

CLAIMING HIS RESISTING MATE

Chapter 21 – Another Love Rival?



REESE'S POV

“How’s your night?” Adriana questioned with a smug smile playing on her lips. Her beautiful eyes were more teasing and I know she is deliberately asking me.

“I don’t know what you are talking about?” I gulped the orange juice in one go.

Adriana settled on the chair and grinned “come one, don’t hide it anymore. I have the fortune to see John bringing you back in the morning in his arms. Besides I know you had a wild night in the lake house”

My eyes widened “how...?” I was speechless.

She let out a laugh “Cassius of course. He told me, John asked for the lake house to bring you there. After those teasing, an aggressive man like him won’t be staying still no?”

Of course, Alpha Cassius. I shook my head. Adriana is his mate so it’s highly possible he will share the news with her. But this made the evil woman in front of me get hold of my embarrassing moments. She will be teasing me to death.

“Okay, he brought me there and I must say it was a beautiful place” I said before she could ask more.

“I know, when I got there for the first time, I thought the same. That place was actually made by Cassius’s dad. You know, a little secret place for a couple to

hide themselves in the forest” Adriana smiled “I was surprised when Cassius really gave the permission to use that house”

“I was not expecting it too” I shook my head, “I never thought Azrael will be doing such thing”

“He is passionate and more like doing something romantic for you,” Adriana replied. “Before you, I never saw him with any woman when for a single male like him there were uncountable chances. But no, he kept himself away from the claws of other woman even if there are bunch who was waiting for a slight chance to jump on him”

“He was that tough?” I frowned.

“John is aggressive and what he would do was only work. I once heard him say that he wanted to keep himself and his love for his mate. Other women don’t deserve it” she shook her head.

Suddenly my heart filled with guilt. He was so good, understanding and even avoided other women for his mate, his destined one. But see what I did in return. I loved another man rejecting him and pushed him in the sea of suffering. I was so cruel, not understanding what’s good or bad. How could I be so blinded not to see my mate when I found him?

“Reese?”

I looked with tearful eyes.

“Oh my god” Adriana widened her eyes “what happened? Why are you crying?” She was instantly by my side.

“I don’t know how to fight the regret in my heart. I was such a fool and idiot in the past. I even rejected him and went for another man who wasn’t even my mate. I put him in pain and never looked back. I don’t know what to do, to...” My voice choked and I couldn’t say any words further. My chest was heavy.

No matter how much I try, these regrets will shower, not letting me forget at all.

“Reese, I know things will be hard. Past is our part of life and it’s not easy to get over it. But we also couldn’t live with that. Maybe that was destined for you two. I know John has been suffering from the pain of losing his mate but he has you now. And all you have to do is, to mend the mistake you have made and never leave his side. He has suffered enough and you know what you should do to ameliorate your bond with him” Adriana gave an encouraging smile. Assuring me everything will be fine.

I hold her hand “thank you for this strength Adriana, I don’t know what would I have done alone”

“Come one, I can understand your situation because I have faced a similar circumstance before. Life is not easy to deal with because it will throw the hardness on the way. But we can’t back down because of it. If we fell, we have to get up then fight again and again till we win over it”

I chuckled “you are more understanding than me” I shook my head.

She laughed “maybe I learnt from my mistakes. Things were hard in the part, I had to take every lesson to get over and make things better to settle”

“I will do it” I said with determination, “to tell the truth, the first thing I thought when he brought me here was how to escape. But Azrael was more determined than me. He didn’t give me a single chance to even force me to accept the bond between us. Now even if I wanted to, I couldn’t” I shook my head.

“That’s great. With you by his side, John will be fine. You know even Cassius wants you to stay here because he knows John will be in a difficult situation if you were to go again. And he don’t want it to happen at all”

“I know, Alpha Cassius almost threatened me for that” I laughed, wiping my tears.

Adriana gasped “what? When?”

“That day after you left with Josue”

She shook her head “this man” then sighed “impossible, please don’t take any offense Reese. I don’t know what to say now”

“I understood his intention don’t worry”

She smiled “don’t worry, I will talk to him”

“No, you don’t have to. Alpha Cassius might seem dangerous but he is not bad” I shook my head.

“Thanks for understanding Reese” she let out a sigh.

JOHN’S POV

“We caught a rogue today. He was trailing on the border, looking like trying to find a chance to sneak in” Jordan informed.

I looked up from the file frowning “rogue?”

He nodded “yeah, though he doesn’t look like one” shrugging his shoulders he gave a blank look “should we inform Alpha?”

“Not for such trivial matters. I will handle this. Besides Alpha don’t like to be disturbed for small things” I got up from my chair throwing the file carelessly on the table.

“So where is he?”

“In the training field, under the eyes of our men”

I nodded “let’s go then, I would also like to see him”

We walked out and headed towards the training field. On the way we passed the garden and found my mate and Adriana there. They were sitting closer and talking privately. I frowned at her direction. Maybe she felt my gaze, so she turned to look back at me. I smiled and waved my hand to her then winked at the end which made her blush. I smirked while she quickly turned her head.

“Ahemm...” Jordan cleared his throat beside me. “I didn’t know you were so smitten to you mate”

I rolled my eyes “oh, I would ask the same when Katie is around you”

“Fuck man, do you have to be so rude?” He cursed.

“It’s not me who started it” I smirked, “you know I don’t like to be in disadvantages”

“Fuck! You are sure arrogant”

“You know me so well”

When we reached the field, I saw a man with dark hair was kneeling on the ground. He was muscular and had that kind of look to show an ‘I am better than you’ attitude.

“Is it him?” I frowned.

“Told you, he didn’t look like a rogue but he was sneaking around the territory which seemed suspicious” Jordan replied.

I nodded and walked to him. His hand was tied behind his back but his gaze was somewhat strange. He is not weak, that was for sure. Then why is he sneaking around like a rogue.

“Who are you?” I inquired about him.

He looked solemn and replied arrogantly “Jamir Koch”. His reply doesn’t seem like he is afraid or something for being caught.

“I guess you don’t belong to the rogue members. If not then why are you in our territory?”

He didn’t reply but just looked at me. I frowned at his behavior.

“Even if you think you can handle the situation, I won’t be that assured if I were in your place. If your identity is unknown, then your death won’t affect anyone here. But I guess those people related to you will be devastated. So let’s complete the interrogation in a peaceful way” hardening my voice I pressured more into the fact.

He pursed his lips. He looked like pondering over what I said just now. Then finally he sighed.

“I didn’t mean to sneak around. I was trying to find someone”

I raised an eyebrow “someone? Who do you mean by that?”

“It’s a woman, and she was a rogue”

My heart clenched suddenly which I don’t know why. A woman? Rogue? This was indicating something different.

“But we don’t have any rogue here” I said firmly.

“Her last traces disappeared near this territory. I was just trying to locate her”

This is something....

“Well then you are at the wrong place-” my voice just landed when I heard my mate’s voice.

“Jamir?”

I turned to look at her standing a few feet away from us. Her gaze focused on the man kneeling in front of me. By her side Adriana also frowned.

Fuck, don't tell me the woman whom this Jamir was telling to locate is my mate?

Chapter 22 – His Jealousy



REESE'S POV

I couldn't believe my eyes. Is he really Jamir? I was not expecting to see him again, especially like this. My surprise couldn't be hidden as I walked towards him in slow steps. How did he get caught like this?

"Reese, is it really you?" Jamir looked surprised as his eyes glued on me.

"What happened? Why are you here?" I asked him. God, he is looking like a rogue now, hands behind his back and kneeling on the ground. I was about to reach him when someone pulled me back harshly.

I looked up to find my mate looking at me "you know him?" He asked.

"He is an old acquaintance of mine," I responded.

"Old acquaintance?" Azrael's eyes changed their color. He must be thinking something in his mind. His clutch on my body tightened and I hissed.

"What are you doing? You are hurting me" I frowned.

He let go of me but kept me stuck to his side, not letting me take a step towards Jamir.

"Let her go" suddenly Jamir roared like an angry beast. I jumped in shock with his sudden voice and frowned. What happened to him?

"What did you say?" Azrael almost snapped.

“I said let her go. What the hell do you think you are doing? Keeping her here against her will. Who do you think you are?”

“You don’t have to know what I think of myself” Azrael retorted. “whatever I think of myself, I am way better than you. I don’t need to give any explanation to anyone especially someone like you”

“Just let my hand free, I will show you who I am. I won’t let you keep her as a prisoner here” Jamir reacted instantly as he turned to me. His expression softened “Reese, how did you end up here? I have been looking for you for days yet I couldn’t locate you. I was doubting you might be in some trouble and looks like I was right” his voice laced with concern which made the man beside me groan loudly.

I felt my head start to ache now. What’s happening? How come Jamir suddenly showed up here out of nowhere? And he said he was looking for me. But why? As far I know, I never had any close connection with him. I met him when I was working with Alpha Hardwick to find Savannah. But I never thought, Jamir would search for me like this.

“Jamir, what are you saying?” I asked.

He shook his head “you don’t have to worry about anything. I will get you out of this place soon. Once Alpha knows about your condition, he will help you leave this place and-”

“She is not going anywhere” Azrael roared. His body was shaking in anger and slightly trembled. I can feel his rage which surprised me to the core. Was he severely affected by Jamie’s words?

“If you think you can take her away from me then you are so wrong in there. I will rip your heart out of your chest and feed it to the wild dogs. Don’t make me do something you won’t get a chance to regret” Azrael glared at Jamir.

“You can’t keep anyone just because you want her. She is free to decide what she wants and you are no one to decide anything for her” Jamir retorted.

“What’s happening here?” Alpha Cassius walked in looking serious.

“Alpha we caught this man today sneaking around the border” A man replied who’s name is unknown to me.

“Rogue?” Alpha Cassius looked at Jamir with his cold eyes.

“I am not a rogue” Jamir retorted.

“Oh, then who are you?” Alpha Cassius asked.

“I am Jamir Koch”

I looked at Jamir then to Alpha Cassius. The situation around us started to turn heavier than before. Beside me Azrael was shaking in anger. I hold his arm trying to calm him down. I don’t know what will happen next but I guess everything will be fine.

“I didn’t ask for your name,” Alpha Cassius replied.

“What’s with his identity?” Suddenly Azrael snapped “Alpha let me kill him right now” he growled.

My eyes widened “No...” I yelled.

Azrael looked at me “no? You are taking his side now? You said he is just an acquaintance and now he has become that important?” His eyes reflected hurt which almost stabbed my heart. God, he took my words wrongly.

“Oh, you know him” before I could say I heard Alpha Cassius’s voice behind me. “Looks like you started to bring your friends here?” He mocked.

“Cassius?” Adriana gasped “what are you saying?”

I turned deaf to them because my only focus was my mate who was looking at me with those hurtful eyes. I sighed and tugged his arm “you took me wrong. There’s nothing between us like you are imagining”

“Then why are you saving him?” He hissed.

“Let me correct it, I am saving you” I shook my head “Jamir is from Dark Forest, he is a member of Alpha Hardwick’s pack. You can’t kill him without any reason”

“He was trying to take you away from me, it’s already enough to declare a crime” Azrael retorted. I looked at the man and sighed again. He is so angry now.

“He misunderstood things, that’s why he said such things. You have to calm down okay?” I saw him clench his jaw but didn’t say a word again. Handling a raged Azrael is harder than his normal self.

“Dark Forest?” Alpha Cassius frowned. “Jordan, show him the guest room but put him under observation. And send the news to Dark Forest by the evening” he ordered the man at the side.

“Reese, take John in the room. He needs a little peace for now” Adriana said. I nodded and tugged Azrael with me. All the way to our room we didn’t say a word. Once we reached our room I closed the door and looked at him.

“Why are you so angry like that?” I inquired. I couldn’t have this man being so angry.

He glared at me “you didn’t hear what he said?”

“I heard him, but did you hear what I said?” I threw back the question. I shook my head “you can’t get angry that way, you almost killed him with your rage” my voice softened at the end.

“Do you think I fucking care about it?” He growled.

“You don’t but I do” I told him, “Jami-”

“Don’t take his name”

I sighed at his growl. This man is so possessive. What I am going to do with him. His proprietorial nature had my heart beat faster and my body shiver with excitement. Keep control Reese, what the hell are you thinking?

He looked more masculine when he was angry, a kind of look that could make a woman drench with need. No, shut up. This is not the time for it.

“Okay, calm down” I shook my head “at least listen to me first before reacting like that” I tried to keep my voice as gentle as possible.

He glowered at me. I couldn’t help but cup his face and kiss him hard. This was something I never thought of doing but I don’t know what came to me to take these steps. He groaned and pulled me to him. I was straddling him while he was sitting on bed. Our kiss heated and we both moaned. I can feel his hand going down gripping my ass cheeks giving a hard squeeze.

“Mmmmm...” I moaned into the kiss.

“You are deliberately doing this” he said huskily “if you think you can get away seducing me, then you are wrong”

“I am not trying to get away,” I shook my head and circled my arms around his neck, “I am trying to prove the truthfulness of my words. I was more worried about you than him”

“He has something for you, I can see it clearly” he whispered, “and I don’t fucking like it. Him thinking about you, made me want to rip his head off his body”

“You are jealous” I couldn’t help but say. “I don’t have anything with him, you know this”

“You better be or I will kill anyone that comes between us. I have given up once, there is no way I am doing this again. And I don’t fucking care if it’s a jealousy or other thing.

“I am not going anywhere” these words came out suddenly.

His eyes lit up and before I knew it changed our position and put me on bed while he hovered over me.

“You say it’s true?” He asked.

I couldn’t help but nod.

“Then you must remember this words” he kissed me again. Soon our clothes were lying on the floor and he was thrusting inside me at a hard pace.

“Oh ... god ..” I moaned loudly.

“You are mine, there’s no way I will let anyone come between us” he said with his each thrust. “No matter what, I will fucking have you in every way possible” his determination reflected in his words that made my body shiver. I couldn’t protest him nor was I able to stop him.

The only thing I could do was moan his name, surrendering myself to him completely.

Chapter 23 – Accepting Him Wholly



REESE’S POV

After the hot love making we stayed in bed tangled to each other. Azrael pulled me in his arms, securing me like I would run away if he let me go. This man is utterly possessive, which I never knew before. I have seen Alpha

Cassius and Alpha Hardwick's downright possessiveness but never thought Azrael will be one of them too.

"How did you know that guy?" I heard him ask. I know who the guy he was referring to.

"I met him during the rescue of Savannah, my sister. She was brought by my parents, to tell the truth they kidnapped her. I didn't know about it until I turned 18" I sighed. Talking about the past is something outrageous but it's also something I couldn't hide.

"You seem to hate her"

"I used to, actually without any reason. I thought she wanted to seduce Avan but in reality she turned out to be her mate. I was jealous and wanted to snatch him away from her. I was not thinking right and my mom said that's the best thing to do, and I was born to be the Luna, not Savannah"

Azrael's hold tightened around my body. I can feel his anger radiating from his body.

"Your mother is one thing, she is clearly taking you to the wrong path and even guiding you to walk on that way" he said through gritted teeth. "What kind of mother does such a thing?"

"I know now how irresponsible I was to believe her words. I coveted something that was not mine and gave up on things which were made for me. I thought having Avan would give me anything I want, power, title and love but I was wrong. That was just a fallacious thought of mine" I paused for a moment.

"After Savannah left, things started to change. No matter what I do I couldn't get him satisfied, he started to crave for Savannah. But fortunately Savannah got another mate, her second chance. I guess she was lucky. Then things started to fall apart and my life turned miserable. In the meantime I got

pregnant, though it gave me hope but in the end I lost it. It was my result of Karma. I was selfish, arrogant and a complete fool. I lost everything and I accepted it because that's the only thing I could do"

Azrael clenched his jaw "what the fuck, he didn't even cared about you"

"Because he never loved me" I smiled sadly. "He just fabricated his care to get benefits. So when Avan kidnapped Savannah, he hid her in his secret place. Alpha Hardwick went crazy and decided to attack the pack. I told him about the place where he saved his mate and that's how escaped the destruction. At that time, it was Jamir who brought me back to the Dark Forest. We had small interaction but after I left Dark Forest I never saw him again"

"He came here all the way searching for you. That man has something for you"

I looked at him, "Are you still jealous?"

"I can't help it and I won't hide the fact, I am fucking jealous of him. If he could, he will claim you as his. I will fucking snap his head off his shoulder" he growled.

"You are thinking unnecessary things" I shook my head, "even if he has some liking, I need to agree on that first to process. And you know it well, it's not going to happen"

He frowned "I am a man and I know what's going on his mind. But he need to see if he could get closer to you first"

I chuckled "he won't do it"Text belongs to

"As if I will let him" he groaned.

"You are utterly impossible. And also becoming so shameless day by day"

He grinned "only for you darling. You couldn't accept me to sit back and relax when there could be chances for other man lurking around you"

I rolled my eyes “no one will do that. I lived two years as a rogue alone, remember?”

“And I lived two years thinking you are dead” his comment made me look at him. There was unexplainable sadness in the depth of his eyes. I remembered what Adriana said about him. Thinking all that now, my heart clenched painfully. Before I knew it, my hand reached out, cupping his face gently.

“You don’t know how precious you are. You deserve a woman who is pure and not ruined. Who doesn’t bear the black scar on her character, the one who saved herself for you. I wanted you to find the one who can complete you wholly” my emotions kicked in and suddenly my eyes blurred with tears.

He cupped my hand over his cheek “you are that woman. There’s no other woman who can complete me, make me happy, give strength to my wolf than you. There’s no one, or ever will be”

I shook my head “I can’t give you anything”

“You gave me everything. ” His reply made me choke and a sob escaped my mouth unknowingly. I can never imagine this man would say such a thing and again somewhere in my heart I was scared of his response. Thinking he would reject me just like Avan. Even though my past deeds don’t make me worthy of him, I just can’t let go of him and his love anymore.

“Azrael I-” he kissed me, stopping me from my words.

“There’s no need to travel back to the past. I can endure anything as long as you are with me, by my side. I just want you to stay with me with a promise, you won’t leave” he said with seriousness.

At this moment, I couldn’t say no anymore. I knew I wanted him just the way he wanted me. I know I can’t wash my past deeds but I can work on what we have and we will have. Today all the doubts and resistance of heart finally disappeared and I accepted him fully.

“I am so sorry Azrael ” I cried out, hugging him tightly. “I am sorry I rejected you and made you live in pain. I hurt you in every way possible yet you are still so sweet and..” I sobbed hard and couldn’t continue anymore. I don’t care if I was naked, all I care is I have to seek forgiveness from him.

Azrael held me tightly in his arms, slowly rubbing my back. A gesture to calm me down “it’s fine, what happened has happened. I have you now in my arms and this is what I want. Just don’t leave me in future”

“I won’t, I will never leave you, I promise you” I replied.

He broke the hug and gave a huge smile “really?” He wiped my tears while I nodded.

“So you won’t plan on leaving me again?”

I shook my head “no, I told you I won’t leave”

He sighed “now I can have relief and work properly without worrying the fact when I return I won’t be able to see you”

I gasped “you think that way?”

“I couldn’t help it” he smiled “but from today onwards I guess I could focus on work”

“You are crazy, ” I chuckled. He raised an eyebrow.

“You think so?”

“Aren’t you?”

I squealed when he turned our position and pressed me on bed. He gave a smirk “let’s see if you could say that after this” and without giving me a chance, he pushed his hard cock inside making me scream. He fucked me harder than before to show me whom I belong to.

“Tell me you are mine” he whispered, pounding in me.

“I am yours... all yours” I moaned. I felt him sucking my nipples while his other hand was playing.

“Ohm.. God.... Azrael...”

“You are too sweet darling, my cock is always hard thinking about you” he spread my legs wide keeping them in firm hold.

I blushed seeing our position. When it comes to bed this man is unpredictable.

“I fucking like those blush, specially knowing the reason it was me” he kept thrusting hard and fast. His pace was so hard to match.

My body shivered and my core tightened, clenching around his cock as he groaned painfully.

“That’s it, love, show me how much you like it. Cum for your mate” his words made me clench harder and I let it go.

“Azrael...”

“Fuck” he cursed and pounded few more times before letting his seeds mix in me.

“You are so good, I can’t hold back myself” he said smiling.

I held his shoulder and panted “do you have to be so rough?”

“You like it darling. You can’t deny it” he grinned.

I shook my head at his act. He cupped my face and said with a firm look “I love you, since the day I found you”

I couldn’t help but feel my heart swell with happiness. His confession is so sweet, laced with emotions and sounds so good. So this is what it feels like to be loved by your mate.

“I love you too” I said and he grinned before kissing me again.

My wolf purred with happiness and I realized at this moment, I could never let go of this man.

Never.

Chapter 24 – Meeting Savannah Again



REESE'S POV

Next day Dark Forest visited Silver Shine. I was surprised Savannah came with Alpha Hardwick. It has been a long time since I met her. Her appearance today was totally unexpected. I never thought I would meet her again this way. I stood behind Azrael so they couldn't see me at all.

"Thanks for letting me know about the matter Alpha Cassius" Alpha Hardwick said, shaking hands with Alpha Cassius.

"Since he was your people we couldn't take any decision but had to call you Alpha Hardwick" Alpha Cassius replied nodding.

"How did you identify him as my people?" Alpha Hardwick frowned. I know they never had any interaction before, no dealings between the pack.

"It was fortunate, someone knows the person well so it helped us to track the identity"

"Someone? Who?" Alpha Hardwick didn't see me so he frowned slightly at Alpha Cassius's words.

Alpha Cassius turned back to glance at me. Now, I am in the limelight. Azrael pulled me beside him letting everyone see my face. Savannah gasped suddenly. Her eyes were wide and she looked so shocked.

“Reese?” She voiced. She walked towards me instantly “is it really you?”

I smiled at her “hi, Savannah”

“Oh, my god. I can’t believe my eyes. It’s really you” she shook her head. “It has been two years since I saw you last time. Such a long time yet...” She smiled and pulled me for a hug. “I missed you”

Those simple three words of ‘I missed you’ had me chock. My heart tightened and my eyes suddenly blurred with tears. I couldn’t control my emotions anymore. I let out a sigh.

“Yes, it has been a long time,” I said as we broke the hug. “I wasn’t expecting to see you here too”

“But fortunately we did,” she grinned. Looking at her, I am amazed. I knew she was a beautiful woman but today I understand why Avan was a crazy-psycho after her. Savannah has this charm to pull others towards her, with those warming smiles and angelic face.

“Well, looks like we can have a good chat” Adriana didn’t waste any moment before she barged in. She was grinning and suggested we have some girly talk which we agreed happily.

“Let’s go to the lake side. We can enjoy some drinks as we talk” Adriana said and Savannah nodded excitedly. I turned to look at Azrael who was looking at me with a smile. He gave a nod before turning to focus on the two Alpha beside him. Adriana pulled us towards the lake which has the best view of the pack.

“How are you Reese?” Savannah asked once we settled on the chairs.

“I am good, after roaming around the forest for two years, I guess I have reached my destination” I smiled at her. Unlike in the past, I don’t have any

negative thoughts about her. Right now we are like friends. At least that's what I could name the relationship we have.

"Your destination? The Silver Shine Pack?" Confusion spread on her face.

"She meant to say, the beta of Silver Shine is her mate," Adriana said, clearing her confusion.

"Really?" Savannah grinned "you finally found your mate?" She looked happy.

"Well, I wasn't thinking about it. When I was roaming around I found him fighting with his enemies. I helped him and now I find myself being stuck here"

Adriana laughed "more like John forced her to stay"

Savannah looked at Adriana then towards me. She held my hand giving a warm smile "you have no idea how happy I am. When you left Dark Forest that day, I was restless. I know things between us were not great to remember but I have always treated you as my sister back then. Maybe we don't have any blood match but we still are like sisters"

I shook my head "your capability of discernment is really appreciative Savannah. I have always begrudged you for your simplicity and good heart. I hadn't realized at that time. If I did may be my life would be different from today"

When I think of my past, my heart would bleed. It was like thousands of knives stabbed, cutting it into pieces. Still I haven't successfully vanquished the memories. Even now, I am endeavoring to wrestle with it. Yet I couldn't get any benefit.

"You couldn't change the past Reese. Whatever happened was not our choice but it was fated that way. We all are the pawns of fate and we do what was planned for us" Savannah sighed heavily. "I know some things are arduous to fight and sometimes we don't have another choice yet to go with the flow.

That's what we all did" she shook her head "and maybe this is what we will do"

"She is correct Reese" Adriana joined in. "I won't say much because I wasn't in the scene but from whatever I heard I can definitely conclude this point. Past is a way to make our future better. If we couldn't learn from the lesson then we are nothing but an ignoramus. And I know, you did. You understand things, which is the reason you are sitting here at this present moment"

I looked at the two. These two women are so benevolent and encouraging. I couldn't help but feel lucky to have them in my life. I never tried to understand Savannah in the first place, and now that I am this close to her, I understand her better. She is astute, sharp-witted and savvy. Her personality is what attracts people more.

I smiled "thank you, both. I always burden myself with the image of the past and sometimes I don't know what to do. I felt muddled, confused and bewildered. It was hard to confront myself to see the positivity"

"It happens," Savannah nodded, "not only you but everyone. Life could never be simple as we put it. But piercing through the problems and stepping forward is what means living"

"I agree with it" Adriana nodded "don't give up on John again Reese, fight for him and at the end it will worth it"

I chuckled "I don't think I could give up on him anymore. I realized I love him too much to leave"

"Ah, you finally found it," Adriana laughed. Content held by

"I am so happy for you Reese" Savannah hugged me "I hope this time you will find your true happiness"

Her words saddened me. Can I? There was something that I couldn't fix anymore.

“Love, we need to leave” Alpha Hardwick walked towards us, followed by Alpha Cassius and Azrael. The three men looked sturdy and powerful with sharp eyes, looking in our direction.

“Oh” Savannah threw a sad smile “our time is short but I had a great time with you two”

“Since we know each other now, we could meet up sometimes to have a chat” Adriana suggested.

Savannah grinned “great, I was thinking the same”

From the corner of my eyes I saw the men roll their eyes and shake their heads.

“Love?” Alpha Hardwick called again.

“I know, I know” Savannah sighed then hugged me and Adriana. “I will miss you two”

“Same here” I nodded.

Alpha Hardwick pulled her to him and led her out of the place. Adriana followed Alpha Cassius leaving Azrael and me alone.

“What happened?” I asked.

“Nothing,” he shrugged.

“What do you mean nothing? You don’t want to tell me at all”

He rolled his eyes and tugged my arm before I fell on him. He secured me in his arms “why are you so interested in this matter? That guy is going with his Alpha that’s all. Since he was not a threat, we can let him go” he replied with a grim expression.

“Do you have to make such a bitter expression?” I shook my head.

“What?” He feigned confusion.

“Let’s go, they are leaving. We need to send them off” I tugged his arm.

“Do we really need to?” He didn’t even move from his place. His rock hard body is hard to pull and he knows it so well. This damn stubborn man. I huffed inwardly.

“Come on, you can’t be that obdurate right now? Besides, Savannah is my foster sister. I can’t even say goodbye to her?” I frowned. Why does this man have to be so hard?

He rolled his eyes “great now I am obdurate? Do you have other names to offer more?”

“Don’t be so savage. Now come on” this time I managed to pull him with me. When we walked to the exit door, I saw Alpha Cassius was talking with Alpha Hardwick. They looked like they were having a close chat.

“They seemed to be close,” I whispered.

“Hmm.... They decided to be friends”

I looked at him “really?” I was surprised.

He nodded “Alpha Hardwick is afterall strong and powerful. His high position is remarkable and Cassius seemed to be highly impressed with his nature though. And thanks to you, they got familiar with each other”

I held onto his arm and leaned my head on his shoulder “I know, Alpha Hardwick is a generous man. He saved my life once”

“I will be indebted to him for that” Azrael’s voice was low and I felt him kissing my head lovingly. I smiled, feeling his love in his kiss. This was something unknown to me for such a long time.

Suddenly I saw Jamir looking at us. He turned to say something to Alpha Cassius then focused his gaze on me again. After a few seconds he started to stride towards me.

“Reese, can I talk to you?”

I was speechless at first then confusion clouded my mind. Before I could say anything the bulky man beside me growled loudly with a hard rejection.

“NO”

Chapter 25 – His Possessiveness



REESE'S POV

“Azrael?” I gasped at the raging man beside me. His green irises loomed at Jamir while Jamir scowled back at him. Both of the men had ‘who will win’ competition before I glowered at them.

“What the hell are you two doing?” I barked angrily. I couldn’t stand their never ending scowls anymore.

“There’s no fucking way you are talking to her alone” Azrael hissed. His eyes weren’t leaving him.

“I didn’t ask you. You are no one to decide for her” Jamir retorted.

“No one?” Azrael smirked, “you don’t even know what I am to her. You better back away before you might regret your actions later”

“Do you think just because you are the beta of the pack, that will make me scared?”

“Okay stop both of you. You both are so unreasonable” I frowned. I gazed at Jamir “I will go with you. You don’t have to argue with him”

“What? You are definitely not” Azrael refused instantly.

“You heard her-”

“Jamir, shut up” I glared at him before forcing my eyes on my mate. He was frowning at me. I stepped closer to him and held his arm gently.

“You don’t have to react that way. It’s just a few words okay?” I whispered softly to him.

“I am still against the idea of you two alone. I fucking don’t like it” he growled lowly.

“You don’t have to get angry. I told you there’s nothing between us. I love you, and you have to remember this. I won’t leave you, I promised you that” I said everything to assure him. I want him to know that there’s no need to fear about me leaving. No matter what I have realized, I could never leave this man again. And his current actions only makes me satisfied in my heart. I must be insane but I just like how he was claiming me as his.

He gave me a disapproving stare. He was still reluctant to agree to the request. If we weren’t in the public I would have kissed him hard.

“You want to go?” He asked me.

I nodded my head. Jamir is not a bad guy. He helped me a lot. And maybe after today I won’t see him anymore. So for the last time, I want to hear what he wants to say. At least considering that friendly relationship we had before.

“Fine, 5 minutes. That’s all I could give you. If you don’t return in 5 minutes then I will come and grab you. I don’t have such patience when it comes to you” Azrael said.

I nodded “got it”. I was about to turn when he grabbed my wrist making me look at him.

“You are not going so easily. I want something to make me wait for 5 minutes”

I frowned “huh? What do you mean by that?”

He smirked "I want a kiss"

My eyes widened. Is this man even real? He wanted me to kiss in front of everyone? I could feel my jaw drop, almost touching the ground. I knew this man was shameless but I never thought his shamelessness would also overpower his possessiveness. What am I going to do with him?

"Are you serious?"

"Do I look like I am joking?"

I sighed and mentally shook my head. He won't be letting me go unless I give him what he wants. I am sure of it. Sighing again I placed my hand on his shoulder supporting myself up on tip-toes. Damn his height, I have to force myself to reach his level. But before I could push myself up more, I felt him grab my waist and pull me up to kiss him. Our lips touched and he kissed me hard much to my protest. I pinched him when he was not letting me go.

I glared at him once he released me with a self-satisfied smile. I hurriedly turned towards Jamir who was looking at me with an unreadable expression.

"I am sorry, let's go" I tried to force a smile on my embarrassing situation and led him out of the place. Little further from the crowd under the maple tree near the garden area.

"What do you want to say?" I asked him.

"How come you ended up here?" Jamir asked.

"I..."

"Do you want to leave?" His question had me startled.

"What?" I frowned.

"You seem like you are forced to stay here" he shook his head. "If you are forced then as I said before, you don't have to worry. I will get you out of this

place. Besides you and Luna are also sisters so if you want to leave she will help you out. All you need is to ask”

“Jamir you got it wrong” I sighed, “okay I was forced at first, I won’t deny it but now I am staying here willingly. I want to stay here, in this pack with my mate. I can’t leave”

“Mate?” He looked surprised. “That beta is your mate?”

I nodded “yes, he is my mate John Smith”

“I was such a fool” he shook his head groaning. He gave a pained expression “I thought you were stuck here unwillingly but never expected it was coming. I thought you didn’t have a mate 2 years ago” he suddenly let out a chuckle.

“It was because at that time I rejected him. Things were complicated, I can’t explain everything now. You just have to understand that he is my mate and I will be living with him. No one is forcing me here Jamir”

“You have reunited with your rejected mate?”

“It’s because we are fated” I pursed my lips.

He shook his head again “it’s bad luck then” he chuckled at the end. “Since you have a mate, I don’t have anything more to say. I am happy to see you again after all these years. I hope you will be happy with your mate”

I smiled “I am also happy to see you again Jamir. And trust me I am happy here”

He nodded “it’s time to leave now. I am sorry for the trouble I caused earlier” he turned to leave but I stopped him.

“Why were you searching for me?”

He smiled “that doesn’t matter anymore. Just take it as a foolish act. I will leave now or your mate will think I am stealing you away”

I laughed “you really know how to joke huh”. But deep in my heart I know what he said was true.

He shook his “it’s not a joke” his eyes swapped behind me, “especially when your man is just coming right behind you”. His words weren’t finished when I felt presence behind me.

“Times up darling” I heard Azrael’s deep voice. Jamir gave me a knowing look.

“Well, I am heading now. Remember my words Reese” Jamir said as he started to jog.

“What words?” Azrael asked.

Jamir smirked “something that doesn’t involve you”. And before Azrael could say anything he left and joined the crowd again.

“What the hell was he talking about?” Azrael frowned at me.

“Nothing,” I shrugged.

His eyes narrowed towards me “do you want me to force it out darling. Though I like challenges but I guess you won’t like the way I handle things”

I rolled my eyes “can you give up that belligerent mood of yours? You don’t have to hold up such a hostile attitude towards him. He was just teasing and he won’t be bothersome between us” I tugged his arm. “Now let’s go. I still need to say goodbye to Savannah ”

“It’s good he knows his place. I don’t like anyone getting where they shouldn’t be” his comment made me roll my eyes again. I don’t understand how he rejected me at first with such an attitude?

When I reached, Adriana and Savannah were talking.

“I guess I didn’t miss anything” I said as I had a hand in their conversation. Adriana beamed at me.

“Reese, it’s great news. Savannah is inviting us to attend the birthday party of her son”

“Wow, that little guy must be big now,” I smiled.

“He is a naughty man,” Savannah chuckled. “I hope to meet you two in the party and I am telling you in advance I am not gonna take no for an answer. After such a long time I will have my friends joining the celebration”

“Of course, we will come. I also want to visit the Dark Forest. I heard that place is beautiful ” Adriana smiled.

“Silver Shine is more beautiful, Adriana. I fell in love with the lake view and the flower garden of yours. It’s awesome”

“Thanks, looks like my efforts paid off,” Adriana laughed.

“Well, now I feel like I have a family. Living a rogue’s life was not worth” I said looking at them.

“You must be glad you met John that day?” Adriana smirked.

I couldn’t help but chuckle. I let my gaze follow where my mate was talking with other guys. I couldn’t help but feel my heart with love and pride.

“I can’t agree more. I am glad he forcefully took me here or I would have missed everything today” I turned my head to look at them.

Savannah smiled “it’s a time for you to settle down Reese, forget about the past and focus on the present. You deserve love and care and for real this time”

My emotions pricked again hearing her words. How could I misconceive her character in the past? I let my ruined mind think the worse of her. I shook my head.

“Thank you for not being hostile towards me after what I did to you Savannah. I really don’t deserve your forgiveness”

“I have already forgiven you, Resse. At least we can be real sisters this time?”

I laughed and nodded. We hugged each other before she took her leave after making us promise to attend the party. I couldn’t help but feel my heart blasting with exhilaration which I couldn’t express in words. I never had any siblings but today I got one.

For real.

Chapter 26 – Zaniyah’s Confrontation



REESE’S POV

“This is the training camp. The new ones who just shifted would train themselves here. We have already provided the basic techniques to get them stronger and understand their power” Azrael explained as we stood in front of the building. It was situated further from the pack mansion.

I gazed at the building, “I never thought there will be a different building for the new trainers”

“Cassius wants this way. He wanted to separate the weak and strong and give them levels. Where the beginners will watch and inspired by the seniors and train hard”

“Alpha Cassius’s conviction about making the pack strong is really impressive. He must have strained himself to explore the ideas to get everything under his control” I shook my head when that serious face flashed suddenly.

“You seem to be impressed by him?” His remark made me look at him. Looking at his disconsolate expression I could feel what he was thinking. I knew my mate is possessive but to which level it’s yet to be discovered. I sighed loudly “don’t tell me you are jealous of your Alpha now?”

“He may be the alpha but you are not allowed to have an extreme impression of him. The only person you should remember is me” he said discontentedly.

I faced him with a helpless smile. Raising my hand I cupped his face. My hands are small compared to his face “there’s no need to be jealous. Yes, I am impressed with his techniques and the way he was ruling. You have already guarded my heart, where no one can invade”

His expression changed, his eyes softened “and I will fucking kill anyone who will sniff around you. Fuck, I don’t know how to control myself when you are so beautiful and other males will be after you”

I chuckled “and now you are thinking highly. Get your horses under control, mister. No one will come near me when you are by my side”

“You are that confident?” He asked.

“Yes, because I know you will always be there,” I grinned.

He smirked “I fucking like that idea”.

I giggled and tugged his arm as we moved around. Today after having breakfast Azrael suggested showing me around the pack. I just say Silver Shine is really a huge area. Besides the pack mansion, there are other houses along with the training field and building for beginners. He laced our

fingers together as we walked. I couldn't help but feel warmth in his hold and the love and care he was showing at every chance he gets.

"Savannah invited us for the birthday party" I said slowly.

"You want to go?"

I nodded "I really want to meet that little guy. He must be big now"

"Since you have such a desire then we will go. Alpha Hardwick told us about it. And Cassius seemed to want to join the party. This will be the official meeting in the public"

"That's great, Adriana and I have already decided to go shopping for the party. I couldn't hold back my excitement. I felt like I still have a family and I am going to meet them" I chuckled.

"You patched up with your Sister really fast," Azrael smiled.

"Savannah is forgiving. She is sweet and kind hearted. Well she was always like this. It's just me who ignores it every time. But I am glad I could seek forgiveness and continue our sisterhood" I said feeling relaxed.

"I am glad you are happy " he nodded. We looked at each other and smiled.

"Beta John" I turned to find the source of the voice who just butt in. I found the familiar bright blue eyes staring at us.

"Zaniyah?" Azrael frowned.

"I hope I haven't disturbed you" she smiled sweetly adding the extra sweetness much to my liking. She was saying after disturbing, it was more like playing an innocent act after destroying everything.

"What's the matter?" Azrael asked again.

"Alpha wants to meet you in the study," she replied.

"Okay" Azrael turned to me, "I have to go now. Will you be fine?"

I was about to reply when Zaniyah decided to butt in again “I will help her to show around. Please don’t worry Beta John” her voice sounded peculiarly gentle.

Azrael didn’t make any comments but he looked at me. I smiled at him to give the assurance that I would be fine. Taking the hint he raised our laced hands and kissed the back of mine which immediately flattered my heart and my love overflowed. This small gentle gesture had me hooked to him. He never failed to prove my importance in his life. After he left I watched him. Zaniyah, who was standing at the side, suddenly turned to me.

“You are his mate?” Her incredibly gentle tone was replaced with a cold texture. I sighed inwardly and focused my gaze on her.

“Why? Do you have any complaints?” I asked.

Zaniyah narrowed her eyes “why are you showing such arrogance? Do you think just because Beta John brought you here, the rumors about your past will fade? Even if no one talks about it because of Beta John, what truth is truth. No one can chahte it”

“What do you want to say? Just get on the main point instead of tiring yourself explaining the outline” I told her, not wanting to hear her secondary story.

She pursed her lips. Her pupils started to change its color as her face hardened instantly, “since you are such a direct person then let me tell you promptly “I am in love with Beta John. I gave up on him when I heard he had found his mate. I thought he would be happy but no, you rejected him and he had to undergo extreme pain. You weren’t there but I have seen him. How much he suffered in these two years. I was waiting for him to get over the pain. I was glad when I heard you were dead. But unfortunately you showed up again. Maybe you are here because he couldn’t control himself. But let me

clear one thing, soon you have to leave him. Because with you , he will only get pain”

I knew this girl had something. She has been glaring from the first encounter. And today she came forward warning me. Looking into her eyes I found my own image reflecting in it. There was a time I did the same. I also thought that Savannah wouldn't be fit to be Avan's Luna. And today there is Zaniyah taking my place, using the same threat. Her action didn't surprise me yet it made me amused.

“Do you think you can decide on behalf of him?” I asked slowly, not rushing.

“Do you think I can't?” She frowned “the truth we both know, I guess it's not hard to explain. You can't deny, because of you he had to suffer for years. You are the one who rejected him for another man. Now that the other man is dead, are you after him again? Just what do you think of yourself? Aren't you satisfied with the consequences? You want to harm him more?”

“You don't know a thing between us. It's better for you to stay out of it. I won't repeat myself” I said, hardening my tone. Even though what she said was true, she has no right to threaten me. I won't accept it.

“How dare you?” She snapped. “Even after the pain you caused you are not willing to leave him? You want to stick to him now because your lover is dead? That man couldn't even handle you, that's why he died. Oh my god, what kind of woman you are” she narrowed her eyes, “now I understand. You are nothing but a dick lover. A woman who couldn't wait to open her legs to get benefits. You are a woman who can do everything to hold onto a man with power. Alas Beta John couldn't see such truth. He have to-”

“It's enough Zaniyah” a strong voice sounded behind us. I glanced over to see Adriana standing a few feet away. She walked to us and glared at Zaniyah.

“Luna I...” Zaniyah stammered.

Adriana raised her hand to stop her “enough, I have heard what I should have. I don’t need your explanation anymore”

“But Luna she-” Zaniyah tried to argue.

“Now you are talking back to me?” Adriana raised her voice using such a tone which made us startled. I looked at her with surprise. She was such a sweet woman with a gentle voice. But the time she used right now was different from her usual one.

“I am sorry” Zaniyah uttered, lowering her head. She looked like a submissive one.

“You have disappointed me so much. Even if you dislike someone, the pack doesn’t give you the right to insult anyone here. You have violated the rules. Now go to the teaching room to get your punishment ” Adriana ordered.

“Yes” Zaniyah didn’t raise her head anymore and quietly left.

Adriana turned to me with a worried expression “I am sorry for her behavior. She is sometimes impulsive”

I gave a small smile and shook my head “You don’t have to worry. I am fine”

Adriana held my hand “Reese, I know it will be hard. But don’t take it to heart , okay?”

“I know” I smiled sadly and looked where Zaniyah’s figure was walking away, “what she said is not wrong. No matter how much I want to forget, my past will hunt me down in different form” I uttered.

This is the harsh truth, it could never change. Never.

Chapter 27 – Giving Him Assurance



REESE'S POV

"You look gorgeous" Adriana smiled as she eyed me top to bottom. "I told you this dress is the perfect match for your body shape"

I looked down at the beautiful black split bodycon dress. The line of dress fitted my curve. My hips were more in shape and it has slit up to my thigh. The silky smooth texture felt warm and comfortable. The solid pattern and sexy style was perfect for the party.

"I guess you are right. The moment I wore this, I fell in love with it" I grinned.

Adriana chuckled "I knew, so we are going to take it?"

I gave a smirk "do you think Azrael will approve this?" I pointed to my body. "you know that guy is utterly possessive"

She returned the same expression "it's our body, who are they to dictate what we should wear? Besides taking the chance and making them a little bit of jealous is not wrong"

I sniggered "a little bit of jealousy? You know how to use everything so well. So are you choosing that one in your hand?"

"I can't find the heart to let go of this beautiful blue one" she pointed to the dress she was holding. "I like the texture and style. And it will match our classy feature" she grinned.

I looked at her boning bodycon dress. It was dark blue in color but the glitter added on the material as a pattern gives the sexy look. I wonder if Alpha Cassius would let go of her once she wears that.

"You are definitely having the intention of teasing Alpha Cassius?" I couldn't stop myself from saying that.

“I thought to give some excitement to that man” she giggled, “I am preparing to see the blazing orbs. I missed it”

This woman is really something. She knows what her mate would do after seeing her in that dress yet she deliberately chose the dress to make him crazy. But I love her attitude, those solid hearted men needed some taming. They always think they have the upper hand.

“Got it girl. Looks like I need to follow your lead”

“You don’t need it. Let me tell you, John will be already hard when he sees you in that sexy dress” she smirked while her comment made me blush.

After shopping we went back to the mansion. I was glad that Alpha Cassius agreed for us to go shopping outside the pack area though I had to have a little argument with John before leaving and all thanks to Adriana, she helped me. The series of shops were displaying the expensive dresses which had all my hearts. When I opened the door of our room, I saw Azrael was sitting on the couch. He looked up and before I knew it I was already in his arms. He didn’t say a word when he kissed me hard and deep. Running his hand over my body arousing my core and thrusting his tongue inside my mouth like he wanted to claim all of me.

I moaned in his mouth and dropped the bag on the floor before hugging his waist. Leaving my mouth he trailed his lips over my shoulder lightly nipping it. He reached out, grabbing my breast and squeezing it.

“Azrael mmm....” I moaned, closing my eyes. He pulled down the straps and freed my breast. He massaged it while he was sucking my neck. My nipples hardened at his contact and he rolled my hard bud between his fingers.

“God ... what are you doing?” I couldn’t help but ask. He didn’t reply yet and continued to torture me. Suddenly he hoisted me up straddling me on his

waist and brought me to bed. Once I was lying flat on my back as he moved back looking at me. He quickly removed his shirt then his pants.

“Azrael you....” My words stopped when he tore my dress with a snap. I gasped loudly. I was only in my panties now.

“Fuck I can’t wait anymore” he groaned and kissed me again.

“You are crazy,” I uttered, holding his shoulder.

“I fucking love you” he hissed as he bite my neck. His hands slipped inside my panty then into my wet fold. I was already so wet for him that he pushed his three fingers easily inside me. Content held by

“Oh... God...” I instantly closed my eyes. I felt his mouth on my breast sucking my nipple tugging the hard bud with his teeth. His fingers fucking me with a force which had my body shook in excitement. I could hear the juicy slapping sound as he continued his action.

“Oh ... Please Azrael.... I want you now” I moaned.

“You have to clearly tell me what you want, baby. How do you want me” he said as he kissed my neck again. I knew what he wanted. And I also know he won’t fuck me until I gave up and do what he wants. But my situation right now is not something I would care about.

“I want you to fuck me hard. I want your cock to ram inside me mercilessly” I said.

“Fuck baby, you look so sexy when you say that. Using such a dirty mouth for your mate” he let out a painful groan. “I fucking want you now” I heard him snapping something, maybe tearing his boxers. And instantly I felt his hard tip pushing inside my already wet pussy. My inner lips opened for his cock as he pushed, stretching me harder to adjust his size. My eyes rolled back with pleasure as he thrust inside fully. His cock was so fully reaching every inch.

“Fuck baby you are so good. This pussy of yours knows how to devour my cock” he hissed and started to thrusts.

“Ahmmmm.... yes please fuck me harder....” I moaned. My breasts bounced with his thrusting force. With each thrust I could feel him reaching deeper, claiming me as his. My body shivered in delight as my legs went weak.

Azrael grabbed my thighs and parted it wider. He moved his body hovering over me in doggy style while he thrust harder than before.

“It’s so deep.... ah....”

“I want to fuck you so hard baby. So hard until you can’t even use your legs to walk. I want your pussy to be sore once I am done with you. I want your pussy to remember only to have my cock”

“You are so dirty Azrael”

“But you love it” he leaned down kissing my lips. “This breasts are bouncing giving a good show while I fuck this dripping pussy of yours. I have been waiting for your return so that I can have you. My cock was already hard when I smell your scent”

“Ahhm... Azrael.... Harder...” I moaned again. His dirty talking is already making me wetter and wetter.

“Take it baby. My hard cock is yours, only your pussy can satisfy it” Azrael let out a low growl. His thrust was deep and hard. My hips rolled matching his pace on its own accord. My walls around his hard shaft clenched and I moaned.

“Are you ready baby? Ready to milk my cock?” He chuckled and thrust harder like a barbaric king, claiming his woman.

“Oh god.... you are so deep”

“I want to show you, who can claim you like this, my love. My cock will explore your innermost privacy” he groaned. “Yes, baby clench around my hard cock. Tell him how much you want it. How much you love the way it fucked your pussy” his words had me clench harder squeezing it as hard as possible. Butterflies are dancing in my stomach and I reached my highest peak.

“I am cumming....”

“Fuck! I am gonna cum too. Let’s cum together sweetheart ” he growled. His hard cock fucked harder as my pussy clenched. Soon we reached our climax and moaned as we released our passion. I felt his seeds spreading inside me filling my pussy.

We panted hard and he dropped on me. He grabbed my breast, giving it a hard squeeze. I moaned again. I hold him close to my chest and run my fingers around his silky hair.

“It was ...”

“Fucking satisfying” he said before I could. I smiled and leaned to kiss his forehead.

“What was that? You were waiting for me to do this?”

“I was anxious,” he suddenly replied, making me frown.

“What? What happened?”

“I almost thought you-”

“Will run away?” I sighed as I completed his words. Azrael didn’t speak, confirming my doubt.

“I know what you are feeling but let me tell you, I won’t leave you. Not after the confession I made. I know I wanted to leave before but I am staying here willingly. You don’t have to worry about me leaving anymore” I assured him.

“I know, but sometimes I can’t settle my heart with assurance,” he sighed. I know it must be difficult for him to believe me when I have never given the chance to trust me. All I have been doing was planning to escape. But this time I have already solidified my intention towards him. Because I want our bond to work. I want my mate, my real destined one and have a new life with him. I understand how much pain I have caused him and to myself. I am reluctant to go through the same situation.

“I am not leaving, not anymore. I know it’s hard for you to convince your heart but I will prove to you with time. That’s a promise” I said firmly. He raised his head looking at me. His forest green eyes hold me, capturing my heart. I smiled and cupped his face in my hand.

“This time, we will be together, no matter what” after saying that I kissed him hard trying to give the assurance he needed in his heart. Letting him understand my feelings, to seal my words.

This man is my mate, and I will do everything to rule his heart. No backing away this time.

Chapter 28 – Seeking Forgiveness For The Sins



REESE’S POV

“What the hell are you wearing?” That was the first word which came through my mate’s mouth when he saw me. Earlier Adriana and I decided to get ready together for the party while Azrael and Cassius were pushed to another room by Adriana. I couldn’t help but admire how she handled Alpha Cassius so easily. That man looked solemn all the time yet he never refused to what

Adriana would say. Even with that ruminative expression he would do anything she asks.

Right now my mate was gazing at me up to down. His forest green eyes raked over my features before showing a pensive look. I walked over to him and smiled sweetly. I knew he wouldn't agree to what I am wearing. This dress is fucking sexy and good feast for eyes. With the range of possessiveness he has for me, he wouldn't agree with it.

"A dress, I told you I bought a dress with Adriana"

He frowned "you say it's a dress. Most of your skin is already on the view. Change it"

"I couldn't, " I replied, "I only have this dress for the party." I made an innocent face.

He let out a groan "fuck, don't tell you have the intention of doing this"

I smiled "nope, I wasn't thinking but I fell in love with this dress as soon as I saw it. And Adriana approved it too. Doesn't it look good?"

"It's definitely a sexy dress that I want to tear and fuck you hard but it's not for other man to see" Azrael leaned and whispered in my ear.

"Come on, we are getting late," Adriana announced.

"Where do you think you are going after wearing such revealing dress peaches? Do you think you can go out looking like this?" Alpha Cassius's voice follows her.

"Why can't I?" Adriana frowned, "Savannah invited us personally, if we don't go she will be upset. Do you want our newly built friendship to get ruined like this? How can you do that Cassius?"

Alpha Cassius grabbed her by her waist and pulled her to him making her gasp "I know well what are you planning to do peaches but let me clear the

fog in your mind, I am aware of what's going on that mind of yours. Even if you win this round, the result will be what I want to be" His voice was deep and hard. I can see Adriana trembling in his hold. She knew this was coming yet this woman didn't back away.

"Same goes with you darling" Azrael whispered again. "You know how intolerant I am when it comes to you. I would want to fucking poke every eyes that will look on your body. This body should only be mine to see"

I sighed in my heart. Even if his words make me shiver, I still want to go against it and test his patience. Adriana said it right, to provoke your man till they are enraged enough to punish you. Even the punishment will be worth it. I had taken the chance and I also knew what's coming for me. And I am looking forward to it. I couldn't wait to have him inside me hard and deep.

"Let's go " Alpha Cassius said after some time. He pulled back, straightening himself and holding Adriana close to him. "We can't get late, it will take hours to reach Dark Forest"

"Got it" Azrael nodded and grabbed my wrist before pulling me with him. As we walked towards the waiting cars, Adriana turned and winked at me with a grin. I couldn't help but laugh secretly. Looks like our plan was worthwhile in every way.

Revisiting Dark Forest after two years is like a fresh start. Last time I left this place, my heart was filled with unexplainable emotions. I vowed to never come back again. But returning here again, I don't have that heavy heart anymore. I held Azrael's arm as we walked towards the glorious pack house. It was decorated beautifully with string lights and baby stuff. Though the matter of the baby always hurts me, I have reminded myself to feel happy for Savannah. Even if I couldn't have one, at least I could be happy for others.

“You are finally here” Savannah and Alpha Hardwick welcomed us with a smile. She was holding her baby boy who was the mirror image of Alpha Hardwick.

“I hope we are not late” I smiled and hugged her.

“Of course not. The party just started yet” Savannah looked beautiful with her long mermaid dress. Her hair was styled at the side with a beautiful hair clip keeping it in place. “Here, meet him, the naughty one in the pack”

I looked at the handsome baby who was looking at us in wonder. His purple eyes are staring at us like he was trying to put our images in his little mind. I couldn't resist anymore and reached out stroking his soft cheek.

“Such a handsome boy” I smiled, “what's his name?”

“Aldric,” Savannah replied.

“Aldric ” I whispered, “you really got a strong name for him. I guess this little guy will become just like his father when he grew up”

Savannah chuckled, “he even looks like his father”.

“True” I nodded with a smile.

“Let's go, there are so many people I want you to meet. My family is already there”

My smile suddenly dropped when I heard her. Her family? Of course how could I expect that they won't be here. Her family must be holding grudges because of what happened in the past. Afterall, the transgression of my family was too heavy to lift. My parents had snatched their daughter and raised her in such poor condition without giving any respect. They grabbed the opportunity to love their daughter for years. I don't want to think of the pain they had gone through. And in the end it was all our fault.

“Reese? Are you alright?” Savannah asked again. Her eyes were showing concern.

“I...” I don’t know what to answer her. Suddenly I felt Azrael’s hand on my back rubbing slowly, it was like encouraging me to speak, to hold my emotion correctly.

I sighed and flashed a smile feeling confident “of course, I guess it’s time to meet them personally. Last time I didn’t get the chance to do so. I would like to meet them”

Savannah smiled “great, they will be happy to see you. Come on”

I turned to Azrael who smiled at me. I nodded at him then I looked at Adriana who gave an encouraging smile. Alpha Hardwick was with Adriana and her mate. Gathering all the courage I have in me, I followed Savannah. Azrael was beside me, and I am glad about that. He knows how to handle me in this tough situation. Soon I can see her family standing at the side chatting with others. Savannah led us towards them.

“Mom, look who is here” Savannah said cheerfully as she pointed at me “Reese”. Several eyes fell on me making my heart beat rise.

“You can do this Reese’ I chanted inwardly while flashing a small smile on my face.

“Ah, Reese my dear” Savannah’ mom smiled. She walked to me and held my hands “finally, after such a long time I got the chance to meet you”

“I am sorry, I left last time in a hurry and didn’t get the chance to apologize to you personally” I replied.

“Don’t you think it’s too late for that?” I heard a cold voice. I looked over to see purple eyes glaring at me. Looking at his eyes I felt like he wanted to snap my head off my body. I heaved a sigh.

“I know, whatever crime my parents had done in the past is unforgivable. And I won’t ask you to forgive too. Since childhood I didn’t know they kidnapped Savannah. When I got to know the truth I was already under their manipulation” I turned to look at Savannah who was looking at me, “I am sorry, I have always tainted you with my sins and made you suffer. I never considered the feeling of compassion, benevolence and mortality yet I went on choosing the wrong path which not only led me to the tragic end but I have dragged others too” I glanced at Azrael this time. Wanting to ask for his forgiveness again. So sighing I focused my attention on Luna Astrea again. “I have no words to describe how remorseful I am. Even so, if you could forgive me I will be glad and even if you don’t I will accept that”

Luna Astrea smiled and squeezed my hand gently “dear, it’s not your fault. I know past misdeeds are hard to correct but for us you have already atoned for it when you decided to save Savannah from Avan. You have proved that you still have a good heart. You don’t have to seek forgiveness dear, you have already earned it with your action” her voice was such a sweet sound that washed my guilty heart. I couldn’t help but sob as she hugged me warmly. For the first time in my life I felt what it is called to be a motherly feeling.

Chapter 29 – Attack In The Party Night



REESE’S POV

“Oh, god..... Please no crying and sobbing now. It’s a happy occasion and we should celebrate it” I heard a cheerful womanly voice. I broke the hug and looked over Luna Astrea’s shoulder to see a beautiful woman smiling towards me. She stepped closer to us still wearing that heart warming smile.

“Reese, she is Tanea, my sister in law” Savannah said instantly introducing her.

“Yeah, that’s me, the one who had to endure her aggressive brother” Tanea said and we all heard a low growl. I saw Savannah’s brother was instantly near his mate and he pulled her to him.

“What were you saying dear? Do you want me to take you back this instant?” He said, hissing.

“As I said you are too aggressive Dev. I can’t even have a womanly talk here?” Tanea rolled her eyes.

“Does that somehow mean womanly talk?” Dev raised any eyebrow.

Tanea ignored him and turned to me “it’s great that you are here Reese, we all could form a group. After waiting for years I will finally have what I wanted” she grinned.

I frowned, not understanding her words. What was she trying to say? Savannah chuckled.

“Well she was wishing to form a girls group. At first it was only me and her but now it’s growing bigger since You and Adriana are also here. It’s turning the group in perfect shape”

I smiled “I never thought about it but I would like to join too”

“Great then let’s go and have girls talk” Tanea grabbed my wrist and pulled Savannah along. She led us away from the crowd. I turned back to see Azrael was smiling at me while Dev was frowning at his wife. On the way we also dragged Adriana with us. We settled at the corner away from the party crowd.

“So what’s the matter? My husband will scowl if I don’t return soon” Adriana said.

“You are not the only one,” Tanea sighed. “I tricked him into getting away from him and had to pull all of you along. That man after becoming Alpha has become more arrogant. There’s time when I am hell frustrated with his actions”

“Looks like our life is going on the same track” Savannah shook her head. “I never understood why these men are so haughty. They would be like ‘we are above everyone’. Sometimes I am fed up” she rolled her beautiful purple eyes. Aldric in her arms suddenly moved his hands and slipped his small palm on his mother’s cheek.

“See, now he is taking his father’s side,” Savannah joked, making us laugh. “He doesn’t even know what you are talking about,” Adriana chuckled.

“Yet I must say his timing is perfect,” Tanea added grinning.

“Well, he is just showing who his father is,” I said and we all laughed again.

“But no matter what we are still bound to those arrogant men. So helpless...” Tanea sighed, shaking her head, “yet I am glad he is my mate. I couldn’t express how much I love this man” her eyes were smiling as she looked towards her mate. I sighed and turned to look at the man who stole my heart.

Azrael was talking to Dev while two other Alpha also joined the conversation. They looked like they were childhood friends, meeting after so many years of separation. Returning back with him was not bad though, I found my lost hope, my mate, friends and a family. I felt loved, happy and peaceful. I smiled as the thought crossed my mind, settling my heart.

“They looked like close friends. No one would be able to tell if they just met recently” Adriana commented.

“They are having men’s talk like we are having girl’s talk” Tanea added.

“What I want to do is to enjoy the drink but what luck I couldn’t” Savannah made a crying face. “Why don’t you grow up fast baby so that I can have my favorite drink?” She looked at her son who was oblivious about her remarks.

“You can have drinks if you use a moderate drinking method. It won’t harm the baby” Adriana said.

“I thought about it yet I couldn’t find myself to have the courage to touch the alcohol” Savannah shook her head.

“That’s why we are called mother” Tanea laughed, “want to have everything but when it comes to that little bundle of joy in the arms, we couldn’t accept it”

“I agree, when I had Josue I had to face the same situation or should I say still facing the situation” Adriana chuckled again.

I sat there hearing their conversation yet I couldn’t find myself to join in. What could I say when I am not in the same league as them. They already have their baby in their arms, feeling the motherly feelings and satisfaction where my arms are empty and my heart is mourning for the loss of my unborn baby. If I had the chance to give birth then maybe....

“Reese?” I heard Savannah’s call. I looked up to find them looking at me.

“I am sorry, I was thinking something” I smiled trying to shake off the burden of my heart.

“We didn’t mean to upset you” Savannah reached out holding my hands.

“Don’t worry, I am fine” I gave her an assuring smile. It was my karma. I have to accept it. At least I have found something and I can live with it.

“Luna” suddenly a girl walked towards us.

“Luina” Savannah smiled.

“It’s time. Master is calling you for the cake cutting” Luina informed.

“Oh, it’s finally time,” Savannah nodded, “let’s go. Looks like this little man finally needs some limelight”

I don’t know if Aldric understood what his mother said but just as Savannah finished her words he made a sound before jumping happily in her arms. We laughed and got up before walking towards the center where the giant birthday cake was waiting for the little guy. I stood beside Azrael while Tanea and Adriana did the same. I felt his arm sneaking around my waist as he pulled me closer to him.

“What happened, you looked a little disturbed” he whispered in my ear.

I shook my head, “it’s nothing. I was just thinking something”

“Did they talk about something you don’t like?”

“No, I am just too overwhelmed by my own emotions” I replied as I leaned to him. He moved his body and let my back pressed onto his front. His arms were around me, keeping me in a safe place. I felt relaxed, his scent was kind of comforting. I didn’t know what I would do without this man. I felt him kissing my head which helped me relax fully.

Soon the cake cutting was done. The little guy was too happy when his parents were feeding him the cakes. We clapped for him and wished happy birthday to the handsome boy.

“I can’t believe he has finally completed his two years,” Savannah said admiring the little guy.

“Looks like we should plan for another little one darling. I don’t think Aldric could live alone as a single child” Alpha Hardwick said, making her glare at him.

“What are you saying? Who wants another baby?” Savannah frowned at him.

“What? You want Aldric to be the only one? It will be better if he has a sister or brother to accompany him, sweetheart” Alpha Hardwick smiled.

“We are not having any conversation about this mister. Forget about it” Savannah rejected.

“But he will be all alone”

Savannah threw a hard glare at her mate “if you are that desperate go and get pregnant by yourself”

We laughed while Alpha Hardwick raised his eyebrows. He leaned forward and whispered something in his ear which immediately made her blush. Her cheeks stained with redness as she glared at him. Alpha Hardwick moved back with a satisfied smile on his face.

“Way to go man” Alpha Cassius smirked. Adriana gashed as she nudged him.

“What are you saying? Don’t start now” she frowned. Alpha Cassius didn’t reply but his eyes were holding a teasing look.

“Oh let’s distribute the cakes. We also need to enjoy this little guy’s -” before Tanea could complete her words a tumultuous sound roared outside. We looked at each other with confusion.

“What’s happening?” Alpha Hardwick frowned as he snapped.

Few men ran inside hurriedly “Alpha we are under attack” they informed.

“What? Attacked?” Savannah frowned and clutched her son in her arms tightly.

“What the fuck do you mean by attacked? What happened to our security that anyone could just come and go as they please?” Alpha Hardwick raged as he snapped. “Are you all incapable of protecting the territory?”

“Alpha, we didn’t notice anyone invading here nor did we get any news from the border. Everything was all fine until we were startled by the sudden noise. Then out of nowhere the black clad men jumped out of the ground” one the man said with a trembling voice.

“What did you say that jumped out of the ground?” Alpha Cassius asked.

The guard nodded “yes, as soon as they surrounded us, they started to fight without any words”

“Damn” Alpha Cassius cursed. “It’s them, the Hell Hound Pack. Underground attack, only they use these tricks” his eyes turned dark and his jaw clenched.

“Hell Hound?” Alpha Hardwick frowned, “I have no enmity towards them yet they still tried to attack my pack? How courage they are”

“You don’t but we do. They must have got the news of our arrival here” Alpha Cassius shook his head. I felt Azrael’s hold on my body tightened. I looked up at him only to find his serious expression.

“Whether it’s you or me, since they have dared to attack my pack, they are my enemy too. Looks like I need to show them who they are messing with” Alpha Hardwick gritted his teeth, “let’s go we need to handle the chaos outside” he swiftly turned towards the door.

Alpha Cassius, Devak and Azrael joined him. Before leaving, Azrael turned to me and said “we will clear the mess outside. Stay here with others” then he jogged and caught other’s pace.

Adriana, Savannah, Tanea and I stood closely as we stared at the door. I hope everything will be fine.

Chapter 30 – Zaniyah’s Insanity



ZANIYAH'S POV

My room was messy as all the decorations were scattered on the floor. But my heart was far from being satisfied. How could this happen? So suddenly without me knowing. I couldn't stand this pain. The man I have been admiring for years, the man I wanted to have, the man I wanted to marry, how come he suddenly became another woman's man? The woman who rejected him mercilessly. The woman who went after another man. The woman who was fucked and used by another woman. How can he accept her so easily?

"HOW?" I screamed at my top lung. "HOW COULD YOU DO THIS TO ME?" I pulled my hair getting more frustrated. NO, I can't stand him with another woman. What does that slut have in her which I don't. I am more beautiful than her, I am a fucking virgin while she was used by other man. I loved him all the time while she rejected him on the face.

"HOW COULD YOU CHOOSE HER JOHN? HOW COULD YOU?" I yelled and threw the flower vase on the mirror. The mirror crashed, shattered in pieces then falling on the floor. Through the scattered pieces I could still see my own reflection. I could see how broken my heart is – have been the moment I heard him bringing back his mate.

"What's happening?" I heard my brother's voice. He opened the door and walked in. "What the fuck Zaniyah? What the hell are you doing?"

I looked up "can't you see? This is who I am" I pointed to the scattered pieces of mirror. "This is how my heart is. Can you see this dear brother? Tell me how I am going to pull them together and join them?"

Jaxson looked shocked "fuck Zaniyah are you crazy? You have broken all the things in the room"

“Why do you care about useless things but not me?” I screamed. “Are you even my brother?”

His eyes widened “what the hell are you sprouting? Breaking things like this, will it mend your situation?”

“You don’t even understand me Jaxson. You can’t because you don’t know how painful it is to see the man I love is fucking another woman. He was touching her, flirting with her and taking her to parties. It should have been me. It should be me in that slut’s place” I yelled at him. “But no, he doesn’t understand it. He brought back the woman who rejected him”

“Zaniyah calm down okay” Jaxson walked towards me, “Reese is John’s mate. Even if you don’t like her, you can’t change this fact. They are bound by the mate bond. They are blessed by the Moon Goddess”

“She was a rejected mate. A mate that went after another man leaving him behind. She didn’t care about him before now she is here? Why because that bastard man she went after is dead now?” I shook my head, “she is nothing but a slut who couldn’t keep her legs close. She doesn’t want John but what she wants is John’s power. John didn’t understand this yet brought her here. I couldn’t let him drown in her seduction. I have to pull him out of her clutch”

“You are not going to be in the middle of their affair. Am I clear?” Jaxson glared at me. “You don’t know John, he is not someone you can talk to and he will follow your words. If you think you can manipulate him deftly then I must warn you, you are underestimating him”

I glared at him. My vision was blurred with unshaded tears as I looked at him. He was my brother then why is he taking the other side instead of me? He should help me with my work. He should help me find ways to discard that slut from this pack.

“You are my brother. Why are you taking their side? You should help me with my plan” I hold his shoulder, “why are you incomprehensible about this matter? That slut is seducing John. You know me Jaxson. I loved him for years. I have seen him getting hurt because that slut rejected him. I have been waiting for him to recover from this trauma so that I can express my feelings. But look, that woman again entered his life and snatched my position and my man. She doesn’t deserve him. The only person John deserves is me”

Jaxson gave an unreadable expression “you have gone crazy. I won’t let you do any imbecile act”

My anger rose in my chest “I am not dumb you bastard. Why are you so against me?” I screamed at him pushing him away. Jaxson fell on the floor because of my unexpected push and hissed when the scattered pieces of flower vase pierced his skin. He turned around and got up. I could see her arms were bleeding. Oh god what did I do?

“I am not against you. I just don’t want you to get hurt, you doltish. You have already lost your insanity. I am not allowing you to perpetrate any kind of demented action under my watch” his time was hard and cold which made me feel terror inside. He walked towards the door.

“Jaxson I...”

“You are going to clean this mess Zaniyah before I return. I want this room to be as it was before. I will bring dinner in your room. Without my permission you are not stepping out of this place” Jaxson snapped before leaving the room. I fell on the bed and sobbed.

What am I going to do now?

REESE’S POV

I looked anxiously towards the door. It has been an hour already but there’s no news from outside. I want to go outside and check what’s happening. My

anxious heart couldn't settle peacefully until I saw his face. Beside me Savannah sighed.

"He fell asleep" she looked at her son who was currently taking his peaceful nap. "He must be tired"

"Shall we put him in his room?" Tanea asked.

"We don't know what's happening outside" Adriana said, "I am getting anxious now. I don't think it's a good choice to bring Aldric in his room. No one knows where and how the enemies will attack us"

"Adriana is right. It's better to stay close" I added with agreement.

"I am thinking the same. I can't have my son out of my reach" Savannah looked at her son.

"What's taking them so long?" Tanea but her lips. "What a mess! The perfectly planned party turned into waste and all because of those bastards. Hell, I felt like going out and killing few of them to satisfy my heart"

"Feelings are mutual" I added, "I couldn't rest myself waiting for them to return back" I shook my head.

"Alpha Cassius said the enemies were using underground attack" Tanea mentioned, "I never heard of such techniques"

"Well, I have encountered it once. Though it was not an actual battle, I have seen the technique. They dig holes in the ground making a secret way after measuring the enemies position then attack them from behind," Adriana explained.

"You witnessed them?" Savannah gasped "where?"

"It was a long time ago. At that time Cassius and my relationship was not good. I still remember that day, he was taking me forcefully to attend a party

of his friend. On the way back home, we encountered the ambush but it was settled because Cassius already knew it would happen ” Adriana explained.

“So they are the same enemies?” I frowned.

“What Cassius said, I guess they are,” Adriana nodded.

“Okay, I am done” Tanea got up from her chair, “I can’t keep myself anxious about the scenario outside. It’s fucking frustrating. I am going out now”

“Tanea what are you saying?” Luna Astrea gasped, “it’s not a wise choice”

Tanea groaned, “mom I can’t stand this anxiety anymore. I felt like I was going through a huge trauma thinking about what’s really happening outside. It’s better for me to go out and check or I think my heart will explode at any moment”

I got up nodding “if you are going out then so do I. Let’s get out together”

“What are you two up to now? Are you crazy? The pack members and your mates are fighting outside yet you two are behaving like this...” Luna Astrea shook her head, “your mates won’t be happy with your action” she warned.

“Damn” Tanea cursed. I sighed and bit my lips. I don’t know how long I can endure this foreboding feeling inside me.

“Ah they have returned” I heard Luna Astrea’s declare and my head almost snapped towards the direction of the door. I heaved a sigh when I saw Azrael walking inside with others. Before I knew I was already walking towards him. Without any words I threw myself on him. My actions caught him off guard as he stumbled backwards holding me in his arms.

“Darling?” I heard him say but I was more into devouring the feeling of his arms. “What happened?” He asked again.

“I was scared,” I whispered.

“I am fine,” he replied slowly.

“I know”

He pulled away, making me look at his face. There were a few scratches on his face but it wasn't deep. I reached out, touching his wound. He held my wrist and smiled.

“I am fine. Nothing happened to me”

I sighed “I just couldn't help it”. He leaned his head before dropping a kiss on my lips.

“Let's go, others are waiting” he whispered and I nodded. I looked back to see the girls were with their mates. Azrael led me towards them while keeping his hand on my waste.