

D Desires 81

Chapter 81

81 I Don't Give A Fuck

Luke

When we landed on Diamond Corp's helipad, I called Michelle Wilson to prepare something for Caleb, Mike and Me.

"Alpha." Michelle said, sounding a bit scared, and I wondered what had happened. I remembered that Tia sounded worried when I called her. I did not call back in the morning because we were rushing to go to Dome. I hoped nothing happened to my wife.

"Is my wife okay?" I asked Michelle.

"Yes, Alpha, Luna Tia is fine. Please, alpha, call her," she said, and I felt it was strange. I hung up and called Tia immediately. It was almost midnight, and I hoped she would be awake.

"Hello," A female voice that wasn't Tia answered, and I became apprehensive.

"Who is this?" I demanded.

"It is Kimberly. Please wait, let me give her the phone in the bathroom," she said, and I calmed down.

"Hello," I heard Tia's voice, and I was calm.

"Tia, I called Michelle to make us something to eat because we are on our way home, and she said I should call you. Is everything okay?" I asked, and she sighed.

"Yes, everything is okay, Luke. We are at the Moon Mansion," She said, and I was surprised that Tia would go to the Mansion without informing me.

"Is everything okay?" I asked her.

"Please just come here. Do not go to that house. Luis knows where we live now. He sent a letter there," she said, and I was stunned. I told her I would soon be with her. I hung up and rushed out of the building. Caleb and Mike stood outside by the car.

"We are going to the Moon Mansion. They are there," I said, and Caleb frowned at me.

"Did Tia tell you why?" Caleb asked me, and I nodded. I got into the car, and Mike drove.

"Luis knows our house," I said, and Caleb exclaimed from the backseat

"What's with the guy?" Mike asked.

"I hate to say this, but we have to arrest Miles or at least find a way to get to Luis," Caleb

said

"let us focus on the audit," I said, and Caleb asked me why.

"Luis hates the Moons. He could be teaming up with Timothy Miles to ruin Diamond Corp. They would have ruined us if we did not discover the discrepancies on time. Timothy was hoping for a merger. Stacy must have assured him you will agree to it when you take over. She did not know it was my company then. Timothy was shocked that the company went to me. He looked like he had been duped." I explained.

"So you think the West Corp did those things deliberately to force Diamond corp into a merger, and Stacy helped them?" Mike asked, and I nodded.

"She did not know that was what they were doing, of course. All she cared about was paying Regan Adhit to keep her secret and not hurt her folks," I said, and Mike whistled.

“This shit is messed up. We really do not know who is doing what. We are just speculating. We were not trained for this shit.” Mike said, and I could understand him.

“So what should we do, Luke?” Caleb asked, not bothered that his mother might get in trouble. I guess he had made peace with the fact that anything could be possible where she was concerned.

“We wait for the audit, and once we have the evidence of West Corp’s crimes, we will arrest all the company directors. It might lead us to Luis or another dead end, but if West Corp is one of his tools, we would have crippled his operation from that angle.” I explained.

We sat silently, processing what we had just discussed while Mike drove us to the Mansion: He wasn’t eager to go home because Natasha was with her folks, and he won’t be seeing her until the wedding day. I did not mind housing him until then. The left-wing had many rooms.

We arrived at the Mansion, and Bart was waiting for us. Tia must have told him we were on

Our way.

“Do you mind if I crash on your side of the house?” Caleb asked me, and I smiled at him. “You are welcome there anytime; I doubt if Kimberly would want to stay in the right-wing,” I said, and he smiled.

“Beta Caleb, Luna Tia has asked us to prepare a room for you and Miss Miles in the left wing. Should I ask Norman to move your things there?” Bart asked Caleb, and I looked at my brother and smiled. He nodded.

We walked quickly, and instead of knocking, I opened the door and let myself in. Kimberly and Tia were sitting on the couch in the sitting room. Emma wasn’t there, so I suspect they had put her to sleep on the bed.

Tia smiled, and she came to hug me. I held her tight and kissed the top of her head.

“I am home,” I said, and she placed her head against my chest and breathed in and out.

"I am glad you are home." We broke the hug, and I offered Mike a seat. Caleb and Kimberly were kissing, and I wanted to tell them to get a room, but I let it be. Soon they broke the kiss, and he sat on the couch while Kimberly sat on his lap. I could not let Tia sit on my lap right now because of what it might do to me. So I sat on the two sitters, and she sat beside me.

"I have asked the kitchen staff to make you something," Tia said, and I smiled because I was famished.

"What happened?" I finally asked her, and she got up and went to the bedroom. She returned with an envelope and handed it to me.

I examined the envelope and noticed it carried a Santa Braee stamp. It had a hotel address on it. This man wanted us to look for him. I opened the letter and read the content. He knew my wife was pregnant and told her to warn me to stay out of his business, yet he provided his perceived address. He was playing a psychological game. I pinched the bridge of my nose and looked up at the ceiling.

"What is it?" Caleb asked, eager, and I began to laugh. I was frustrated, hungry and confused

"This man, or whoever it is, is playing a psychological game," I said and pulled Tia close.

"He sent Tia the letter to get her upset. He knows I am an Alpha, and I won't back down. The fact that my wife and unborn child are mentioned, I will want to neutralise the threat. He has left us bread crumbs leading to Santa Braee, which we never followed. Now he sends Tia a letter with the address of the hotel he sent it through in Santa Braee, indicating he is staying there. He hopes I will be angry enough to look for him." I said, and Mike gestured I give him the letter. I handed it to him, and he read it. Then he handed it to

Caleb.

"What the fuck is this guy's deal. He should tell us what was stolen and let us see how we can solve this once and for all," Caleb said impatiently, and I did not say a word. I needed to rest my head at that

moment. Thinking of Luis was going to make me fall sick.

“How about we eat and go to bed. We can deliberate on this matter tomorrow. We have had a long day in Dome, and now we just need to eat and sleep.” I suggested, and they agreed.

Food was served thirty minutes later, we all ate, and everyone retired to their rooms, leaving Tia and me alone in the room. I wanted to make love to her, but I was too damn tired I had her lace pants in my pocket, and I was going to spank her for what she did, but that won't happen tonight. I just wanted to sleep and regain my energy.

I was looking forward to breakfast for the first time; I intend to blow everything into bits. We both showered and went to bed. Cuddling my wife would have to do for the night. I

made a note in my mind to make it up to her in the morning.

I woke up early in the morning by seven and went to brush my teeth. I felt fully rested, and I was pumped up for breakfast. I never knew I would be spending the night in the Mansion when I returned, but I planned on confronting my father, so everything worked out for me.

I stepped out, and Tia was already awake. She smiled at me and, as usual, went to brush her teeth. We still had time before nine, so I sat on the single-sitter couch in the corner of the bedroom. I had nothing on but my shorts and a morning Hard-on.

Tia returned to the room, and I beckoned her to come to where I was. She raised an eyebrow and approached me. She wore a thin black strap, short silk night dress with black lace panties.

“Good morning,” she said, and I did not respond. Instead, I motioned her to lay across my lap. She was curious but obedient. She knelt across my lap, arching her butt up. I rubbed her entrance through the fabric of her panties, and she moaned.

“What were you thinking, placing your panties in my pocket, Tia,” I asked, remembering how it made me feel. Her scent was driving me wild as I spoke.

She did not answer, so I gently spanked her arse. She moaned

"I need an answer, Tia," I said, and she rocked herself a bit. I spanked her again. I knew she was wet because I could smell her. I pulled down her panties to her knees, exposing her butt. She was so wet. I caressed the entrance with my thumb, and I felt the clench. She wanted me.

"You are yet to answer me, Tia," I said, and when she did not answer, I smacked her entrance, and she moaned.

"Luke, Please," Her voice said it all. She wanted me badly.

"I need an answer, Tia," I said and placed my index finger in her wet pussy. She moaned, and her pussy clamped my finger. She wanted me just as badly as I wanted her.

"To give you something to work with," she finally replied, her voice heavy with need.

"Go to the bed and wait on your hands and knees," I ordered her.

I watched her move quickly and take the position.

"I am going to give you what you made me keep for two days, Tia. I am giving you all that build-up, and you are going to take it," I said, and she moaned a yes. I knew we were way past foreplay

I knelt behind her and gently drove my cock into her.

It was wet, slippery and clenching. The pleasure went straight to my head. I grabbed onto her and began to pump viciously. I did not know how much I needed her until I was inside

her. I growled, trying my best to keep my human form. It was an intense build-up, "Tia moaned, calling my name as I continued to pump. All my troubles had disappeared at that moment. I pumped, and when she came, I came hard, emptied myself into her.

"I pulled out, and she laid down.

“Are you prepared for breakfast?” I asked her, and she began to laugh, trying to catch her breath

“Now I am. I can’t wait to hear what your father has to say in his defence,” Tia said, and I kissed her sweetly. I realised I wasn’t done yet. So I laid her down and went between her legs to eat her.

We made love until eight. Then we rested for thirteen minutes and went to shower. After showering, we slipped into comfortable clothes and headed out for breakfast. We met Kimberly and Caleb on our way to the breakfast lounge and greeted each other.

We got to the lounge, and Stacy was surprised to see we were around. I guess she wasn’t expecting we would be back so soon. The workers didn’t like gossip as much as I thought.

Everyone sat on their respective chairs. Monica wasn’t at the table for the first time, and I wondered why. Not like I cared, she had no business with what I wanted to discuss.

My father graced us with his presence and was angry to see me. I greeted him, and he did not answer but answered Caleb and Kimberly. Being a good wife, Tia greeted him, and he refused to answer too. I guess Tia and I were the enemies at the table.

“Don’t you ever disrespect me like that again, Luke? You might be alpha, but I am still your father,” he warned me in response to Tai’s greeting.

“Then you should have respected my mother and me enough to play your role as a father and not Stacy’s fool,” I shut at him, and Stacy was in shock.

“You are a disgrace, father. I know everything. Your trip to Neev, how you slept around with Dome whores, spending my mother’s money. How you planned on stealing what was rightfully mine to hand it over to Caleb because of your wife. How you neglected and maltreated my mother’s relatives and spent my mother’s money on Stacy’s relatives. I meant what I said, father. I want every single penny back. I am putting the duplex in Dome up for sale. If you want to purchase it from me with your money, then I will sell it to you.” I said, and Stacy stood up in anger.

“You can’t do that!” she yelled.

"I can, and I am doing it as we speak. Also, I will no longer be responsible for the two of you. I will not pay the right-wing staff, so I advise you to hold on to the staff you can afford!" I said, and she looked at my father, hoping he would speak. Even if he did, I would not listen. I was too hurt and angry to care.

"I will soon get the full report of how much your wife stole from me. I will give you two options, pay up, or I seize the Mansion." I said, and my father looked at me with red eyes.

"Why?" Was all he could manage.

"You want to know why?" I asked, trying to control my anger. Tia rubbed my thigh gently, and I tried to be calm.

"You cheated on my mother and squandered her money on your Dome whores. You replaced her the very year she died and never looked back. You allowed your wife to spend money that wasn't yours. Money that was meant for me. She would have successfully run the company down if I hadn't taken over. Then you left my grand aunt and her daughter in poverty while you lavished my mother's wealth on Stacy's parents. I would have let it go, but when I saw my grand aunt, I realised I couldn't. You left Aunty Amirah to care for her mother alone without help, yet you got servants for this woman's folks. If it weren't that I can't find evidence leading to it, I would have said you and Stacy conspired to kill my mother for her money! I said, and my father stood up and punched me in the face.

"I loved Chloe!!!" he yelled with tears streaming down his face. "I loved her more than life!! I wished I had died in her stead!! Do you think carrying on has been easy for me!! Most nights, I lie awake and wonder what I should have done differently!! She would have still been with me, and my life would have been happier!! Your grand-aunt was crippled and dumb; she could not care for you!! I married Stacy so she could take care of you. If I had no child, I would have remained single till I died. Regardless of what society said, I still favoured you above Caleb!! I was never going to hand Eastwood or the company over to Caleb!!! I had no clue Stacy was stealing or paying anyone!! As for Ummu!!! She was the reason your mother sank into depression!! She was the reason we had to go to that damned place!! I lost my Chloe because of her, so I made sure she suffered for it!! And I will do it again. I almost raised Neev to the ground because of your mother!! You can say and do whatever you want, but don't dare speak to me about my love for Chloe!! Don't you dare, Luke!! I kept you in the dark because I did not want you to hurt like me. Ignorance is bliss, and I wanted to give you that. Telling you she died giving birth to you made it simpler." He said and adjusted his tie.

“I do not care what you do. Sell the duplex!!! I didn’t buy it. It was Stacy that bought it. She told me she bought it on a mortgage and paid for it from her allowance. Maybe that was a lie too. The staff there are being paid by Stacy. I did not do anything for them. If you want to take everything, then take it all, Luke. I lost everything the day Chloe died. I only held on to life because of you. You are the only living part of her. You are a grown man now, and your wife is expecting. My work is done. After the handover, I will leave, and for your information, I do not care about Luis and his shit. I am not a thief. I never took anything, and I never wronged anyone. I do not care about Regan Adhit, Luis Moon or any other person. I do not fucking care!!! I am tired of this shit. Take the Mansion and take it all. While you are at it, figure out what you will do about Caleb’s mother because I am done!!!”

He said and left the breakfast lounge in a fit of anger.

Chapter 82

82 Alone

Tia

I could not believe what had just happened! I never saw the punch coming. Luke had struck a nerve with his father. One thing I knew was that Alpha Aesop loved Luke dearly, which was why the man reacted the way he did. After Alpha Aesop voiced his mind and walked away, we were still shocked. I was stunned, and I could not move. I believed Luke went too far with his father, and he had hurt the man Aesop sounded like a man that has been hurting for many years. He cried in public for the first time, and the memory of his late wife caused it.

“You need to go after him and apologise,” I linked Luke. I was afraid that this might take a toll on his health. Aesop did not react well to things.

“No,” Luke said, and I could not believe my husband.

“Unless you are ready to become an orphan, Luke. You need to go and apologise for insinuating he killed his wife. He is clearly still hurting over her. For goddess’ sake, Luke, you of all people know how his face lights up when he is talking about her. What you said was a low blow. You both need closure and won’t get it from attacking each other at the breakfast table. You need to go to him before it is too late, Luke. I think he is really done,” I warned my husband, and Luke reluctantly got up and went after his father.

Stacy began to weep at the table. No one comforted her.

“Caleb, how can you let them do this to us?” she said to her son, and Caleb was too shocked to even respond.

“Caleb,” she cried again, and I saw him snap.

“What the hell do you want me to do, mother? You dug your grave, mother. Just look at you? You have lied to father for years. You were mean to your stepson, and you stole from them. No one ever believes you because you lie. You connived with our enemies to steal from Luke. You slandered his image and tried to make him miserable by making our father buy a wife for him. As if that wasn’t enough, you still tried to ruin the marriage. Then you brought your niece here to create problems for them,” He said, and she looked at him, shocked

“Yes, mother. I am not stupid. I choose not to speak, but I am not stupid. You brought Monica here so she can get close to Luke. We know how women from Dome are, especially where money is concerned. If that wasn’t the case, you would have cautioned her to stay away from Luke. You wouldn’t be trying to get her to work with my brother. Why isn’t she respectful and nice to Tia if it is so innocent? After all, Tia is her Luna and boss. That bitch is only nice to Luke because you hoped he would slip up with her. Everyone knows what

you were doing, mother, so don’t try to pretend that you are the victim here.” he said, and she wiped away her tears. It was clear that the things Caleb had said left her stunned.

“How can you even imply that kind of.” she said, and Caleb shook his head, interrupting her in the process.

“Where is Regan Adhit, Mother?” he asked her and I could feel his rage. He was an Alpha, too, and I expected him and Luke to be annoyed coming back from their journey. Kimberly could feel it, and she looked at me with fear. Caleb was tired of her lies.

“Calm down, Kim. This is between our men and their parents,” I linked her, but she couldn’t calm down, and she dared not get up. Luckily for her, Michelle was caring for Emma in the left-wing. We knew breakfast would be explosive, so they did not bring little Emma to the table.

“I said...” Stacy said, trying to defend herself.

“Enough!!” Caleb yelled, “You are despicable, mother. You are an embarrassment. I wished you were not my mother. Do you even know the gravity of your actions? Luke has done everything to shield me from your mistakes and lies. That journey was to see how he could help me maintain my dignity. If we do not find this bastard, my life will be over, mother. Where is the grave of this child, and where is he?” Caleb asked her, and she looked

at me.

“Leave Tia out of this. She already knows everything. Everyone sitting here knows everything, so drop the act. Where is he, mother? Where was the child buried, that is, if there was a child? I know you are hiding something. We asked around about you and Regan in Dome, and no one had anything nice to say. Did you really go and stay with your late sister in Cleeve, or did something happen? I know Grandpa and Grandma are lying, mother, and they will do anything to cover for you. Whatever you did, saved them from extreme poverty,” he said and began to laugh.

“You should be ashamed of yourself. You did all you did, ripped Tia from my life because you felt she wasn’t good enough for me. You said they were too poor for me. I saw the true meaning of poverty in Dome. The Lockwoods are wealthy compared to your folk’s mother; Tia is premium material compared to you, and because of what you have done here, I know you will do anything for money. Where is Regan Adhit? I know you know where your exis, mother.” Caleb yelled at her, and Stacy began to shake.

“If you do not start speaking, you will be on your own. Father said he was done; I know he meant it this time. Luke put up the Dome house on auction on our way back, I am sure your folks are moving out as we speak. When you return to Dome, it will not be that duplex anymore. It will be the shabby ramshackle you grew up in. Do not expect help from me. I do not want to be tied to you, mother. You are just too wicked. You maltreated your stepson, the very reason father married you, the very reason you could enjoy...” Stacy interrupted him by banging the table and standing up. I saw her claws grow out, and I

knew she was mad. I had to be on standby in case she chose to wolf out on us. She will not attack Caleb or Kimberly. I knew he would come for me.

“I can never love Luke. Aesop did not give me a chance!” She yelled back.

“He compared me to that bitch for twenty-three years. For twenty-three fucking years! I was never smart enough; I wasn’t polished, lacked etiquette, was useless, name it. He said that to me all the time. He calls her name in his sleep and sometimes calls her name when we are together. When Aesop and I got together, I sympathised with him over Chloe and offered to take care of Luke because he had a revenge plan. I cared for that boy for three years, hoping Aesop would see and fall for me. Aesop saw no one except Chloe. She was his world. I thought he would get over her with time, but he never did. He married me three years later. He didn’t marry me because he loved me. He married me because he believed I would be a mother to Luke, did not want Caleb to think his father was unfair to her. That was the picture she was trying to paint. She was trying to poison her son against his father. Aesop might not feel the same way he did for Chloe, but he loves her. Besides, I had to commend him; Stacy was difficult to love

At this point, our discussion wasn’t the cause of her tears. The possibility that she would have to face the world alone had dawned on her. Luke and Aesop were not going to care for her, and Luke was right; Luis was a bigger problem right now, and since Stacy nor her parents were unwilling to give the information needed to apprehend Regan, there was no point stressing over it.

I would have excused myself from the table, but I was too hungry and pregnant to do so. There was no way I was letting the breakfast go to waste. I dug in and linked Kimberly.

“You are breastfeeding Kim, better eat,” I said, and I did not need to repeat it; she copied me and dug in. We were used to the breakfast, and right now, we were numb to their emotions

which was why I hated that boy. My existence depended on him.

After we got married, he refused to claim me or touch me, Caleb. He said I had a job, and that was to care for Luke. I told him I was better off as Luke’s nanny because that was my job before he decided to marry me, and he said Luke needed a mother. I felt like shit. He would travel and bring things for Luke.

I was more like an afterthought, so yes, I hated Luke. I couldn’t leave because I needed financial help, and I had betrayed Regan by leaving him for Aesop. So I needed protection from Regan. Aesop and I weren’t together then, I was just caring for his son, but the world thought we were together. He did not see me until three years later. Have you entered our bedroom? Her picture is everywhere. Twenty-three years I felt like a stranger, like an intruder, a substitute. I did not exist. I tried to love him the best I could. I walked away from Regan because I fell in love with your father. I had to get him drunk to get pregnant with you, Caleb. If not, that asshole would never have touched me. He didn’t start to pay attention until fifteen years ago. I hate Luke, and I hate Chloe.” She said and began to weep. She had

lost it and did not care that I was on that table anymore. As entertaining as it seemed, it hurt to see the family broken.

“So I brought Monica to catch Luke’s attention. That is how we survive in Dome. We either prostitute ourselves or catch rich mates. It is our way of life! That is how we survive. Your father left me no choice. He gave everything to Luke! What about us? What about me and you, Caleb? He did not think we deserved anything,” she yelled and began to laugh.

“Dome is a poor place. We have no resources. We have nothing, so the women there migrate to prostitute. I was lucky I did not need to do that. Regan was the Alpha’s son and had a key mark, but he was broke. I almost died with the arsehole. He was violent and abusive, but I stayed with him because that was how I survived. Aesop was a breath of fresh air. He helped me once in Dome, and I fell in love with him, but he was married then Three years later, we met, and he was a widower, so I offered to care for his son. That was how I escaped Regan I left him to come and care for Luke so I could be with Aesop. I did

not know men could be caring or nice until I met your father, little did I know that I would be living in someone else’s shadow. I had to pay up, Caleb; I had to pay Regan. You have seen Dome, I did not

want to go back there, and I knew Aesop did not love me enough to hold on to me. If Aesop had discovered all these things before I had you, I would have been out the door and lost on all fronts. After I had you, Regan increased the money, and I had to pay because now it wasn’t only my reputation at stake. Yours was too,” she said and sat on the chair and began to weep.

“There are days that I just want to end it. I hate Tia simply because she has everything I would have wanted. Look at how you are caring for Kimberly. My life was never this sweet. I can’t even tell you things I did to survive,” She said and took a deep breath.

“I do not know where Regan is. If I did, I would have assassinated him so I could have peace, but he is dangerous and wicked. I cannot tell you the things the man has done. I am afraid of him. I thought your father could protect me, but I was wrong. He will quickly hand me over to protect Luke,” she said and continued to weep.

I honestly did not know what to say. She might not have given Caleb the correct answers, but the woman was hurting too. Why didn’t she talk to her husband about her feelings? It was clear she was only saying what she wanted Caleb to know. The woman was a can of

worms.

“You are wrong, Stacy,” I managed, remembering my encounter with Aesop at the office,” He might not show you how much he cares, but Alpha Aesop loves you in his own way And I know this because of the length he went trying to force me to do something that would make you happy. When I told him about the blackmail, he was in shock. You can only feel those emotions when you care about someone,” I said, and she did not answer me. She continued to weep.

Chapter 83

83 Father and Son

Luke.

I followed my father’s scent. I thought he had gone to his office, but his scent led me to his bedroom. I had never been there before. Stacy never allowed me to go there; it just became a habit.

The door was left ajar, and I walked in. I had never entered. This was my first time there. It was bigger than mine but had a sitting room and a bedroom just like mine.

My father wasn’t in the sitting area, so I moved to the bedroom. My father was busy taking things out of the closet. I looked around the room, and my mother’s picture hung on the wall. I could not believe Stacy was sleeping in this very room. This was definitely torture.

“Get the fuck out!” my father said to me, and I knew I had to apologise.

“I am sorry, father. I am sorry I insinuated you had a hand in her death.” I said, and he looked up at me. His eyes were red and swollen. He was trying to see if I was genuinely sorry. His eyes softened a bit, and he sighed.

“I am not over it, Luke. It is still like yesterday for me. Sometimes I wish we ate that meal together,” He said and wiped away his tears.

“She was so full of life, and I loved her. We eloped, and it had nothing to do with money. I was not as rich as she was, but I was still running my family business then, and it would have picked up. When we got together, we merged the companies, with her having the larger shares. We decided the company would carry her name because I wanted to prove to her family that I wasn’t with her for money. I loved my wife, and I still do. I wasn’t going to give Caleb anything other than making his alpha of Woodclaw. He is my son too, and I felt it would be wrong to leave him with nothing. I had already done the transfer before Amirah wrote me that silly letter. Go and check the transfer dates on the documents. I put your names

there when you were ten, Luke. Chloe left a will giving you her part of the company, and Eastwood, I gave you everything. Both mine and hers. If you don’t believe me, investigate. I only said she owned everything, so Stacy won’t make demands. Chloe was the reason the Moon business survived. We built Diamond corp together, I could not let another woman have a hand in it.” he said and sat on his bed. He wiped his tears and patted the space beside him for me to sit; I went to sit beside him.

“I loved your mother. We met in Neev and fell in love. She was an amazing woman. Tia reminds me of her. Strong, opinionated, tender loving, caring and very wise. That was why I arranged for you to marry Tia Everything I told her parents the day we went to the house was true. I did not force the marriage because of Stacy. I did what I did because I wanted the best for you, and she was it. I don’t regret it, Luke. I have never seen you this happy. I

had discussed it with the Lockwoods when she was seventeen, and James said no. I had always wanted her for you. I cringed every time she came around with Caleb. I thought she would end up like those girls, but I am glad she kept herself. I am happy that you are happy. Yes, I disagree with Tia on certain things, and she can be a bit disrespectful, but I am glad you are happy with her. I love you that much, son,” he said, and I had to ask him.

‘Why did you cheat?’ I asked, and he sighed.

“I never cheated on your mother. Ummul has always been a paranoid bitch, and she severely got into Chloe’s head. It wasn’t easy being married to the last of the Renshaws. Everyone speculated I wanted her money and that I was no good for her, especially Ummul. We were finding it hard to conceive. I was willing to wait, but your mother wanted a surrogate. I did not like the idea, and we fought about it often. Soon I gave in, and she opted to find one in Neev. She felt the loose Dome women would gladly do it for a fee,” he said, and I interrupted him.

“Aunty Ummul said you pressured my mother for a child, and she gave in finally,” I said, and he shook his head.

“That woman was a bitch! I never pressured Chloe for anything. She would always remember things the way she wanted. Chloe was the one that suggested we get a surrogate; she was the one that wanted a child by all means. Ummul was the one that promised to get a volunteer for her in Neev. I was reluctant to go there, but I agreed eventually, and we went. They mistreated me there. They claimed I was deceptive and talked about how she was better off without me. You have been to Neev, and you know how the women are. I was very generous because most of them came from poor homes. Some of which I granted scholarships to the school for a better life. I wasn’t happy with the way they were prostituting themselves. They were young. All I did was help some of them, and Ummul tried to insinuate I was sleeping with all the young women I helped. I met Stacy there, and she was in a bind working in the hotel. She made a lot of advances toward me, but I loved Chloe, and I didn’t see her that way. She was young and persistent, so I discovered her issues. She never told me about Regan but confessed about her financial state. Her mother was ill, and they were in need. I helped her with some money, and she stopped working in the hotel. Soon she left, and I never saw her again. Throughout that time, Chloe was getting messages from different women I did not know. A guy was threatening her too, and we tried to find the bastard. They all wanted her to leave me. They wanted her out of the way, and she fell for it. I went as far as taking her everywhere I went with me just to prove to her that I wasn’t cheating. But it was me against her insecurities and Ummul’s bad mouth. I could not win; I did not know what they discussed. I did not want to hurt anyone physically, so I started spending time away from them. There was no point denying the allegations. There was nothing I could say or do to make her believe me. So I asked that we return to Woodclaw. She requested a divorce even though she knew it would be impossible because we were bonded. To please her, I agreed to separate, and we were separated for three months. It was all Ummul’s fault for filling her head up with

nonsense about me. I swear I never cheated on your mother, but Ummul will never believe me,” He said, and I had to ask him why.

“The woman is paranoid. That is why Amirah is single. I offered they come and live in the mansion so they can help keep an eye on you because I realised Stacy became a bitch after I married and claimed

her. Stacy pretended until the very last minute. I regret everything. Stacy cared for and loved you for the first three years, which made me stop asking Ummul and Amirah to come and live with us,” he said, stared at the distance, and then continued to speak

“Back to what I was telling you about your mother, I spent three months begging Chloe to come back to me. I told her she could keep everything, but I wanted her home. She refused until she found she was pregnant with you. We were able to fix things between us, and soon Chloe realised I never cheated. Everything was great, and then she gave birth to you. Little did I know she was suffering from postnatal depression. Ummul was too protective of her, and that made it worse. I tried everything I could. When it

became unbearable, Ummul suggested we go to Neev that the environment will help her cope better.” he said and began to weep.

“I didn’t want her to go there. I would rather we suffered it together, but Ummul threatened that I wanted to hurt her niece, and I had no choice but to agree. I bought Ummul that cottage from my pocket. I did not want the woman living with us. As far as I was concerned, she had done enough. My only crime was eloping with your mother, they never forgave me for it. They believed Chloe did not need me. Ummul does not think a man and a woman should be together. That is why her life is like that, and she has ruined her daughter’s life too. Her marriage did not do well, and she projected that on the young women in her family. I knew she loved Chloe, but her love was poison. A month after we settled in Neev, my wife was poisoned. The entire staff were butchered, and I suspected the Alpha of Neev was in on it. I did not marry Stacy that year, but I ran into her on my way back, and she offered to care for you. I knew you would need help. Ummul was fighting for her life, and I was trying to figure out who killed my wife. Stacy was familiar, and she seemed like a nice girl then, so I asked her to care for you. You took to her immediately, and she was kind to you. I did not want you to be deprived of a mother’s love, so I married her three years later. That was after I had agreed to stop fighting Neev. I couldn’t touch her for a while because I believed touching her would be unfair to your mother. I was drunk when we conceived Caleb,” He said, and I sighed.

“Why didn’t you tell me initially?” I asked him

“The hurt wasn’t your cross to bear.” He said and then growled.

“I can never help, Ummul. She caused everything. From the cheating allegations to the fights, divorce threats, depression, and eventual took us to Neev,” he said and looked at me

“You know me, Luke. Have I ever been with other women? Have you ever heard of me

playing around? If you think I am lying, you can go and investigate all I told you. I never cheated on your mother, but in Ummul’s head, I did, and that will always be her truth, and I hate her for it,” he said, and I bowed my head in shame.

“I am sorry, father. I shouldn’t have spoken to you the way I did. I take it all back,” I said, and he was silent

“The Moon mansion is your home. I can never take it from you,” I said, and he was silent.

“I am thinking of sending Stacy back to Dome. A permanent separation will be best for all of us. She has troubled us enough. Do you think Caleb will be okay with it?” He asked me, and I realised he had tolerated Stacy for Caleb’s sake.

“He is a grown man now. After his wedding to Kimberly, you can send her back if that will give you peace, but I will advise you to move her out of the mansion for now. I will not be staying at my house in the meantime. You can move her there with a staff member,” I said, and my father frowned at me.

“Why do you want to be nice?” he asked, and I shook my head.

“Her folks are hiding something. I do not think she is being honest with us. I intend to watch her from a distance and see what she would do when she feels abandoned, and no one is watching. She is bound to lead us to Regan Adhit, or he is bound to come for her. Either way, we will get the answers we need, but if you are doing this, you must walk away and not look back,” I said to him, and he bowed his head.

“I have been trying to walk away for seven years now,” he confessed, and we sat together in silence.

A

Words did not need to be spoken between us. My aunt believed he was cheating; she told me her truth, and my father had also told me his truth. Looking at him, I know a broken man when I see one. I know he did not cheat on his wife; he was just a man who always tried to prove himself. That could be mentally draining for anyone. One thing was sure, my aunt and my father needed to settle their differences. They both blamed each other for my mother’s death, and neither was able to heal.

Chapter 84

84 Separation

Tia

Kimberly and I spent a while eating our fill on the table. Stacy was surprised at our behaviour, but I did not care; I was hungry and needed to eat. “Don’t you have any sympathy,” Stacy asked me, drying her

tears, and I looked at her with my fork in my mouth. The bacon was delicious. I looked at Caleb, and he was still angry. Kimberly was trying not to laugh.

"I am hungry," I said to her, which was an obvious answer. I was pregnant, for goddess' sake, and Bart was yet to buy groceries for the left wing's kitchen.

Stacy got up and adjusted her clothes. She excused herself from the lounge leaving Caleb, Kimberly and me.

"Now that Luke and Caleb are back, can we go back to your house? I do not want to have to deal with Stacy, Tia," Kimberly said, and I shook my head. "I didn't bring us here because I missed the Mansion, Kim. Soldiers are living on these grounds. We are fully protected here, and no innocent bystander would get hurt in case of an attack. We have neighbours there, and the houses are open. This is to keep our neighbours and us safe. Luis won't attack us here. He wouldn't dare," I explained, and Caleb nodded. "Quick thinking Tia. Good job," he commended my effort, and I nodded at him. Just then, Luke returned. He was calm and peaceful. I was a bit worried, but then he smiled and bent to kiss me. "How did it go?" Caleb asked him, and Luke sat beside me and began to dish his food. "I have made peace with father. Aunt Ummul doesn't like him, and the feeling is mutual between them. They both blame each other for what happened to my mother, but Father and I are in a good place." Luke replied, and Caleb relaxed a bit. "Is he really done?" Caleb asked, and I knew it was asking for his mother.

"He is done with your mother," Luke replied, and Caleb did not react because he expected it.

"So he is sending her back?" Caleb asked, and Luke shook his head.

"I convinced him to send her to our house in town after your wedding," Luke said, and Kimberly began to cough. It was unexpected. Caleb's eyes bulged. "Come on, you two, this shouldn't be an issue anymore," Luke said, and I pinched his thigh.

"No, really, Tia, it shouldn't be," Luke protested. I looked at Kimberly, and her face was red.

"Kim is thinking about it, Luke," Caleb said, coming to her defence, "After everything I did, I do not expect her to throw caution to the wind and marry me just because I asked her to. I am glad she is giving me a chance to prove myself. That is all that matters,"

“I understand, but still, you two should move on. If there is anything I have learned from all of this is that life is short. Look at father; he has so many regrets,” Luke said and looked at me, then touched my hand on the table lovingly and gently.

“I do not want to have regrets, so I love my wife with all my heart at every moment I am with

her. As much as I hate to talk about life, we aren’t immortals, so every second counts,” Luke said to them, and they were silent. I understood his reason, and looking at Kimberly, she understood too. The question wasn’t about where her heart lay; it was if she was willing to take a leap of faith with the same man that broke her heart and humiliated her. Caleb might show his love right now, but he did show her how much he cared once for her to give it up to him and get pregnant. It will be hard for her to come around. We ate in silence and soon began to hear noises coming from the hallway. Our sensitive ears were able to pick up the noise from that distance. It was Stacy’s voice. Caleb and Luke Stood up, and I had to see what was happening. Kimberly looked at me, and we signalled each other to follow. Stacy always made us spectacles. It was my time she entertained us for a change.

Faking concern, I followed my husband and his brother to where the noise was coming from. Kimberly followed behind, and I knew I should not find it funny, but that woman was a piece of work, and it was

about time, Alpha Aesop gave it to her.

What we found was a bit appalling. Stacy had something kinky on. She was wearing a black silk robe but forgot to tie it. So we saw the black lace lingerie she had under it. Caleb went to her to help tie it, but we had seen it all. The woman was gorgeous, and she was trying to fuck her way back into Aesop’s life. The man was indeed done with her. For him to say no to that, meant he was done.

“Caleb, tell your mother to move to the seventh room down the hall,” Aesop warned him. His shirt was ruffled, and I did not want to imagine what had gone down in that room, but it was apparent. Stay tried to do the only thing that she knew how and it backfired.

“We can talk this out, Aesop, please,” She pleaded with him in tears, but the man was done. It would have been polite to walk away from the scene, but I couldn’t. This woman was venom and deserved the embarrassment she was getting at the moment.

"I wanted you out of my life, but Luke pleaded on your behalf. Go to the seventh room. I would have sent you to the left-wing, but you will just trouble my children." Aesop said to her, and she tried to wipe away her tears.

"I have done nothing wrong, Aesop. I never cheated on you. I have loved you for so many years. I loved you before you even looked at me." she argued.

"If you truly loved me, Stacy, you would have loved my son, and you would have been honest with me," He replied, and she shook her head.

"I loved Luke with all my heart. From the moment I saw him. I loved you too. I hid my feelings, but I loved both of you dearly. You do not know how much I love you, Aesop, and you might never know. As for Luke, you gave me no chance. Having to compete with him and his mother for your heart was unfair. It wrecked me to my soul. There was no way I could beat a ghost, Aesop, so it got to me, and I took it out on Luke. You called her name in your sleep. When you made love to me, I knew you were thinking of her.

Sometimes you still call her name, and you expect me to be okay with that? Chloe was a rich, sophisticated, educated Alpha from Eastwood, while I am just a poor street girl from Dome that you helped out. So yes, I have a complex, Aesop, and you gave it to me," she said, crying bitterly.

"I do not want you around me anymore, Stacy. Look at my home. It is in shambles. My children moved out with their mates because of you. Breakfast was a tradition in my family. All the generations of Moons practised it. During breakfast was when we planned, caught up on

each other's lives and shared encouraging words to help with the day. You turned it into a nightmare, Stacy. You turned it into something to avoid altogether. You used that opportunity to create problems, disgrace and shame others. You ran your mouth continuously, never caring who you were hurting in the process, I am done with you. Once Caleb is married, you will be out," He said to her, and she shook her head. "Please, Aesop. Please," She pleaded, and he chuckled angrily.

"You must think so low of me to the think you could screw your way out of this," he said, and she was silent. His words had hurt her deeply. I felt it too. It was a private matter turned public; It was the same thing she did to Luke and me, but I still felt terrible. "That is all I know how to do, Aesop. You told me once that that was all I was good for, Aesop," she said with the tears flowing down her face freely. She wasn't trying to wipe them away anymore.

“Twenty-three years, Aesop. I stuck with you. Through your depression through your pain, I stayed with you. I told you I was better off as a nanny caring for Luke, but you insisted he needed a mother, but you never gave me a chance,” She said. They looked at each other for a while.

“Regan told me I was a street girl and will never be good enough for a Moon. He told me you would dump me one day. I guess he was right all along,” she said and nodded.

“Chloe always wins when it comes to you. You wouldn’t throw her out of your life so easily if she were the one. I am dispensable. With me out of your life, women will line up like I once did for you.” She said and

wiped away her tears.

“Stacy, just move to the seventh room. You are embarrassing yourself?” Aesop warned her, and she began to laugh. “I have been a walking embarrassment since I moved here with you, Aesop. You never loved me enough to cover my shame. You hated me and placed...” She said, and I saw the rage rise in Aesop’s eyes, and he shut her down.

“Enough! Stacy. I have had it. Do not tell me about my feelings. I did not need to marry you, but I did because I fell in love with you somewhere down the line. I did everything I could to prove to you that I cared. You took advantage of my love story. You have lied to me for twenty three years! Yes, you never cheated, but you lied! You troubled my son and troubled my home. If you asked for anything, I would do it. It was almost like magic, but I loved you. I did not care. I have gone against too many people for your sake. You say I am not over Chloe; how can I be when you always do things that will remind me of her. I never had to go through shame and humiliation with her. She knew how to act, react and what to say. You are all over the place, Stacy, yet I carried you. You slandered my son and caused a huge wedge between us, yet I kept you with me. You tried to ruin his marriage by fabricating lies because you were scared Tia would take Caleb away from Kimberly and Miles won’t deal with you. I let you get away with that. You collected money from Miles, promising Kimberly will marry your son. You promised him that Caleb would take over Diamond corp, and he will agree to a merger. You promised a lot of people many things behind my back. Yet I let you get away with it. You stole from Diamond Corp, conniving with Timothy to steal from the company, yet you are not behind bars. You ruined my home and forced my children to move out, yet I let it go. You have done so many wicked things, and I let you get away with it, so do not talk to me about love. Mine was blind and stupid. I want you to move to the seventh room,” he said to her and sighed.

“You better tell Caleb all he needs to know about Regan because Luke and I are done trying to help you. We actually have bigger issues to deal with. No one will give you money to pay Regan again,” he said and went back inside. Stacy stood there crying, and she looked at Caleb.

“Will you let him do this?” She asked him, and he just turned away. Luke and I did the same and walked away quickly. It was sad to see their marriage break, but the man had endured enough. As final as it may seem, I knew it wasn't over yet and more was to come of this. There were too many lies and secrets for this to be it.

Chapter 85

85 Audit

Luke My father was serious about separating himself from Stacy, but the man was too young to be alone. As long as she was alive, he won't be able to mate with anyone. A life without companionship was too much to bear. I wished something could be done about their situation, but the woman was impossible. She had caused a lot of damage. She must have thought too low of my father to think she could screw her way out of this mess. She had dressed up to get him. I wished the woman's personality was as good as she looked, my father would have hit the jackpot, but she was rotten. I hoped she would open up to Caleb about Regan soon so we could close that chapter. The moment we entered our bedroom, I sat on the couch. Tia came to sit next to me, and we were quiet. There was nothing to celebrate here. I have wanted Stacy out of our lives for a while now, but not like this, my father needed companionship, and she was all he had right now. I did not know if I should talk him out of it or let things be. I did not want him to be alone. I held Tia close to me and asked myself if I would let her go if she suddenly became like Stacy and the answer was No. I wouldn't. I will take her away from my children, and we will settle far away from where she would no longer need to be a bitch to anyone. To be frank, Stacy was a bitch to everyone but my father. He was letting her go because of me and Caleb. I knew that, and it hurt a bit.

She claimed his undying love for my mother wrecked her and made her the way she was. She was indeed a bitter woman. She did not handle her situation well. She should have talked to him about it, let him know how she felt, but instead, she lashed out at the wrong people. I did not know how to think about it, but it did not feel right. 1 “Luke, is everything alright?” Tia asked me, and I placed my hand on her tummy. “I do not think it is wise they separate. It will be painful for both of them,” I said, and she adjusted herself in her seat.

“What do you want him to do?” she asked, and I sighed.

“If Stacy can give Regan up so we can find him, I will advise they travel and let us handle what is happening,” I said, and Tia shook her head.

"It is beyond that, Luke. Your father is done; I suspect he has been done for a while now. Besides, if she truly loved him as she claimed, she would do everything within her capacity to make him happy, regardless of what she was thinking. Why hasn't she told us about Regan yet?" Tia asked, and I sighed because I did not want to argue. I welcomed a temporary separation so they could appreciate each other, but a permanent one was extreme. Tia's phone rang, and I watched her answer it. She spoke to the person and turned to face me. "The Auditor wants to have a video conference call with us. She has sent an invite to my box." She said, and I nodded. Tia thanked Gail and hung up.

She got her laptop and set up the call.

The auditor was a pretty woman that looked like she was in her late forties. She had dark hair, and she looked like she was from Eastwood.

"Good afternoon, Alpha Moon, Luna Tia," the woman said, and I did not know her name, so I

just nodded,

"My name is Krystal Mulberry," she said and smiled.

"Hello, Mrs Mulberry," I said, and she smiled at me. "Our firm has finished the work, and we found a lot of discrepancies with your accounts. Most of the issues arose from your company's dealings with West corp. Diamond corp has two hundred and ninety-six million unaccounted for, one billion in unpaid loans and wages. There has also been continuous anonymous withdrawal on three corporate accounts for the past five years to six billion. If this continues. The company is bound to get bankrupt," the woman said, and I was surprised.

"Do you mind coming to the Moon Mansion so we can go over these numbers and expenses with my father? He was the one in charge. Tia and I just took over recently." I said to her, and she sighed and nodded.

"I will be there soon, Alpha," she said, and we ended the call.

I could not believe what was happening under our noses. How much did Stacy pay Regan, and who was withdrawing high sums from our accounts? How did we owe that much? I had so many questions. I hated doing this the day my father separated from his wife, but I had no choice. The numbers were disturbing. If this continues, there will be no Diamond Corp. If Luis knew this, I bet he would not even bother himself.

“What do we do, Luke?” Tia asked me. She also knew the ramifications of what was happening.

I do not know Tia, but I need to know how much Stacy stole.” I said and got up.

“Where are you going?” She asked me. “To confront her,” I replied, and Tia shook her head.

“let her be for now..” she tried to plead with me, but I did not let her finish her sentence. “No, Tia, She has to tell me. While she is busy licking her wounds, someone is somewhere draining our accounts. I need to know how much of the missing money is from her to make a quick decision.” I explained to Tia, and she nodded.

“Very well then. I will suggest they arrest Timothy Miles and the members of the board of West corp until we figure this out. The auditor said most of our problems are from West Corp. We know Luis is on the board; this investigation might lead us to the bastard. One of them might know where Luis is.” Tia said, and I knew she was making a lot of sense. I decided to link Mike to carry out the order before I go and question Stacy.

“Mikey,” I linked my friend,

“Good afternoon, Luke. I thought you had forgotten I was in the mansion too,” he said, and I wanted to laugh, but I couldn’t.

“Sorry. We had an eventful breakfast. The whole thing was heated up, but the issues are fully resolved now.” I told him.

“I figured. With all that we learned on our trip, breakfast was bound to be explosive, especially when confronting your father about it. I am glad it is settled.” he said, and I felt the same way. “I need you to

arrest Timothy Miles and all the members of the West Corp board. On theft charges. Try and cut them a deal to deliver Luis Moon to us.” I told him.

“Luke, arr you sure? Don’t you think we are moving too quickly?” He asked me, and I understood why because we had agreed to observe,

“I know, but we can’t observe anymore; they have cost Diamond corp a lot of money, and someone is stealing from our accounts. I need to be sure West corp is incapacitated. I am unsure if they are responsible for the activities, but I hope their arrest will slow it down and buy us time to figure out who is behind it.” I said to him.

“Okay, Alpha. I will head to the headquarters and issue the arrest warrant. I will move swiftly too. I need all the names and available addresses of the board members so I can arrest them at once I will contact kirk for it,” He said, and I understood his reasons.

“Okay, that will be great. We won’t be able to pick Luis Moon up since his address is in Santa Braee: Hopefully, the rest used their real addresses and will give him up easily.” I replied and broke the link.

I left the room and headed towards the right-wing. On my way there, I ran into Caleb and told him everything; he decided to follow me so he could try to get his mother to speak.

I was proud of my brother. I was glad he took my side. I wasn’t expecting it, but he had surprised me. He had supported me even though I knew he still cared for Tia, but somehow he had found a way to care for her differently. I was proud of him, and I hoped our bond would continue to grow. It felt good having a

brother. We arrived at Stacy’s new room. The door was ajar, so we let ourselves in. I saw her curled on the bed, weeping. She must have left the door open, hoping our father would walk in. I knew she would spend time trying to get back with him instead of correcting her evil ways. The woman was stupid like that.

“I do not think it is wise father separate from his wife like this,” I linked Caleb, and he looked at me, shocked.

“She has done enough, Luke, and she never learns. She is still yet to tell me about Regan,” He linked back, and I was stunned by his words. The woman might want to take the truth to her grave. Another person would have spoken up to gain some favour, but her silence meant only one thing. Whatever she was hiding was worse than what we already knew.

“Stacy,” I called out, and she stopped sobbing and sat on her bed. Her eyes were swollen, and she looked at Caleb and me angrily.

“What the fuck do you want?” She asked, not directing the question to anyone. I knew the auditor was on her way, so I did not want to waste time with her.

“I want to know how much you helped Timothy steal from Diamond corp. I need you to tell me everything about your transactions with him. You have been through enough today, Stacy; I do not want to arrest you over this matter. As much as you think I hate you, I really don’t.” I said to her, and she sniffed.

“I swear, Luke, I did not steal. He paid me money. All I was asked to do was make sure your father approved the contracts and the payment without inspections. You can arrest me for it. You have my bank statement. All the transfers were made by Timothy himself. I never stole from your father. I only struck those deals so I can have money to pay Regan.” She said, and I knew she was telling the truth.

“How much is Regan asking for?” I asked out of curiosity.

“It doesn’t matter anymore. I was only paying him to keep my marriage and protect Caleb, my parents, Monica and me. Soon I will be out of the streets. I am sure he will stop disturbing then,” She sounded resigned.

“Stacy, you must come clean about Regan so we can solve this matter. Crying will not solve the problem. Tell us the truth, and we will talk to father about the separation,” I offered, and she smiled and shook her head.

“If I tell you everything, then my marriage won’t be the only thing I need to worry about,” She confessed to me, and I knew we wouldn’t be getting much out of her with those words. The Regan trail had gone cold, but we were still hot on Luis’s, and I knew we would soon catch the bastard.

Caleb and I left Stacy's room, and I linked my father about the meeting with the auditor while we returned to the left-wing.