Chapter 59

"Rise and shine!"

Leila feels someone throwing her duvet off her body before she hears the shrill voice that follows, Carmela's voice.

She immediately sits up and wears a cold look. She has been wondering when Carmela would show up to torment her.

At last the day is finally here.

"What do you want, Carmi?" Leila asks in a straight tone.

Carmela places her index finger on her lip, squinting her eyes and smiling coyly down at Leila with a pout on her lips.

"Hmmmm, what do I want? Well, none of that matters, the Alpha has instructed me to take utmost care of you while he's away and I'm going to give it my all," Carmela replies in a cheerful tone.

"Away?" Leila retorts, her heartbeat suddenly increasing. "What do you mean 'away'? Where is Tatum?"

"Well, he didn't exactly specify his location but-"

"Never mind," Leila cuts Carmela off, reaching for her phone.

Why would Tatum leave the pack without telling her? Does he intend to keep her a prisoner here forever? What is wrong with him?

She dials Tatum's number endlessly but it's not going through, she tries to reach him through the mindlink but he seems too far away for it to connect.

What the hell is going on?

"I'm leaving," She says, standing up from the bed and Carmela gently steps out of her way but the guards at the door are rooted firmly to the spot, blocking her path.

"Get out of my way!" She yells at them but the men don't move an inch.

"That is an order your Luna, step aside!"

"Sorry Luna," one of them replies, baring his neck to her. "But these are the Alpha's orders. You are not allowed to leave this room."

Leila groans in frustration, stepping back into the room. She is basically imprisoned here with no way to get out. Kelvin won't reply to any of her texts and his calls won't connect.

Now that Tatum is away, it is her best chance to escape. Her wolf's message has been in her head since that day and her bump is already visible when she's naked, it's only a matter of time before it can be seen under clothing.

"Leila please seat," Carmela says in a calm voice, pointing to the bed but Leila stays rooted to the spot, her arms folded against her chest, her gaze cold.

Carmela sighs.

"I'll admit. The last couple of days between us have been — rough, but it doesn't have to remain like that. Tatum and I are getting engaged once he returns and to show you that I have truly put everything behind me, I would love for you to be the maid of honour at our wedding," Carmela says in a soft and remorseful tone.

Anger and bitterness immediately churn in Leila's gut and if looks could kill, Carmela's corpse would have begun to rot already.

Beneath Carmela's sweet and innocent voice and the poise look she has on her face, Leila can see her spite clearly and hear the mockery in her tone.

She doesn't deserve this. Why is Tatum doing this to her? Is it not enough that he has turned this house into a prison cell for her?

Must she suffer this utter ridicule at the hands of Carmela too?

"I wish you a happy married life Carmela, now get the hell out of my room," Leila replies coldly, not hiding her hostility.

"Leila, we really do not have to fight. I am your friend, please," Carmela says, walking closer to Leila.

"Carmela, please, just leave. Maybe we can be friends again but I just need to be alone right now," Leila replies in a softer tone.

Carmela halts, a small smile creeping up her face. "That is good enough for me. I brought you all your favourite cookies," she points to a box on the dresser that Leila didn't even notice.

"Thanks," Leila replies blandly, glancing at the door and Carmela takes the cue, stepping out of the room.

Leila lets out a loud scream of frustration and collapses on her bed before she looks at the box of cookies Carmela had brought her.

No matter how innocent and remorseful Carmela appears to be, she cannot touch anything Carmela gives her.

Carmela is not the type to let go of something easily, there's something behind this forced kindness and compassion towards her, she has to be careful.

[Amanda, I need you to come to my house. I need to find a way to get out of here.]

She takes out her phone and texts Amanda.

Amanda replies immediately.

[What's going on? The Luna office announced this morning that the Alpha is off on an official trip and his mansion is under lockdown, no one is allowed to visit. It must be that bitch...I'll see what I can do.]

Leila clenches her phone in her fist, taking a deep breath. Amanda cannot flaunt an official order for her, she won't even allow it.

Carmela is up to something and it's nothing good.

Does she call her mom?

No, she's only going to get the poor woman unnecessarily worried.

What does she do? Is this really her life now?

Has she really become a prisoner in what once used to be her palace?