

Chapter 73

Her heart hammers against her chest with such ferocity like it is trying to burst out.

Anger, hatred, bitterness, resentment, everything she feels for Leila doubling their portion in her heart.

Tatum turns with Leila still hanging off him but he quickly drops her, holding her firm in front of him to cover his boner.

Adaline rushes in, immediately attacking Leila.

“What have you done to her this time, you—”

“Mother....” Tatum growls, his alpha aura blazing and the pressure is so intense that Adaline feels the name she is about to call Leila run back down her throat. 1

Tatum sighs deeply, running his hand down his hair, glancing at Carmela who is white and pale as a ghost.

How does he navigate this without hurting her feelings too much? Leila is his priority, he knows but still, it's not so fair on Carmela.

“Can you not call her names? I know she's not your favourite but she's my wife and the Luna of this pack, you should show her some respect,” Tatum says in a calmer tone, giving Leila a small smile.

Adaline snorts, scowling at Leila. “Fine, as long as—”

“And she's carrying your grandchild, you may want to show some extra care.”

Adaline freezes, looking from Tatum to Leila with her mouth agape.

“Are you joking? She doesn’t even have a wolf. How can she support your child?” Adaline recovers and says with a frown on her face.

“You disappoint me mother, why would I joke with a thing like that? You are going to have a grandchild, the blood oak pack is going to have an heir,” Tatum replies with a small smile curving up his lips.

Adaline squints her eyes, looking at Leila calculatingly before she steps close to Leila and holds her side, twisting her sideways like she is checking out a commodity she wants to purchase.

“How long?” She asks Leila, taking a step back, a suspicious look in her eyes.

“About two months plus,” Leila replies monotonously, not missing the cold and sinister look in Carmela’s eyes.

“Hmm...And how long have you known?” Adaline’s voice turns curt, her eyes staring straight into Leila’s eyes.

Leila glances at Tatum and hesitates to answer. He did not even ask her any of these questions. When she told him earlier, he was just happy to know he is becoming a father.

“I’ve known for over a month now,” Leila mutters.

“A month?!” Adaline yells her eyes flying wide open, “what is wrong with you Leila? How could you keep something like this from us for so long?”

“I didn’t mean to—”

“There’s no excuse for such behaviour. It’s already a miracle that your body can hold my grandchild. If we don’t take the right measures now, something could go wrong in the latter stages. We need to make sure your body remains in prime condition for delivery,” Adaline cuts Leila off.

Leila frowns. “I’ve been taking necessary measures. My child and I are fine.”

She knows Adaline doesn’t care about her but at least she cares about the baby, that in itself is a good thing and she hopes it can buy her some peace from the woman’s nagging and abuse.

“Well I won’t be certain until I take you to the doctor myself, I can’t risk the life of my grandchild to your neglect,” Adaline almost snorts at Leila.

Leila feels a butter twirl in her stomach at Adaline’s insinuation that she might be neglecting her child and is about to reply when Tatum intervenes.

“Mom, we can’t entirely blame her for taking this long to tell.....let us talk in private,” He says, walking towards the exit of the kitchen to the backyard.

Adaline locks eyes coldly with Leila before she follows Tatum and Carmela who had stood pale all through walks back towards the living room and Leila follows her.

“Carmi, wait.”

Carmela doesn’t listen or stop, she just keeps walking up the stairs and Leila follows her.

“Carmela,” Leila calls out again but Carmela ignores her.

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“Two captains can’t sail one ship, Carmi. I can’t have you living in the same house with me anymore. Not after what you tried to do. You have to leave,” Leila says coldly and Carmela halts at the height of the stairs as Leila catches up to her.

“You bitch,” Carmela spins and attempts to push Leila down the stairs but Leila quickly moves out of the way and the sheer force of Carmela’s push sends her tumbling down the stairs.

The sound of her falling and her yelling makes Tatum and Adaline run out of the kitchen and Theo runs towards them from the dining room too.

“What happened?” Tatum asks and Carmela immediately bursts into tears, clinging to Tatum’s feet.

She conveniently points at Leila at the very top of the stairs. “I was only trying to congratulate Leila for the baby and she pushed me down the stairs.”



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