

## Chapter 40

Leila looks up at Tatum, silent tears coating her eyes at the way he yells at her in front of everyone because of Carmela when she is telling the truth.

How long is he going to keep treating her like this? How much more can she endure? 1

She is only a woman blindly in love with him and she only wants a little bit, just a little bit of his affection to show her that he cares, that if she keeps hope, they may yet be a chance for them.

She blinks and as the tears roll down her eyes, she comes to a painful realisation.

Tatum will never love her. 2

No matter what, she will never mean anything to him.

Just now when she woke up, she was terrified, terrified that she had lost their child, she wished he was the one beside her but he was with Carmela instead.

Carmela's strike was lethal, she could have died today, she and her baby, the bandage around her head and the throbbing pain she feels in it is a testament of that but does he care?

All he cares about is taking Carmela's side, every fucking time like she's some vindictive witch who just loves to pick on Carmela.

"I know what I am saying, you spend all your time with her, did you

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ever see such a scar on her?" Leila keeps her tone firm.

She will not be intimidated, not this time.

"Leila, shut up! I don't want to hear it!"

Tatum's voice is cold and harsh but unlike every other day when a cold command from him shuts Leila up and stuffs her feelings deep inside her, she scowls at him.

It is like something snaps inside her. Perhaps the basket holding all her emotions inside her, becomes too full, breaking apart and she snaps.

"Take your phoenix Luna and get out, I don't want to see you, any of you," Leila's voice is cold and takes Tatum by surprise and even Amanda is shocked, her eyes flying wide apart.

"Phoenix Luna? Where is this coming from? You can clearly see she's hurt and not in a condition for this," Tatum replies coldly.

"And I look like I'm in a perfect condition to you? I know you only care about her and you don't give a fuck about me but please don't take me for a fool, she never had any scar and you know it—"

Leila grips her head, wincing it at the sharp pain that jolts through it, darkening her vision momentarily.

Amanda rushes to her side. "Alpha please, take Carmela and leave, her condition could get worse."

"I'm fine," Leila refuses to let up, speaking through the pain in her head, speaking from the pain in her heart.

"She didn't have any scar and you know it," her voice breaks into a near sob.

"I'm not so jobless to be checking her body for scars, if she says she had a scar then she did, she has no reason to lie. Now drop this matter," Tatum reprimands her, his eyes cold and hard.

Carmela puts a sad pout on her lips and she grumbles.

"I can't keep doing this Tatum, I should be your Luna but I bear the pain of seeing you with her and this is how she treats me. Enough is enough. When are you going to do right by me? Just tell me how long you need, I'll wait."

"I'm highly disappointed in you, Leila. You and Carmela are best friends and I've talked to you about this, to allow me some time to figure things out. Why must you still push her to the wall?"

Leila scoffs, every word from Tatum's lips fanning the flames of her anger. Tatum was her best friend, not Carmela.

Carmela was close to her, very close, up until Carmela got that silly mark and then suddenly turned into a bitch overnight and then she kept trying to keep their friendship alive to no avail.

"Tatum, you know what, you don't need time, you want to be with her, let's face it-"

She winces again, her vision spinning, her head banging.

Tatum notices the reddening of the white bandage around the edges, her wound is bleeding out.



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"Leila," Tatum tries to hold her but she slaps his hand away.

She's done with him, whether he agrees or not.

"Don't. Don't even fucking try to touch me!" Her eyes are bereft of any emotion, her voice cold as ice.

Tatum looks at those eyes, their iciness sending a chill down his spine, he knows this look.....it was the same look she had in her eyes days ago when she told him she wanted a divorce.

"I-"

His heart suddenly pounds and he doesn't let her finish, he doesn't want to hear it, so he rushes over and clamps his hand over her mouth.

His fearful grey eyes staring deeply into her cold blue ones.



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