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Leila looks at Carmela and her eyes are full of remorse but Carmela's words barely have any effect on her.

She keeps saying she doesn't want to be Luna but her actions would suggest otherwise but now is not the place to air such grievances.

Besides, like her, Carmela is just a victim in all of this too, she was supposed to be married to Tatum, was supposed to be Luna, she has been preparing for it half her life, only to have it snatched away from her.

It must be hard for Carmela coming back to see another woman living her life and her best friend for that matter, she has been so selfish she didn't even consider Carmela's feelings about seeing her with Tatum.

Before she can reply, the security guard grabs the Luna closest to them and holds a knife against her throat.

"If I see any eyes glow, I will slit her throat and kill as many of you as I can before your men get here," he warns them sternly not to mindlink for help.

The rest of the women are terrified, muffling their half screams but Leila's eyes are focused on the tattoo of a snake on his forearm, her heart racing, there is something about it, she has seen it before, she just cannot remember.

"Which one of you is the Luna of the blood Oak pack? Step forward

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now or she dies," the man growls, stabbing the Luna's neck with less force.

The rest of the women all turn to Leila and Carmela. One is the phoenix Luna, chosen by the goddess to bless the pack. The other is a substitute Luna, chosen by the Alpha in the absence of his true mate.

Which of them will take the responsibility?

Leila's heaves a sigh, scared to give herself up but she can't let another Luna be hurt on their pack borders, it would taint Tatum's reputation.

"Let her go. I am the one you are here for," Leila steps forward, her eyes holding no fear in it even if in her heart, she ails at what may befall her.

The man flicks his finger for her to come to him and when she does, he pushes the other Luna forward but suddenly, Carmela lunges at him, claws baring, aiming for his face but the man is quick to use Leila for cover and Carmela slashes the back of Leila's head, sending her to the floor.

As Leila falls to the ground, everything in her vision becomes a blur, she sees how the man's claws tear into Carmela's arm before he runs off and a sense of *deja vu* hits her before everything goes completely dark.

It feels just like the night Carmela was kidnapped.

When Leila's eyes open hours later, she is back in their pack hospital

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and Amanda is by her side, a few nurses attending to her as well.

Amanda heaves a huge sigh of relief when she sees Leila's eyes flutter open.

"Thank the goddess you are finally awake," Amanda squeezes Leila's arm gently.

Leila zaps to her butt and despite the crippling pain that trashes her head, her hands fly to her stomach, her eyes full of fear as she stares at Amanda.

"Is it okay?"

"Yes, yes...everything is fine, you need to lay back," Amanda replies, helping Leila lie back on the bed.

"Leila, you need to be-" Amanda glances at the nurses in the room and frowns.

"Both of you, excuse us," She orders curtly and for some reason, the nurses chuckle, looking at Leila as they leave.

"What is that about?" Leila groans out her words, staring at the direction of the women who just left.

"Ignore them," Amanda replies, waving it off. "Leila, listen to me. You cannot keep getting hurt and losing blood. You are carrying an Alpha's child inside of you and without your wolf, it will be a miracle for you to birth it without complications, if you keep putting stress on your body, the pregnancy might fail." [1](#)

Leila sucks in a breath, her eyes filling with tears and she rubs her

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stomach with her hands, peeking down at it. "What do I do Amanda? I don't want to lose my baby."

"Look," Amanda's voice goes from concerned to serious. "I know you have your reasons but you may have to tell the Alpha. The only reason you are strong enough to carry the child now is because of his mark but one more incident like this and your baby won't make it. If the alpha knows, perhaps he can pay you more attention and ensure you are always safe."

Leila stares at the white bulb above her before she closes her eyes and takes a deep breath, looking back at Amanda but before she can reply, they hear a loud procession of singing, chanting and clapping coming from the hallway. [1](#)

"All hail the phoenix Luna! All hail the phoenix Luna! She risked her life once, she risked her life again, to save not one but two other Lunas!"

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