## Chapter 686

Reasa had hurried back to the compound hours earlier, her thoughts in complete chaos. She hadn't been sure what had frightened her more, Kothari's obvious insanity or the words Michael had spoken to her on the phone. There had been no mistaking what she had to do, and yet, now the time had come she didn't want to do it.

She was in love with Liam Eriksson, and she couldn't deny that any longer. She also couldn't be with him, that simply wasn't an option. If she chose to ignore Michael's message then thousands of vampires would die. She'd caused enough damage as it was. She just couldn't be responsible for more deaths.

It had seemed a cruel twist of fate that Liam had been leaving his Alpha's house as she'd re-entered the compound. His expression had lit up at seeing her, and any last lingering thoughts of denial had melted away as she watched him. He was quite simply the most magnificent male she had ever seen. The compassionate, humble side to him, a true balance to the wonderful vampire she had glimpsed in his mind. He was a male worthy of loving, and now she had found him, she had to leave him.

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him.

wait."

If he'd found it odd in the least that she had wanted to spend so much time with him, he had never mentioned it. Instead, he had basked in her presence, showing her around the compound as he welcomed her to his home. Even the brief moment when Cassia and Pietro had pulled into the compound late afternoon hadn't dampened the bubbling happiness emanating from Liam.

No words had been spoken that she was aware of, though the vampire had studiously ignored her. Pietro had nodded in Liam's direction, her redheaded male inclining his head in acknowledgement. No doubt Liam had been thinking that this was a good sign, and that with time, they would be able to live in harmony within the pack. His thoughts couldn't have been further from the truth, though Reasa couldn't tell him that. He would never let her out of his sight if she did.

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from now he would wake to find her gone. A lone tear escaped and trickled down her cheek, her heart feeling as if it was about to split in two.

"Reasa?" Liam murmured her name, and she couldn't resist twisting her body into his. Thick arms

Now she was lying beside him, listening to his deep breathing and knowing that a handful of hours

wrapped her securely to his chest, a thigh hooking around hers. "Why aren't you sleeping?" he asked sleepily, his eyes opening as he pulled her close.

"You snore," she answered, though it was a lie, but it brought a wry chuckle from the man beside

her.

"Do not," he laughed, "though if we're on that topic of nocturnal noises, you have this habit of

making a little mewling sound every now and then."

She doubted that very much, but she smiled at his quick comeback. "You're not very good at telling

fibs, Liam. You wouldn't last long in Europe."

In answer, he rolled over until she was beneath him, supporting his weight on bent elbows. He was

more fully awake now, and the gleam she could see in his eyes from the crescent moon's light told her he had other nocturnal activities in mind. She should stop this right now, and yet, he felt so good covering her body. She had an hour before she needed to make her move. That should be plenty of time.

"Just as well I have no plans to go to Europe," he quipped back, his body moving helplessly against

hers as he let out a low groan. "Tell me to stop now, Reasa, otherwise I have other plans that you may not approve of."

It would be that easy, of that she had no doubt. All she had to do was tell him to leave her alone and

they would once more be lying platonically beside each other. She didn't want to though, so she

wound her arms around his neck and pulled his head down to hers. "I don't want you to stop, Liam."

His big frame tensed in surprise, and she could feel his eyes burning into hers. "Reasa? Are you sure, because I can wait for however long you want. There is no rush to be together. I am willing to

She uttered a resigned sigh, amusement lacing her voice. "First you want to kiss me when I don't want you to and now when I tell you that I do, you decide to question me? Just kiss me, Liam Eriksson. I have a need that only you can assuage."  $\mathcal{W}w\mathcal{W}.n\mathbb{O} \odot \otimes \mathbb{I}wo\check{\mathsf{R}}\mathbb{M}.(c)_{\mathscr{O}}\mathbb{M}$ 

It was all he needed to hear, his head lowering the last few inches to hers. His lips brushed hers tentatively at first, a slow, lingering, gentle kiss so full of love it made the ache in her heart flare brighter. This beautiful male loved her with a passion so fierce it was staggering, and she was

planning to leave him as soon as she could slip away.

taste surpasses everything I've ever imagined."

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so richly deserved. It was weak and selfish, but if she was going to die this night then she wanted to know what it was like to love with the man who had been fated to be hers since the moment they had both been born.

Reasa opened her mouth to him, feeling the ache of having denied them both for so long. Every

It was wrong of her for wanting this moment with him, when she knew she couldn't give him what he

night they had lain together she had fought her own desire, listening to him sleep until she was too exhausted to keep her eyes open. If only she hadn't been so foolish. They could have had nights like this so many times if she'd only let down her defences and allowed Liam into her heart where he belonged.

Her kiss tasted of that knowledge, desperation creeping into her response as she arched her body

into his. She asked him for more without words, but he kept his touch gentle, soothing her

desperation with tenderness until she wanted to weep.

Liam pulled his mouth from hers; tracing tiny kisses along her jaw and down her neck. "Your skin feels like satin, so smooth and soft. I've dreamt of this for what feels like forever, Reasa, and your

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Har kiss tastad of that knowladga, dasparation craaping into har rasponsa as sha archad har body into his. Sha askad him for mora without words, but ha kapt his touch gantla, soothing har dasparation with tandarnass until sha wantad to waap.Ŵw(w).@oVeLworm.com

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