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Humming a tone to herself with a little smile on her lips, Leila pours out two glasses of orange juice. She stares down at her stomach and her bulge is becoming quite noticeable.

Her smile morphs into a full one and she runs her hand down her stomach, her heart feeling fuzzy, before placing the glasses on a tray, retrieving a box of cookies from one of the kitchen drawers and placing some on a plate which she puts on the tray and makes her way to the living room.

She has already sent over a letter to the pack witch to inform her of her intention to have a meeting and all that remains is for it to be scheduled.

"Here," she hands Tatum one of the glasses and he slowly takes it, barely saying a word or really even looking at her.

It feels strange to Leila that he did not even thank her or smile as he normally does.

Is everything okay with him?

She hasn't really paid him much attention in the past few days with her running around, trying to investigate but Tatum is not the type to be in a sour mood.

"There are cookies too," Leila pushes the tray towards him, watching his rather sour expression closely.

"Hmm," Tatum replies, his head buried in his phone and he barely takes a small sip from the glass before he drops it and adjusts his position on the couch, laying his head on the arm rest and stretching his legs out.

Leila scoffs softly, feeling a bitter pang in her heart at his passive behaviour towards her.

"Okay, what is wrong? You're acting weird," She says, dragging the hem of his shorts.

"Nothing," Tatum moves his face away from his phone and replies before immediately facing it again.

"It is not nothing, what is going on?" Leila frowns at him.

Can he not even drop his phone and pay her attention for a minute?

What is he doing that is so important?

"Leila, I'm fine, seriously," Tatum replies, his phone still glued to his face.

He doesn't know how to tell her what is on his mind without triggering her. He sees all of her secret movements, he knows she recently got another phone that she is hiding from him but he is still trying to trust her.

It hurts when his own wife lies and hides things from him but he knows it will hurt even more if he cannot control himself and confront her and she decides to leave.

No matter how much pain he is going through right now, he is willing to go through much more as long as she remains his.

"Is it because of her? Do you miss her?" Leila's sharp voice reaches his ear and he breaks his gaze away from his phone.

Who is she talking about? Carmela?

It breaks his heart that she would get such an impression. The only woman he thinks of is her.

He drops his phone and sits up, his calm grey eyes looking straight into Leila's curt blue eyes.

"Why would I miss anyone when I have everything I need in front of me?" He replies, giving her a flirtatious smile.

"Don't give me that, I know you still spend time with her, most days you come home reeking of her smell," Leila's voice is cold and her annoyance reverberates through her tone.

Tatum sighs defeatedly. He does spend time with Carmela but it is not how Leila thinks. Carmela always comes to his office or bumps into him randomly, mostly in places where he cannot avoid her.

He may not feel the same way he does for Leila towards Carmela but she is still his duty and he must try his best to keep her happy without making Leila feel insecure.

"It's not what you think," He stands up and holds the side of Leila's arm but she shrugs him off.

"Now you want to talk to me and explain when I mention her? Leila folds her arm stiffly against her chest. "What is your plan Tatum? Where does all of it end?"

Tatum opens his mouth to reply but he cannot find the words or rather he doesn't know how to tell Leila that his only plan, the one plan he is willing to stake everything upon is to keep her by side for eternity.

"You can bring her back if that will make you happy, just don't wear a

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sour face around me," Leila says in a calmer tone but her words slice through Tatum's heart.

He asked Carmela to leave so she could be more comfortable in the house, he practically threatened his mother to never be hostile towards her again or this will be her last visit until the child is born.

He is trying the best he can but it doesn't seem to be enough for her to see it's only her he wants.

"Leila..."

"I mean it but I may move to the pack house, you can always visit me t—"

Leila pauses as the entrance door opens and none other than Carmela walks in.

Speak of the devil.



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Leila rolls her eyes at Carmela and practically storms upstairs to her room. She cannot ask Carmela to leave, she doesn't want to upset Tatum.

She doesn't even know why she mentioned Carmela to him in the first place, it was her jealousy speaking.

What woman would be happy that the man she is crazily in love with is thinking of another woman?

She slams the door shut, crashing on the bed, seething with a scowl on her face.

She feels so much rage at the mere sight of Carmela with everything that she has discovered so far. She needs to find a way to quickly expose Carmela for who she really is.

When will Kelvin get back to her on the assassin? That is the only live thread she can pull right now.

She suddenly jumps up, remembering she had left her secret phone on the couch in the living room. Both her phones are identical so she can use them simultaneously without arousing any suspicion.

Now she has to go and face Carmela? The bitch better not do anything to piss her off, she is not in a very happy mood right now.

The moment Leila comes down the stairs, Adaline shifts away from Carmela, almost as if she doesn't want Leila to see them together.

Carmela notices it and gives Adaline a look but Adaline looks away, remembering her discussion with Tatum.

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Commented [Ma1]:

"Leila, how are you? It's been a while," Carmela says in a cheery tone, beaming with a smile from ear to ear.

"It's only been a few days," Leila replies coldly, glancing around for her phone.

"Carmela," Tatum says almost immediately after Leila, dragging Carmela's attention away from Leila.

"How was your job interview at the bank?"

"Thanks to you, it was awesome. I didn't think they would take me since my time being kidnapped couldn't make me finish school, I may still need to go for some course or something like that, according to the manager."

"That's beautiful Carmi, I'm proud of you. If anyone can ace that course and nail the job, it's you," Tatum replies, giving her a thumbs up, a big proud smile on his lips.

"It's not me, I think I'm only reaping the benefits of being close to you," Carmela replies in a coy tone.

"Have you seen my phone?" Leila asks Tatum directly, breaking their conversation.

No matter how many times she sees this closeness between Tatum and Carmela, her feeling will always be one of sadness.

Just a few minutes ago, Tatum was sour and would not even look at her but now, talking to Carmela, his smile is as bright as the sun.

Perhaps, she can never really compete with Carmela in his heart, if he

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didn't ask her to stay before he found out she was pregnant, she would have thought he is only with her because of the child.

She will never understand him. She thought she would never have to feel this way again.

"It's here," Tatum brings it out from behind him and the phone barely touches Leila's hands when it suddenly rings and she yanks it from Tatum not knowing who the caller is, half running and half walking away, tears breaking from her eyes.

Her heart leaps and she clasps her hand over her mouth, stifling her sobs as she stares at the caller ID.

It is Kelvin, this will be the first time he is calling her since Tatum banished him.

"Leila I don't have much time, listen to me, you are in danger," Kelvin says in a frantic tone and Leila can hear yelling in the background, also the sound of glass breaking.

"Kev, are you alright? Where are you? What's going on?" She asks, her heart thudding with fear.

"Leila list—"

Kelvin's voice is cut off but Leila can still hear the sound of a loud argument in the background.

"Kev, Kelvin, are you there? What's going on?" Leila's voice is full of panic and she is almost yelling, her hands trembling and her heart pounding.

"I'm here, look, this is important and that's why I'm calling. The

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assassin, the big guy with a viper tattoo on his forearm, I found him but there's more. Two years ago, just before he infiltrated our pack and attacked you, he met with Carmela, be care —" Kelvin is cut off, releasing a painful grunt like he is hurt.

Leila's eyes fly wide open and her heart jumps out of her chest both in shock from what Kelvin just told her and in fear for his well being.

"Kelvin? Talk to me..are you okay? Where are you?" She tries again, holding her phone to her mouth, a plethora of different emotions waxing her heart and mind.

"Leila..."

Tatum's voice makes her freeze and her heart only beats faster.

Did he hear everything?

"You're still in touch with Kelvin?" Tatum asks in the most heartbreaking voice, his grey eyes becoming truly sullen.



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