"How are you mother? How do you feel?" Carmela asks Adaline as Adaline's eyes flutter open, while Carmela sits beside her bed.

They are back at Tatum's house and Adaline has been comatose for two days.

"Leila! Where is Leila?" Adaline jumps to her feet and Carmela frowns.

Since when does Adaline care so much about Leila?

She even risked her life to save Leila at Aragine hill.

Her hired assassin was just about to rip out Leila's throat and she was watching on with ample joy when Adaline suddenly got up and dove at the man, throwing them both off the hill.

She got up to finish the job herself but Amanda and one other guy suddenly showed up, completely ruining her plans.

She hates it. Leila must die.

She must never find out the truth.

"Mother, Leila is fine, she's in-"

Adaline doesn't even let her finish before she dashes out of the room and it stings Carmela deeply.

"Bitch," she mutters at Adaline as she leaves.

Leila is startled when her door flies open and Adaline rushes in, hugging her tightly, much to her surprise.

"How are you? How do you feel? Have you had yourself checked?"

Adaline asks in a frantic tone, turning her left and right, checking her out.

"I'm fine mother, you saved my life, thank you," Leila replies in a tone full of warmth and gratitude.

"You're carrying my grandchild, I can't let anything happen to it," Adaline replies almost nonchalantly and an unexpected pain pricks Leila's heart.

For a tiny moment there, for a tiny fleeting moment, she let herself think Adaline cares about her as a daughter in law but it is only about the baby.

She will never be seen as more than an unwanted daughter in law in this woman's eyes.

"The baby is fine as well mother, you saved the both of us," Leila replies, flashing Adaline a pained and bitter smile.

Just at this moment, Leila's door creaks open and both women look in the direction.

Adaline heaves a huge sigh of relief and Leila's heart skips as Tatum's comforting smell engulfs her nostrils and she runs towards him.

"Did you find him? Is he back in the pack?" She asks in a frantic tone, her eyes full of anticipation, her worry and fear seeping out of her.

Her heart has been in her throat for days now and she is more than grateful that Tatum has returned. She really needs to talk to Kelvin about the assassin so they can find him and nail him before Carmela uses him to strike again.

At this point, none of them is safe, Carmela is willing to hurt anyone including herself just to get what she wants and her desperation scares Leila, especially because Carmela has perfected the heart of playing the wolf in sheep's clothing.

She schemes in such a way that makes it hard to point fingers at her without concrete proof and Kelvin is the only one she knows smart enough to come up with a plan that can back Carmela into a corner.

She needs to deal with Carmela sooner than later, she needs to protect her family, she needs to protect Tatum.

Tatum frowns as Leila rushes up to him and pain strikes his heart, darting around and making itself at home.

He has been away for over a week and Leila doesn't even bother to ask him of his well-being first; rather she asks about Kelvin with so much fear and worry.

Does she even care about him at all? Kelvin claims to be her fated mate and Leila obviously loves him too, that much is clear to him.

Does she know Kelvin has been trying to get her the cure, is that what she has been hiding from him? He could not bring himself to ask Kelvin but the fact that Leila's heart has never been and will never be with him hurts more than anything in the entire world.

He practically gave up his fated mate for her, intentionally did not try to find a cure for Carmela's wolf so he can keep using that as an excuse for why he has not done right by Carmela but he knows the truth deep down in his heart.

A truth that brings him deep and intense pain.

The truth is even if Carmela's wolf sensed his right now and the bond is completed, he has already made up his mind to still keep Leila as his wife and his Luna because he is truly in love with her, the little boy in him that fell in love with the daughter of his father's beta is still very much alive within him.

And the selfish man who took advantage of her misfortune two years ago to make her his wife is just as crazy about her now as he was back then but it is quite sad and heart breaking that his feelings will never be reciprocated because Leila's heart belongs to Kelvin, her supposed fated mate.

No matter how much the urge keeps growing in him to take Kelvin out of the picture, he cannot stand in the way of Leila's happiness.

He would rather live with the pain and regret of losing her to Kelvin than keep her from her wolf and her mate, now that a second chance has presented itself.

It hurts, it really hurts, but he cannot continue to keep her against her wish

Kelvin will have the cure brewed soon and she can take it and go be with him.

His grey eyes glances over her coldly and he brushes past her, making way to his mother and he hugs her tightly, grateful that she is alive and that she saved Leila from the assassin's attack but he also feels a little comforted from the pain jarring his heart.

"Thank the goddess you came back home safe," Adaline says in a warm

tone as she sobs in Tatum's embrace.

"I heard what happened mother, the pack members sang your praises the moment I stepped into the packgrounds. It is good to know you haven't lost your strength. We are all indebted to you for saving our heir," Tatum says, breaking the hug and he kisses Adaline's forehead.

"How do you feel, are you well?" He asks with deep concern.

"I am fine but you must hunt down whoever did this," Adaline replies with a cold sneer on her face.

"It is the same person who attacked us at the summit, I saw his face," Leila says in a low tone.

She knows he cannot tell Tatum who hired the assassin but she hopes Tatum can also find him, one way or the other, he has to be captured and the truth has to be extracted from him.

She felt bad a few moments ago when Tatum just brushed past her coldly but seeing him clutched in his mother's embrace calms her and she understands. Adaline almost lost her life and Leila knows how much love Tatum has for his mother.

It is the kind she hopes her child will have for her one day.

"They're after Carmela again," Tatum replies sharply, his voice full of worry, "where is she? Is anyone protecting her right now?"

"Your mate is fine, I left her in my room just now," Adaline replies, placing her hand on Tatum's shoulder.

Leila doesn't know if it is her hearing or the way Adaline says it but something about hearing her address Carmela as Tatum's mate suddenly

hits her with the reminder that no matter how evil Carmela is, Carmela shares a bond with Tatum that she never will.

Tatum nods and makes his way to the door, walking past Leila without as much as a word or a glance and Leila is forced to hold him back.

What is his problem, will he still not say anything to her?"

"Did you find him?" She asks in a calm and weary tone, her heart pounding in fear of the worst.

Tatum hears the way her heart beats with fear, asking about Kelvin and he glances from her arm where she is holding him until his grey steely eyes are staring deep into her blue, demanding and pitiful ones.

"He's alive and you may be seeing him soon," he replies and yanks his hand away from her hold, making his way to Carmela.

"Leila, close the door, let's talk," Adaline says in the most serious tone, making Leila recover from the shock of Tatum's coldness towards her but she is grateful he found Kelvin, this is the beginning of Carmela's downfall.

