasn't a big deal. It was either mine or not, but she was definitely leaving my house after this.

Tia placed a call to Gail while I drove us to the hospital.

"Gail, please cancel my meeting for today. I won't be available for conference calls. Delegate the work to the managing director." She said and hung up. Tia placed her hand on my thigh and rubbed lightly while I drove.

"Calm down, Luke. Whatever the situation might be, we will get through it together. If the baby is yours, then we will take it from her. I have told you I am willing to care for the child. It will be horrible if she

leaves to be with fat Joey with the baby. She is sure to maltreat the baby since she won't be getting much financially. Don't bother yourself," she said reassuringly, but I could not calm down. That baby will forever be a reminder of Elisabeth's trick. As much as I never denied the pregnancy, I prayed the child wasn't mine while we drove to the hospital.

As soon as I parked the car, Tia got out, and I seemed to be moving slower than she was. She noticed and slowed her pace down. She held my hand and squeezed lightly.

"Luke, I am not mad at you, and I won't let her trouble us. Please cheer up." She said, and I plastered a fake smile on my face.

We went straight to the maternity ward. Bart was there, and to my surprise, big mouth Dr Green was in attendance. I wanted to punch the bastard for spewing the nonsense about Elisabeth being my mistress to my father-in-law, but I knew this wasn't the time. I still planned on dealing with him for breaching the doctor-patient confidentiality and spreading rumours and lies about his alpha.

The bastard approached me.

"Alpha Moon, Miss Barnes requested you in the delivery room with her. She is almost fully dilated," He said, and I refused. "Go, I will be out here. It is just for today, Luke, I am here; I am not going anywhere. This is the last time," Tia said confidently, but I didn't want to go there.

"Please, Luke, for the sake of that baby, go. I am here; we are here," she said, referring to herself and our baby. I reluctantly nodded and went into the delivery room.

"Luke, Luke!" Elisabeth said. She was covered in sweat with puffy eyes. She looked like she was in pain; I did not feel sorry for her one bit. She was just too damn needy.

"Hold my hand, Luke," she said, stretching her hand towards me, begging for contact. I moved to her side and held her hand, cringing. I could not believe there was a time I thought I could never get anyone better than her. She treated me so poorly that I felt absolutely nothing for her. I was numb.

Elisabeth squeezed my hand tightly and pulled me to lean closer to her.

“Stop it!” I yelled before I even knew it. Everyone paused a bit from shock and then continued what they were doing

“Get a grip of yourself,” I warned her. It was taking a lot for me to be beside her. I linked Bart to go and stay with Tia outside the room.

Doctor Green came to check between Elisabeth’s legs with his hands and then nodded.

“Okay, Miss Barnes, you are fully dilated. I want you to push the moment you feel a contraction. Do not push until you feel the contractions, Okay?” he said to her, and she nodded and began to push, squeezing my hand tightly. I guess she wasn’t g

complications like Kimberly. I thanked the goddess for it. One thing was sure, no matter how bad things are between two people, perspectives change once one dies, and sometimes guilt and blame set in. I did not want to feel any of that. I just want the situat

The baby came out after several pushes, and I was asked to cut the cord. I reluctantly went to do it. It was a boy, but he had no key mark. I kept that observation to myself. At this point, even if he was my child, he could never be my heir. I did not want to gloat, so I kept my mouth shut. The nurse took him from the doctor to clean him up.

“Do you still want to take a DNA test?” The doctor asked, and Elisabeth looked at me with tearful eyes. It didn’t matter at this point. Even if the baby were mine, it would be as if I did not have a child because he wasn’t an heir. Caleb had an heir already, a beautiful baby with a key mark I guess my heirs will come from my darling wife. I was grateful to the goddess for this.

“Yes, please,” I told the doctor, and Elisabeth’s face dropped.

“I can’t believe you doubt me, Luke. I know this is Tia’s doing. You know it is your child, yet you want to humiliate me like this. Luke. You have been screwing her for months, and she isn’t pregnant yet. You screwed her through her heat and nothing. When will you realise we are meant to be, Luke?” she asked, and I did not respond.

"I need to be sure since you were screwing Joey the same time we were together, and you were busy telling everyone we had an open relationship. If I am taking care of the baby, at least it should be mine, Lisa" I said to her, and she began to weep. "I told you it was a one-time thing," she said. "Okay, the placenta is out, and I have stitched you up. We will be moving you to your room to recover Your baby will be brought to you once we clean him up and take the samples." The doctor said to her.

"You see, Luke. I gave you an heir," she said, and I was trying hard not to laugh. I couldn't wait to see her facial expression when she realised the child was just a regular pack member, nothing special

They wheeled her out of the delivery room, and she became angry when she locked eyes with

Tia.

"What are you doing here?" she yelled in anger.

"There is no way that woman is touching my baby! He's a boy, you know, an heir. Luke will come to his senses soon," she yelled at Tia, and Tia was trying not to laugh at Elisabeth's madness. She walked to me while they wheeled Elisabeth to her room.

"Hey," I said, and she smiled at me.

"Glad that went with no complications," She said, worried for Elisabeth and the baby's sake.

"Yeah, but they need to swab me now. By the way, the boy has no key mark," I said, and Tia beamed at me. Then she rolled her eyes.

"I am sure Elisabeth does not know that." She said, and I nodded.

"She doesn't even know you are pregnant. She tried to imply you were barren in there just now," I said, and she nodded.



“Yeah, I heard her. I couldn’t help but laugh. Bart was the first to laugh. He said he was so happy we would be rid of her soon. He said she had been a menace in the mansion. He said she had been banging on our bedroom door often, thinking we were around, and he did not bother to tell her we weren’t.” she said, and I laughed. We both sighed, and she looked into my eyes.

“So you think the baby isn’t yours?” she asked, and I did not know what to say. The baby had dark hair like mine Elisabeth and Joey did not have dark hair, but then again, as much as I hate to say this about a woman, Elisabeth was a slut. There was a possibility there were other people. One thing I knew was that she would never confess to it.

I left Tia in the corridor and went to Elisabeth’s room. She was crying.

“This was meant to be our moment, Luke, and you brought her here,” she cried.

“Oh, get over yourself, Lisa. Stop trying to make it seem like you are my mistress,” I warned her, and she kept quiet. The nurse in the room with us paused and then continued her work. It was clear everyone thought she was my mistress “I am the one that got pregnant and had your baby, Luke. What is an Alpha without an heir? I told you I did not mind being your mistress, yet you refused, telling me I deserved better,” She said, and I looked at her.

“No, Lisa, after everything you have done, I believe I deserve better. How many people were you screwing when we were together, Lisa?” I asked, and she was stunned,

“I told you it was just once with Joey. We hung out a lot, but that was it. There was nothing between us.” She lied, and I chuckled,

\*“You lie out of habit, Lisa. I have the emails between you and Joey.” I said to her, and she was stunned. She could not speak after that.

The nurse came to get the samples from me and left. I decided that was my cue to go too “They haven’t brought our baby boy Luke. Do you know why?” she asked, sounding a bit worried

“I am sure when they are done cleaning him up. They will bring him,” I said.

“Please do not leave me. Let them bring him first,” she pleaded.

“My wife is in the corridor, Lisa. If you want me to wait then, Tia has to be in here. I cannot leave her in the corridor. Otherwise, I will have to wait with her in the corridor for the results,” I said, and she was silent. I decided to head out.

“Let her come. I do not want to be alone,” she said, and I honestly did not want to bring Tia into the room, but I decided to do it in good faith. I linked Bart and Tia to join us.

Tia reluctantly entered the room. She had a smile on her face.

“Congratulations, Elisabeth.” she greeted, and Elisabeth nodded in response. Left to her, it should just be the two of us.

“Tia sat next to me on the couch in the room while Elisabeth burned with envy. Bart had a permanent smile on his face and stood on guard: An hour passed, and still, no one brought the child. I was about to send Bart to check what was happening when Doctor Green came in looking a bit worried.

“Where is my baby, Doctor Green?” Elisabeth asked, sounding frantic.

“You need to be calm, Miss Barnes,” he said and turned to me. “May I speak with you, please?” He asked me, and I nodded and excused myself to speak with the doctor. We stepped outside, and he took a deep breath.

“The baby is in critical condition, alpha. He was born with a hole in his heart. It is a side effect of those medications Miss Barnes took while inducing symptoms. At this point, we do not know what to do. We

are trying to keep him alive by all means.” he said, and I was stunned. What the hell had just happened? Whether the baby was mine or not, this was terrible news. Just then, my father arrived at the ward.

Chapter 68

68 Live For Us

Luke.

I did not know what to say. My father was smiling, and I knew he had no clue what was happening.

“What about the DNA test?” I asked Doctor Green.

“The baby is yours, Alpha, but he has no key mark.” Doctor Green replied, and my father exclaimed.

“What! Do you mean the child isn’t an heir? All these troubles for an ordinary pack member? She stayed at my house, ate my food and troubled my son and his wife for this?” My father asked, and I tried to shut him up. “Father, stop it. The baby is in critical condition. He has a hole in his heart from all the medication Lisa abused for attention.” I said, and my father was in shock. He staggered backwards.

“May we see him?” I asked the doctor. “You can look at him from the glass, but he is in the ICU.” the doctor said, and we followed him. What I saw broke my heart. The baby looked so tiny and helpless, and he seemed as if he was sleeping, but he wasn’t. He was fighting for his life, hooked up to the tubes and machines, Trying to live. My father touched the glass in pain, and I knew he was fighting back the tears.

“That bitch did this to my grandson,” He said with so much rage, and I could not stop him because I was fighting my emotions too. Why did Elisabeth do this to him? Kimberly was ignored completely, but she never endangered her daughter’s life. Elisabeth was cared for and pampered. The only thing was that I wasn’t with her, and I couldn’t be. Even if I wasn’t with Tia, I would have still made that demarcation between us, so she doesn’t get any ideas into her head. I was angry at her selfishness. I hope she is happy now.

“Doctor, if he survives this, what will be the quality of life he would have?” I asked the man, and he sighed. “He would not be able to do physically strenuous things. He will be okay with the right medication until he gets his wolf and his body fixes the issue,” The doctor said, and I frowned

at him.

“Once his wolf comes, he will have the fast healing ability, and then his system will fix itself, but that is if he can survive this for twelve years. We have medications that can help, but the next seventy-two hours

would determine if he would survive or not.” The doctor said, and I thanked him. It sounded like hope, but I knew it would be strenuous on the boy.

“He is a fighter, Alpha. Elisabeth should have had a miscarriage with her last stunt, but he remained. Let us just keep our fingers crossed. I wouldn’t want to get your hopes up. I will advise that if he survives, do not give him to his mother. She doesn’t have the mental capacity to care for a delicate child.” the doctor said, hinting that Elisabeth was mentally unstable, and he was right. Only a mentally unstable, selfish woman would harm her unborn child just to gain attention.

“That bitch, I swear if he dies, I will charge her with murder,” my father said.

“I want her out of my house today!” my father continued, and I nodded, telling him to calm down. Right now, the boy’s health is the most crucial issue. I did not know how to break the news to Lisa and Tia. It was sad news. Tia had wanted to take the child and care for him if he were mine. We did not even know if we would leave the hospital with the baby. Elisabeth had really hurt herself.

I went back into the room with my father. He was controlling himself from attacking Lisa. Tia looked at me curiously, and if I wasn’t a gentleman and against beating women, I would have beat up Elisabeth at that moment.

“What did the doctor say, Luke?” Elisabeth asked me.

“It is Alpha Moon to you,” my father corrected her, “ You are not his mate, mistress or family. As a pack member, you call him by his title. We have tolerated you long enough, and now you have given birth. Do not expect the same treatment from us. I have told your Alpha I do not want you in my house. You can move in with your boyfriend now. According to law, we are no longer responsible for you once someone

has taken an interest in you.” my father said to her, and she sat up. I knew she should be healed by now.

“Luke. what about our baby. I know he is yours. You are the only one I slept with without protection. That is your heir. Would you let your father kick me out with your only heir? Your wife has been unable to conceive all these months. If you do this, I will cut you off from us, and you will regret it,” she said, weeping. I could not tell her what had happened with the boy. I was still processing the news and did not think it was her business to know if Tia was pregnant

I heard a slap, and I looked to see that my father was the one that dished it. His hands were trembling from anger.

“When I warn you, you make corrections. I will not allow you to disrespect me, my son and daughter-in-law like that again. Luke is your Alpha, and Tia is your Luna. We will gladly cut you off from the mark if you can’t deal. Don’t ever threaten us with your useless boy again. If Luke hasn’t told you yet, I will. Your child has no Key mark, so he can never be an heir, and your selfishness is about to cost the poor baby his life because he has a hole in his heart. You should be praying to the goddess for a miracle instead of spewing nonsense,” My father said to her, and she was in shock. She cried out in pain.

“No!!! My baby!!!” she screamed.

“Yes, Elisabeth. Your baby was born with a hole in his heart because of those medications you took to induce symptoms. The baby is a Moon quite alright, but the doctor does not think he will survive it,” I said to her, and she wept. Tia came to hug me because she felt my pain. I might not like Elisabeth, but it still hurt that she would do this to my child. Yes, the baby had no key mark and will never inherit from me, but I would have loved and cared for him regardless. Tia would have doted on him, and he would have lived a full life We wouldn’t have treated him as a mistake, but Elisabeth just had to be her selfish self and cost him his life,

“What will they do to save his life?” Tia asked, and I did not know what to say because the doctor seemed confused.

“I want to see my baby I want to see my baby.” She cried, but no one answered her. “Luke, there is no reason to remain here. I think you should go home. Tia needs to rest. I do not want her to have a miscarriage because of this bitch,” my father said. I knew he was angry,

and I could feel it. He had come there for the birth of the child. He would have loved his grandson regardless; it didn’t matter if he had a key mark or not. He would have loved him but knowing that Elisabeth’s selfishness had caused something that would cost his grandson his life angered him. I felt his rage, and it took a lot of self-control for him not to attack Elisabeth

“She is pregnant?” Elisabeth asked, looking at Tia. She looked ashamed and felt betrayed

“Yes, Lisa. My wife is pregnant. We wanted to take the boy from you and care for him so you can start afresh with Joey, but as things are, there won’t be a baby to take from you. You have ruined everything

“What have I done? What have I done?” Elisabeth said, crying; she had finally realised what had happened.

“I only wanted to be in your life forever. I got pregnant to keep a piece of you with me. I took those meds to gain your attention. I wanted to hurt you and Tia and ended up hurting myself. Please, Alpha Moon,” she said with so much difficulty.

“Don’t let my baby die. I will leave him for you and walk out of your lives for good, but don’t let him die,” she pleaded, and I was shocked at how quickly she turned around. Hearing her son’s life hung in the balance because of her actions, set her straight. She began to wail, and Tia went to console her. She did not try to push Tia away.

“My baby, My baby” was all she could manage between sobs. “Leave her be, Tia. It is time to go home; you need to rest. Pregnancies are difficult in the early stages,” My father said, and when Tia did not leave Elisabeth quickly enough, he went to separate them

“I want you to pack your things and leave the moon mansion,” my father said to Elisabeth and walked out of the room angrily. His eyes were misty, and I knew he did not want to shed tears in the presence of everyone. I was sad, too, and I was trying to hold my shit together. I instructed Bart to remain with Elisabeth while Tia and I walked out of the room

“There must be something that can be done to save his life, Luke. We can’t give up like this, Luke. We have to try. Do some research, ask around..” she said, and I stopped her.

“Let it go, Tia. This is the best hospital in Woodclaw. All the specialists are here. The situation is hopeless.” I said, sounding defeated, and she shook her head.

“The doctor had warned us that this could happen a few months ago. He said he couldn’t tell us if the medication would negatively affect the fetus, but he hinted it could and could be bad. Lisa did this to herself. I just want to go home, Tia.” I said to my wife, and she nodded. She must have realised I was trying to keep it together.

“Okay, give me the car keys, Luke. I will drive,” she said, and I did not bother to argue. I handed it to her, and we left the premises. The moment we sat in the car, I broke down. Tia wound up the tinted glass so no one would see me, and she drove out of the hospital. I did not know where she was heading until she parked on the cliff.

“Luke,” she said and turned towards me. She lifted my hand and placed it on her belly.

“Do not let what Elisabeth did, take away your joy. It would have been nice to have him, but as things are, it might not be that way. Maybe the goddess wants you two to have a clean break like you wanted

initially before all this. Maybe this is what the goddess wants. At least she can start a life with Joey without having to deal with us, and we can continue living our lives

without having to deal with her. If the goddess wills it, he will be okay, and I will love him as if he were mine, but if not, we will thank her for his life and know that he is in a better place. We all need you to be strong for him.” She said to me, and I held her. She broke the hug and exited the car. She walked to the passenger’s side and asked me to exit the car too. I came out, and she hugged me Wrapping my arms around her, I took in her scent.

“Breathe, Luke. Just breathe,” she said to me, and I inhaled and exhaled gradually as she had instructed. I held her trying to calm down. I hoped he would not die; I hoped he would overcome this. There was so much Tia and I could give him, and we were willing. All he had to do was live for us.

Chapter 69

69 The Myth And Reality

Tia.

We stayed at the cliff a bit until Luke’s heartbeat steadied. We were not expecting this to happen, but Dr Green had warned that there might be complications because of the damned meds that Elisabeth took. As much as I hated the woman, my heart went out to her when she realised the extent of the damage she had cost.

Motherhood could do many things, and Elisabeth did a three–sixty turn in those moments. Her obsession with Luke faded instantly, and she was sorry. I wondered how she thought she could get away

with it. I had hoped the baby wasn't Luke's, but Elisabeth wasn't a fool. She had everything planned out. She did not seem like the type that would slip unless it were intentional.

While we sat on the ground at the cliff, I did not know what words to tell Luke that would cheer him up. I wasn't happy either, so it made it worse. Time passed slowly, and I thought it was best we returned home. I got up and motioned Luke to get up too. He did so without protesting, and we got into the car. I drove us home in silence and went straight to the bedroom. Caleb and Kimberly were in the living room when we arrived, but we were too glum to say hello.

"Is everything okay?" Caleb linked me, and I did not know if I should tell him or not. I knew it would be wrong to keep him guessing because it was obvious that something was wrong, especially with the way we both walked in and went straight to our bedroom without saying a word.

"The baby is Luke's, but he has a hole in his heart because of the medications Elisabeth ingested to induce symptoms for attention. He is in critical condition, and no one knows if he will survive," I linked him back. He was silent for a bit, and then he responded.

"Is it okay to see Luke?" He asked, and I knew this wasn't a good time.

"Not yet, Caleb; Luke is still trying to deal with it. Give it time, please." I said, and he was silent.

"Kimberly and I are going to the park with Emma. Call me if you need me." He said, and I knew they just wanted to excuse us. It was kind of him, but they weren't bothering us while minding their business downstairs, but I let it be.

Luke took off his clothes and lay on the bed in his shorts. I did not know what to do. I felt a bit awkward. He motioned me to join him in bed, and I did.

"Not with your clothes on, Tia," He complained; I stripped down to my underwear and snuggled into bed with him.

He placed his hands on my lower belly and kissed me passionately.



“Please take care of yourself and my child, Tia.” He pleaded with me, and I nodded. He hugged me, then broke the hug, and we spooned.

“I am over it, Tia. Whatever happens, I am over it,” he said, and I knew he meant it. We fell

asleep.

I woke up to my phone vibrating. Luke was holding me so tightly that it was difficult to get out of his embrace. He woke up immediately, and I wished I did not force myself out of his arms.

I checked who was calling and saw that my father had called me seven times. My stomach churned immediately because I knew my father worked in that hospital. I looked at Luke, who was sitting up and smiled at him. It would be suspicious if I went to the bathroom to call my father back, so I smiled at him and called my father.

My father answered immediately.

“Thank goddess Tia, I have been trying to get a hold of you,” he said, and I did not say a word.

“How is he handling it?” My father asked, and I sighed.

“Well enough,” I said, and he sighed. “I need to speak to him about something.” He said, and I shook my head even though he could not see me. “No, father, this is not the right time,” I said, and he sighed. “Ruby, what I want to discuss with your husband is urgent. It might save that boy’s life. I know I shouldn’t be doing this, but I can’t sit idly by when I know there are options.” He said, and I did not have to think about it.

“We are home; hurry,” I said and hung up. “What does he want?” Luke asked, and I did not know if telling him would be appropriate. I wasn’t thinking really when I told my father to come. Luke had already made peace with himself. It would be wrong to get his hopes up and then crash them again, but it would also be wrong not to explore all the possibilities. I just hope his heart will be able to take it.

“Tia?” Luke said, snapping me out of my deep thought. “My father wants to discuss something about your son. He feels it can help.” I said, and his face lit up a bit. Something I was avoiding. “Then he should have discussed it over the phone with you. Time is of the essence.” He said to me, and I nodded.

“I guess it is unconventional, and he wants to discuss it with you in person,” I said, and he nodded.

“I am sure Dr Green must have called to tell him. That guy does not understand confidentiality,” Luke said, and I frowned at him.

“Your father is off duty, Tia. He isn’t at the hospital. How else would he know the issue if someone didn’t tell him? And the only person who spoke to your father about us is Dr Green. I am happy that we are not using that hospital. The whole world would have known you are pregnant by now. I am going to make sure his license is suspended after this,” Luke said. I did not know what to say because Dr Green might have just indirectly saved the boy’s life by telling my father.

My father arrived fifteen minutes after the call, meaning he was at home when he called me.

## 69 The Mayers and Reality

Caleb and Kimberly weren’t home, but The Wilsons were around. Luke and I went downstairs to receive him. They shook, and I hugged my father.

“Please have a seat,” Luke offered, and my father sat down.

“Tia says you have a solution for my son?” Luke asked, going straight to the point.

“It is not a guarantee because I do not know the extent of the damage.” My father said with caution, and Luke nodded.

“I understand. It is still better than sitting idly by,” Luke said and placed his hand on my thigh. He now did it out of habit.

“Some years ago, a patient of mine had the same problem. His wife was from Neev, so when she found out about the issue with her baby, she called a special care home in Neev. They came with a helicopter and took the baby away. Today the baby is alive and well. He has gotten his wolf but still has a hole in his heart,” My father said, and I was confused

“There is a special clinic in Neev that specialises in these cases. The downside is you will have

son there with them. Since you are rich, he will have a private nurse who will care for him. Once he gets his wolf, he will be okay, but he won’t be able to do physically tasking activities, but he can still live a full life.” My father said, and Luke leaned forward.

“What do they do there?” he asked my father, and my father cleared his throat.

“We try to pride ourselves in Woodclaw City that we have the best of the best, but that is not true. This clinic, or home as they put it, specialises in special needs children. They have a specialist in every field

coupled with the equipment needed for the job. The environment is more country-like. It is serene and calm. Excellent for the child’s development,” My father

explained.

“Why can’t we fly in the specialist and the nanny to care for the baby here?” I said, and my father looked at me.

“Apart from the fact that this equipment cannot be moved, you cannot care for a child with special needs, Tia. You might feel you can do it now, but you will be stressed out. In the state he is in, he would need round-the-clock care. You are pregnant, Tia, and do not have the capacity for that kind of work; coupled with your Luna responsibilities and the company you are running, you will be stretched thin. The mother is a bit mentally unstable, so she cannot be trusted with the child. You will be overwhelmed when you have your baby, and you cannot neglect your child for his sake. This is the best option. Send the child to where he will get all he needs, and you can buy a home in Neev for visits and holidays. Someone equipped to help deal with any complications will always attend to him,” My father explained.

“You said the child still had a hole in his heart even after getting his wolf. Dr Green said the heart will heal if my son gets his wolf,” Luke pointed out, and my father shook his head.

“That is an assumption, and it is wrong for him to say that. The wolf genes help us heal fast. The hole is not a wound; it is how his heart was formed. It is like saying someone born with four fingers will have five fingers when he gets his wolf. How will the wolf genes recognise the need for a fifth finger when it was not there, to begin with. Unless you do a heart transplant when he is of age, the hole will remain, but his wolf genes would minimise the threat to his life,” my father said, and I began to agree with Luke that Dr Green’s license should be

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suspended. “I think it is for the best,” Luke finally said.

“I want Tia and me to have a fresh start. I would not want troubles or reminders of things that happened that I could have avoided if only I was wiser. If it guarantees that my son will live a full peaceful life, then I will do it,” Luke said. “I understand your point of view. I will make arrangements for them to come immediately.” My father said, standing up. “Have you thought of a name yet?” My father asked, and Luke nodded. “Paul,” he said, and I knew he didn’t think much before naming his son. That was a sign to start thinking of names before I gave birth.

My father took out his phone to make the phone call. It seemed as if he had already spoken to them before coming.

“They will be on their way with a helicopter. We should go to the hospital now and sort it out,” my father said, and Luke and I rushed up to wear something appropriate. We returned and headed to the hospital. Luke drove while my father followed us in his car. Luke did not want me to come, but I wanted to be a part of it. My father had said two specialists would be coming from Neev to accompany the baby. Knowing that the baby is a Moon made them move quicker than usual. We got to the hospital and rushed to ICU. Elisabeth was glued to the glass, and to my surprise, Fat Joey, no longer fat, was there with her. The whole thing was awkward, and I prayed that we would all be civil for the baby’s sake.

Chapter 70

70 Good Riddance

Luke.

I did not know why Elisabeth would call Joey. If they were married, I could understand, but he was just one of the people she was fucking. “What the fuck are you still doing here, Lisa?” I asked her, and she flinched. Her eyes were swollen, but I wasn’t touched one bit. She did this. Her selfishness did this to Paul.

“Your quest for attention led to this. I hope you are fucking happy now? You should have left well enough alone instead of tricking me into getting pregnant and trying to attach yourself to me by force.” I said and looked at Joey, “You better be careful with her,” I warned him, and he seemed genuinely afraid of me. + It was taking a lot for me not to hit her. Joey just stood there. He dared not challenge me. I hate acting like my father, but I would cut both of them off without thinking about it.

“I am sorry, Lu... Alpha Moon,” Elisabeth said. I guess my father’s slap was burned on her cheeks. My days of being kind and understanding were over. To think I felt guilty about leaving her for Tia. To think I said she deserved better. I take back everything at this moment.

“Thanks to you, I have to ship the baby to Neev. A special needs home to care for him. His heart will never be whole, Lisa; he will always need care. He won’t be able to do physically tasking things. He will have to be careful all his life,” I said, and she widened her eyes.

“You will take him from me?” She asked, and I could not believe this bitch.

“You weren’t going to keep him. Key mark or not, you were not going to keep him. Tia was going to care for him, but even now, she can’t because you have made him a special case,” I said, and she shook her head.

“Please. I will follow him to Neev; don’t take him from me.” She pleaded, and I shook my head.

“You are mentally unstable, and I do not want anything to do with you again, Lisa. Either you let him go to Neev and forget you had a child, or I leave him for you and Joey and don’t look back. Believe me, I can. I have made peace with my conscience, and my wife is pregnant. I have moved on from this,” I told her. It wasn’t necessarily true, but I did not want to deal with the bitch again.

We stood silent for a while, and she stared at the baby through the glass.

“Will I be allowed to send him birthday cards in Neev?” she asked, and I shook my head.

“You are poison, Lisa. I would not want that kind of energy around my son. His heart is literally too fragile to handle your shit,” I replied, and she touched the glass and looked at Tia. “I know this might be too much to ask, but please take care of him,” she said, resigning herself. Tia did not respond to her request. I knew she was fighting herself from getting involved.

We hung around. The specialist from Neev arrived an hour later.

“Good evening. My name is Doctor Khalifa Ahmed. I am a cardiologist. It is a pleasure to meet

you, Alpha Moon. We have heard a lot about you and Eastwood.” He said with a smile, and I watched his staff get into the ICU to prepare Paul for transport.

“Nice to meet you too; thank you for coming on short notice. What are my son’s chances?” I asked, and he smiled.

“I have seen his chart, and I assure you he will be okay. He has what we call ventricular septal defect. There are no known medications that can repair the hole. If a child is diagnosed with an atrial septal defect, we may want to monitor it for a while to see if the hole closes on its own. During this period, we might treat symptoms with medicine. The hole only increases the amount of blood that flows through the lungs, and over time, it may cause damage to the blood vessels in the lungs. Damage to the blood vessels in the lungs may cause problems in adulthood, such as high blood pressure in the lungs and

heart failure. I intended to watch to see if it would close on its own, but an open–heart surgery can fix it. Before we can carry out surgery, we must ensure his body can handle such a procedure. I assure you we will assign staff to care for him alone. He will be strong in no time, but I will advise you to leave him with us in Neev so we can keep a close eye on him and care for him while we wait for the hole to close on its own. The environment is serene and less chaotic there. I assure you he will cope better. You can start visiting after three months.” He said to me, and I thanked him for his kind words.

“We will also need to monitor him to watch out for any damage that may not be visible to us at the moment. The drugs the mother took are quite dangerous,” he added, and I looked at Elisabeth, who looked away from shame.

We watched them load Paul into the chopper and fly away. James Lockwood and Bart were with us throughout.

“I will handle the bills,” Tia told me, bringing out her phone. She was in charge of the money now and the business directly.

James touched my shoulders and told me not to worry. The specialist had assured us Paul would be okay that they had seen worse. I took comfort in that, but he also said we shouldn’t visit until after three months. We could deal with that as long as we knew Paul would be okay.

“It is time to go get your stuff from the Moon mansion, Lisa,” I said coldly, and she had fear in her eyes.

“Please come with me. I am afraid of your father?” She said, and I looked at Tia. She nodded, and I agreed to accompany her.

I thanked James, and we parted in the hospital’s parking lot. Elisabeth rode with Joey while Tia, Bart and I went ahead of them.

My father was fuming when we arrived, but he calmed down when I informed him of our steps to save Paul’s life. He was happy that his grandson would be alive, but he wasn’t happy that he won’t be as active as a Moon should be.

“When is the bitch packing her shit,” My father said, referring to Elisabeth.

“She is already here to do so. Please, father, let me and Tia handle this.” I said to him, and he nodded and went to his office. Joey waited outside the mansion; I could feel his fear. The guy was terrified. It was also evident that Elisabeth wasn’t honest with him about certain things. I

did not want to dig into the matter, so I did not bother asking. Tia and I stood at the door while we watched her pack her things in tears. When she was done. She looked at Tia and me.

"I am sorry for everything. I guess I got carried away. I wouldn't say it was love. Seeing my son in the ICU made me realise how stupid I was. I did what I did out of anger," she said and wiped away her tears.

"I never imagined you would amount to anything. People said many things, and I let it get to me, but I couldn't let go. You treated me so well that I knew I would never find someone that would genuinely love me but then again, I did not want to be the woman that settled for the nobody. I thought Joey was a better option. He was respected and had his own business. You were living on allowance and salaries then, and you couldn't do much. Your father ran your life, you weren't independent, and you would not be alpha. I was all about money and independence. I wanted to live a luxurious life, and you tried, but I wanted more. So I asked that we date other people because I did not want to leave you. I thought I could manage the situation, but I was wrong. The week I heard your father had gotten you a wife, I was mad. I felt slighted. It was an ego thing for me, really. Then to add to it, you were given Diamond corp. How could I have suffered with you, and someone just comes in from nowhere and rip the benefits?? So I asked to be your mistress, knowing you won't go against your father. I wasn't expecting you to turn me down. When you did, I was hurt. So I avoided you until I knew I was ovulating and invited you over. I

knew you wanted to break up with me, but it didn't matter at that moment. I convinced you I was safe, and you obliged. Joey broke up with me when I got pregnant and stayed away from me for a month. I thought you would come back to me. I was too damn arrogant and believed your wife won't be good enough. My twisted mind told me you would come back to me. It was only a matter of time. I did not tell you about the pregnancy because I was scared your father would abort the baby. I waited and hoped. When you cut me off completely, I decided to tell you I was pregnant. My plan was that my baby would be an heir, and you would have no choice but to come back to me," she said and began to cry.

"I saw my child as a tool and not a person. When I took those meds, I wasn't thinking of the repercussions. The internet had said it was safe and nothing would happen to the fetus. I shouldn't have done it. Everything I did, I was just thinking of myself. I did not know it would turn out like this. Seeing him in the ICU made me realise how horrible I was. I was thinking of myself instead of thinking of his safety. Now, I am the biggest loser in this. You and Tia will go on to have healthy, strong children, while my son will forever fight for his life. I doubt Joey will want to be with me now that he knows the truth," She said, sobbing.

"I told him. You forced me to conceive for you because you did not like your wife. I said you wanted me to give you an heir. That was why he agreed to wait for me to give birth so we could continue our lives. Now he knows the truth. I just want to beg for forgiveness and plead with Luna Tia to love my son as if he were hers. I promise never to trouble you again. Once Joey breaks up with me, which I know he would, I will move away from the city to start afresh somewhere. I am really sorry. I wish I could go back in time and not do what I did, but I can't. Please tell my son I am sorry, and I will regret what I did for the rest of my life." She said to me, and I was speechless. It would take a long time for me to forgive her. I



linked the staff to help her with her bag out of the mansion. While we were heading out, my father returned. Left to him, he would kill her; he was just controlling himself.

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“Don’t come by here ever again,” My father warned her while Monica and Stacy watched. My father’s hands were shaking, and he had puffy eyes. Paul’s predicament hit him hard. Key Mark or not, he was still ours.

There was really nothing amusing. The situation was glum. An innocent child had to pay dearly for Elisabeth’s actions. Tia and I were going to be at peace now, but Paul had to pay the price.

I did not want to stress Tia more than I already had, so I opted that we spend the night in the mansion. The coming days would be peaceful and Elisabeth-free. I took comfort in knowing that Tia was now the only woman in my life, and we were expecting. Things were now as they should have been if Elisabeth hadn’t cheated and schemed.

We went to our room, and they brought our meals. Knowing that Paul would be okay gave Tia and me peace, and we were finally smiling again. I knew she was physically tired, so touching her that night was out of the question. We snuggled into bed.

I was about to sleep when my phone began to ring. I checked to see who it was, and it was Caleb. I answered it reluctantly. “Luke, sorry to disturb you. Kimberly and I decided to spend the night in the mansion,” he said, and I wanted to laugh. “Tia and I are there too. Elisabeth left a few hours ago.” I told him, and he sighed with relief.

“Luke, we found an address in Dome that belonged to Regan Adhit. My mother was lying. The guy exists. Maybe we can discuss our next move tomorrow?” He asked, and I was elated. It wasn’t Luis, but Regan was a problem too. I wondered if he was still troubling Stacy, but we needed to find him and shut him up. I told Caleb we would discuss it tomorrow. I kissed Tia’s neck, and she moaned sweetly; that was all the invitation I needed to turn up the heat.