

Chapter 4 - Adriana's Confrontation - Claiming His Resisting Mate - Raina Lori

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REESE'S POV

"What are you doing here Peaches?" Alpha asked as he got up from his seat.

"I heard John brought his woman, so I came to meet her" Adriana walked towards me before holding my hand. "You are really beautiful"

"Don't go with the outer look Peaches, good looks are deceiving" Alpha's tone was rough and harsh. I know whom he is referring to. But I can't feel bad from that, I am totally what he is thinking and even if I am not, I have to be. Because this is the only way I could get out of the pack and his life.

To my surprise Adriana rolled her eyes "you don't have to be so harsh on her, Cassius. Even if you have grudges on her, you need to hold it back sometimes" she glared at her mate before flashing a smile towards me. "Don't mind him. I was curious to meet you. It has been years since John told us about his mate but in the end he never brought you here. Anyways, I came to have a little chat with you. Shall we?"

She is so sweet, like the peaches that Alpha called her. We are strangers but her behavior seemed like we are friends forever. She is so nice, touching my heart. How can I neglect her or refuse her? I smiled with a nod.

"Great" her smile widened "let's get out of it, this room is suffocative" she made a gesture with her hand making Alpha Cassius frown. I couldn't help but chuckle at her antics. She is humorous too.

We walked out of the study room while the males were still inside. Facing Alpha Cassius was fearful, he gives that dominant aura that I never felt with Avan. The dominant Alpha aura I have seen first was with Hardwick. I shook my head slightly. What am I thinking? I won't be staying here for long.

"I am sorry, if Cassius caused distress for you" Adriana said as we walked.

"It's fine, I can understand his behavior. He is unrest about my entrance in the pack"

She smiled "you don't have to worry about that. Cassius might be strict and look dominant but he is not a bad Alpha type. You know, he is protective of his pack members. With time you will understand his behavior more"

"Maybe I won't be lucky enough to see that"

My remark made her frown "what do you mean?"

"I have no intention of staying here for long. And why I am here is out of coincidence nor was I intending to find John again after these years" I replied truthfully.

"So you mean, you want to leave?"

I nodded "yes"

"Can you?" Adriana smiled "your name?"

"Reese," I smiled.

"So what I was saying , can you really leave? John will be devastated"

My chest clenched tightly. I know that but how could I dream of living a happy life when I am in the way of destruction. Two years ago I destroyed the happy bond that was blessed by the moon goddess, hurting my own destined mate and rejecting his love and care. In simple words I am too ruined to be enough for him.

"I know" my voice was not more than mere whispers.

"Then why?" Adriana looked confused.

"I guess you know about my past life Luna?" I asked.

"Call me Adriana please, Luna seemed more like official and old"

I giggled at her words. Adriana is really nice, she knows when to play her cards.

"What about your past?" She asked.

"My past is my biggest nightmare. Which I am trying to move on from and I just can't drag him with me. It's hard"

"You are challenging the ego of your mate dear. If you ask me, then I would like to suggest you don't do this. Everyone has their past, and we all know it's not changeable. Past is to give lessons and to learn from it, to change yourself, to rectify and to hope for the best future. This is what we all do, and you are not any exception"

I nodded "you are right. Yet my past has something more than that. I have learnt so many things. I could never disagree. Even so there are more things added that fuel the fire, which seemed to be unstoppable. I am still burning because of it, I don't want him to go along with me. It will be more hurtful than the past"

"Is it about your ex-lover?"

I looked at her, they all knew about Avan's matter, didn't they? I couldn't expect to get hidden all of the time.

"He was destructive beyond any imagination and I let him. I was so egotistical, I went on ruining my sister's life. Snatching her mate and even pouring all the accusations over her. My egotistic mind never lets me think carefully. Until I realized everything it was too late. Fortunately my sister got her happy ending. She found her second chance and she is happy with her life. As for me, I have long way to repent my misdeeds"

"Reese, no one is free from the bondage of the past. We all have our own story to regret and repent. But it's not worthwhile to ignore your present because of it. You have to live, and if someone is eager to lend a hand, you shouldn't refuse it. I know you are remorseful, yet you can't decide on John's side. Why don't you just let him decide what he wants?" Adriana said.

"Adriana, you are right. I don't know how to say this. I am not-" before I could speak she stopped me.

"I know what you are trying to say. Listen to me first okay?"

I nodded. Right now my emotions are pulling, and I felt like I could cry any moment. I have always been the tough one, I have seen Savannah cry and beg yet I was too merciless thinking she is weak. She even witnessed me and Avan having sex, it was hurtful, I was not unaware. Hence, she left, rejecting

Avan with bravery fighting for her own right. At that time I knew she was not weak. She was the strongest woman. And right now, there is Adriana.

"Do you know why Cassius's behavior was tyrannical in the study?" Adriana smiled "it's because he loves John. John was not only his beta, the second powerful in the pack but also his good friend. Cassius and John grew up together, they are like fidus Achates"

I guessed it right. Alpha Cassius doesn't like me in any way.

"Two years ago, at one night John returned looking devastated. His eyes were red and he had scratches on his body. It was deep wounds piercing his skin. Cassius was so worried. He immediately called for the best doctors in the pack" Adriana sighed. "For three days John had fever, his wounds were deep"

I gasped "three days?"

She nodded "yes, we believe others couldn't harm him like that because he is strong. So he might have caused the wound by himself. He had to stay for two months in bed before Cassius allowed him to join his work again. Since then John was quite distant. Though he behaved normally, we knew something was not right. Cassius ordered his secret informers to investigate and that's when we got to know about you. John was unwilling to tell what exactly happened but Cassius threatened him so he told about the rejection"

My chest was tight and my head was spinning. That night I was suffering in pain. But I never expected him to cause harm to himself. It might be too painful. The rejection of bond caused both of us pain and then who's fault is that?

YOU - my heart screamed. Yes, it's me. I am the reason behind his pain. I am the reason for his suffering. Now I feel I am more unworthy of him. I felt disgusted with myself.

"But he is happy now" Adriana's sudden comment made me look at her.

"What?" I asked without understanding.

"He looked happy and I can tell just by seeing him today" she held my hand "Reese, you are his happiness. Whatever you have or you both faced in the past it could be sorted out if you two just sit and talk about it. But I want to

suggest you please don't take any kind of decisions that will lead both of you in despair"

My heartache raised severely. Her words made me think over the matter again. I don't know what I should do now?

"Adriana I don't know what to do. Whatever happened to him, it's all my fault. How could I live with it? He will be in pain if I stay with him. I am not worthy of him" I said to her, "please try to understand, I am doing this for him. Maybe he could find a second chance too, like my sister"

Adriana smiled "will your leaving make him happy?"

I looked at her. We both know the answer yet none of us spoke in reply. I sighed and about to reply when I heard the familiar masculine tone behind me.

"I will see how she leaves without me knowing"

And that's it. He is here again.