The Luna's Choice (theo and ayla) by Kat Silver Chapter 31

Chapter 31: Ayla

"I have to call Zeff," I rushed to find my phone, but Kingston grabbed me.

"Ayla, calm down," he said. "You said you just talked to him last night. You left him weeks ago and he's still fine. Whoever this is has lost interest in him."

"They were there," I said, panic making me taste bile in my mouth.

"What?"

"Whoever sent these," I said. "They were there when Theo rejected me. The c ard said they were glad I got rid of my mate. No one could have known that. Z eff was the only person I told and I doubt Theo told anyone." I pushed my han ds through my hair, pacing

the room. "We were outside in the back yard. They heard the whole conversati on."

"When did you get this first one?" Kingston asked.

"The day before I left or the morning of," I said. "I always got yesterday's mail f irst thing in the morning. Theo showed up shortly after that."

"Hey," Kingston said, dragging me against him again, "it'll be okay. We'll find o ut who's doing this. Nothing is going to happen to you."

"He's threatening you, Kingston," I said.

"And I'll be just fine," he insisted. "I've got Pierce on his way to

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set up more security cameras, and I'll keep a guard on the house going forwar d."

"Why is this happening? I didn't do anything to anyone." I started pacing again.

"Honey, it doesn't sound like he's doing this because you did something to him," he replied cautiously. "It sounds like he's infatuated with you."

"Exactly. Like I've done anything to warrant that kind of attention. I go to work, take care of my family, and keep to myself. There's nothing special about me," I said in frustration.

Kingston chuckled. "Yes, you've done nothing to warrant anyone's affection." He grabbed my arm and wrapped me in an embrace. "Except being beautiful, and smart, and inde pendent, and strong, and kind, and everything anyone could ever want."

When I started to say something, he stopped me with a kiss. I returned it, letti ng the taste of him calm my raw nerves and growing anxiety. We had shared a few of these moments over the weeks. Each time left me wanting more than the last. My arms snaked around his shoulders, enjoying the effects his. touc h always had on me.

Kingston's hands moved up my waist, one traveling up to the nape of my neck . I groaned as I felt heat growing in my core. Then he was pushing me back to ward the bed.

Pierce's voice rang through the house as I heard the front door open.

We pulled apart quickly, breathing heavily.

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"Yeah," Kingston called to Pierce. "I'll be right there."

"I'm sorry." I said. "That's probably the last thing we need to be doing when so me psycho stalker is threatening anyone who touches me."

"I don't care," he insisted. "I'm not about to give you up, Ayla. Especially not to some coward who sits in the shadows trying to scare y ou into submission."

He grabbed my hand and led me out of the room to meet Pierce at the kitchen table. He was unloading bags of

electronics – cameras, sensors, lights, and some things I didn't recognize.

"Okay," Pierce said as we approached, "We already have the alarm set up an d the existing cameras near the entrances. I'll be adding more so that we have coverage of the entire perimeter and a few inside for good measure. I'm also going to be replacing the window and door sensors. The current ones are outd ated. These new ones will link up with the

alarm. and the cameras, and everything can be accessed through your phone.

"Great," Kingston said.

"How in the world did

you get all of this so fast?" I asked, picking up a camera to examine it.

"We keep a lot of this on hand at the packhouse," Pierce said. "We like to kee p up security within the pack. These are extras for replacements. I told Kingst on this place should have been upgraded years ago, but he just kept putting it off."

"Yeah, yeah," Kingston said, taking a seat to help Pierce. "It hasn't been my to p priority."

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Chapter 31: Ayla

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Pierce gave him a bit of a dirty look. "It should have been after the night of Ayla's accident."

Kingston grimaced but tried to wave him off.

"Wait," I said curiously, "why would my accident require him to increase his se curity?"

"It's not the accident, but what led to it," Pierce clarified.

"It's nothing," Kingston said.

"Does it have something

to do with why you were in the middle of the road?" I asked, crossing my arms over my chest as I sat next to Kingston.

He had still been avoiding the subject with me. Anytime I brought it up, he wou Id brush it off and change the subject.

think he was keeping something from me. Now I was

At first, I thought he was just emb, but I started to

definitely thinking that.

Kingston sighed. "The only reason I was out here was because the alarm to the lodge went off. I came over to check things. out."

"And?"

"There was no sign of forced entry, nothing missing, so the house seemed fin e. But I thought I saw someone in the woods. and caught a strange scent," Kingston explained. "I was tracking that when you came aro und the corner."

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"So, why not just tell me that in the first

place?"

"I was careless, and that led to someone getting hurt," Kingston said. "It's not exactly my proudest moment. But all

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that matters is that it's being addressed now."

He tried to hide the threatening

look he gave Pierce, but I caught it. There was more he wasn't telling me. I wa nted to push, but at the same time, it wasn't any of my business, was it?

"Emma's coming over in a little while to hang out," I said, standing from the ch air. "I'm going to get ready."

#Lunas #Choice #theo #ayla #Kat #Silver #Chapter

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The Luna's Choice (theo and ayla) by Kat Silver Chapter 32

Chapter 32: Ayla

Emma arrived a couple of

hours later. I had only needed her as a nurse for about a week, but we got alo ng so well that we quickly became friends. We didn't have much planned for the evening, but that was kind of the point. We just wanted to sit a round and have some drinks and girl talk. It was something | hadn't had much of in my life, and I was excited.

We were settled on the back porch in the lounge chairs with a pitcher of whate ver cocktail Emma had made up when Kingston and Pierce made it to that sid e of the house.

"Not

that I mind watching our hunky Alpha and Beta working with power tools, but what is all that about?" she asked, pointing to the two men finagling a latter on the incline so they could drill the cameras in place.

"Oh, they're just updating the security system," I said. "Kingston thought it was a good idea since we've been staying here so long."

I wasn't going to tell her about the whole stalker situation.

"So, any fun plans for the weekend?" Emma asked.

I took a breath and smiled. "Actually, Kingston is bringing me into the pack to morrow."

"What?" Emma shot up in her chair. "I thought he wanted to do the big ceremo ny thing?"

"Yeah, I told him I didn't

want that. Besides, it would take too long to get that planned," I said. "And sin ce I'm off the

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Chapter 32: Ayla

crutches and starting a new internship on Monday, we thought it would be best if I didn't smell like a rogue."

"Wait, wait, wait," Emma said. "An internship?"

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I nodded. "Kingston reached out to the publisher of Second Story Publishing. She's going to train me to take over when she retires."

"Damn, girl," Emma said excitedly. "You work fast."

I laughed. "It's all Kingston's doing, really."

"You impress everybody, and you know it," she teased.

I rolled my eyes. Not everyone, apparently. Not the one person that mattered t he most.

I shook my head, not knowing where that thought had come from.

"I hope these are all good things for you, Ayla," Emma said. "I know you've be en through a lot. Hopefully, this will be the fresh start you deserve."

I smiled. "I think it will be."

"Good," Emma

stated. "Because I'm going to need you to stick around so I can get closer to a certain Beta." She wiggled her eyebrows in my direction.

"Emma," I exclaimed. "You have a thing for Pierce?"

"Um, who the heck wouldn't," she laughed. "Plus, it's been a while since I've b een on a good date if you know what I mean."

Kingston and Pierce came out to join us on the porch a little

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while later.

"Are you ladies hungry?" Kingston asked. "We've got some **pizza** on the way, but we can get something else for two."

"Pizza sounds amazing," Emma replied.

"Yeah, that sounds perfect," I agreed.

Kingston came and sat on the lounger with me, scooting me forward so he co uld slip in behind me. I rolled my eyes as Emma gave me a teasing look. Pierc e pulled up a chair and sat near Emma.

"So, what have you two been talking about?" Kingston asked as leaned back against him.

It may have been the drinks talking, but he felt so good.

"Just girl talk, Alpha," Emma said with a smile. "How goes the security install?"

"We should be all done," Kingston said.

"We still need to check for any blindspots with the floodlights once it gets dark enough," Pierce said. "But it should be sufficient going forward."

We continued to talk and hang out on the porch well into the night. It was after midnight when Emma announced she had to head home."

"I should probably call a cab," she said with a yawn.

"I'll give you a ride home," Pierce said as he stood, offering Emma a hand.

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Chart 12. Ayls

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"Well, Beta Pierce," Emma said with an airy tone, "that is mighty kind of you."

Pierce smiled.

"Well, I would hate to see anything happen to Ayla's new friend."

"And here I thought you just enjoyed my company," Emma replied, giving me a sly wink.

"Well, that too," Pierce said as he guided her into the house.

I was shaking my head at her antics, but I loved it. Her energy and attitude we re so positive it was addicting. I was glad she wanted to be my friend.

"I'm glad they're getting along," I told Kingston.

We were still sitting

in the lounge chair on the deck, and I was feeling quite relaxed. My head was buzzing a little from the alcohol, but I didn't feel drunk. It was a happy medium made better by Kingston's arms wrapped around me and his chin resting on my shoulder.

"Why is that?" he whispered.

"Because I really like Emma, and I want to hang out with her often," I said lazily. "It would be easier to know that everyone was enjoying themselves."

Kingston nuzzled my hair. "Are you planning on spending a lot of time with Pierce?"

"He is your best friend," I said. "And your Beta. So I'm sure he'll be with you pr etty often."

"Yeah," Kingston replied, his lips brushing against the skin

beneath my ear, sending chills through me. "Does that mean

Chapter 32 Ayl

you'll be spending a lot of time with me?"

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"I hope

so," I said a little breathlessly. "Otherwise, having a crush on you would get a bit awkward. Especially if you keep doing that."

And goddess, did he...

Switching between his tongue and his teeth, he traveled down my neck. His h and slipped under my shirt, trailing along my bare skin. Heat flared in my core and desire grew between my legs. Grabbing my chin, Kingst on turned my face to his, his mouth overtaking mine instantly. The kiss was feverish and I wanted more.

Igroaned as he grazed the underside of my breasts, feeling his length harden against my back, sending another jolt of desire to my core. I tried to turn, but his grip tightened, holding me in place as he broke away.

"You're making it really hard for me to stop myself, Ayla," he rasped.

"Then don't." I pulled him back to me, kissing him with the same need he had.

He groaned but pulled away again. "Ayla, you've been drinking..."

"I'm not drunk, Kingston," I assured. "I want you. You make me feel good."

There was a moment of hesitation before he was kissing me again. His mouth moved back to my neck as he repositioned me to sit forward. His hand trailed down my stomach and deftly popped the button of my jean shorts open

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Chapter 32: Ayla

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"I want you completely sober when

you give yourself to me, Ayla," he whispered in my ear, making me whimper. " But if you need to feel good, baby" – he slipped beneath my panties, making me gasp as his fingers found my clit – "I can make you feel good."

He worked circles around the sensitive nub, soliciting a moan from me as I gri pped his thighs. My head fell back on his shoulder, and he nipped and licked across any exposed flesh he could reach. His other hand slid under my shirt, pulling a breast from my bra and tweaking my nipple.

"I told you I would give you anything you need, Ayla," he murmured against m y skin. "I will take away your pain." cried as he slipped a finger inside me. "And I will give you pleasure."

And he was. Oh, he was.

He moved in and out of me, stimulating all my nerve endings. My back arched with a moan as the muscles of my core tightened. I was closing i n on what I needed.

"Do you want me to make you come, Ayla?" Kingston asked gruffly, our breath ing ragged. "Do you want me to give you pleasure?"

"Yes, Kingston," I whined. "Please ... "

He inserted a second finger and quickened his pace. I was on the edge when he thrust into

me hard. I came apart, crying out as waves of delight coursed through me, my body vibrating with the effects. I rode them out.

Until an image of Theo flashed through my mind...

6/6

The Luna's Choice (theo and ayla) by Kat Silver Chapter 33

Chapter 33: Theo

The results of the investigation into

the fire at the library weren't what I had hoped. The fire marshal's final report c oncluded that the fire was set intentionally. Since someone had targeted the pack, I ordered a full autopsy on Mrs. Walport. My suspicions were correct. He r neck had been broken. She was dead before I even entered the building.

I had dedicated every second I could to the investigation. Mom and Dad staye d at the packhouse instead of returning to the lake house. It was a big help and seemed to help lift Dad's mood. But I worried he would overwor k himself, so I had been keeping up with as many of my responsibilities as pos sible.

I

It meant I wasn't sleeping much, but it also meant I didn't have time to think ab out Kylee and our upcoming mating ceremony. Or Ayla. Although that wasn't as much of a relief as I had thought it would be. In fact, it was bothering the he ck out of me. Briggs had finally convinced me to learn more about Ayla's past the night of the fire, but that wasn't exactly something I could prioritize, consid ering the circumstances.

It was late, but I was still in my office trying to get through the supply orders we needed for the packhouse and the surrounding housing unit s. Briggs came in and sat in one of the chairs in front of my desk.

"You've got to get some sleep, man," he said. "And take a break. You can afford to at least take half the day off."

"Not yet," I said. "I'm meeting with the detectives on the

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Walport case tomorrow."

"Then get some sleep, Theo. I'll finish up in here."

I sighed and put the papers I was reviewing down on the desk. "I can't."

"Theo, you can't keep doing this. You're no good to anyone if you're burnt out.

"I'm no good to anyone if I can't even protect the pack," I snapped.

"Theo."

"I don't want to hear it, Briggs," I said. "I'm not even the Alpha yet, and I have a murderer on the loose. I can't stop until they' re found." "Fine," Briggs said, raising his

hands in surrender. "But don't forget Kylee's cousin will be here this weekend. You need to be there when she arrives and make an appearance at dinner."

"I really don't have the energy to care about that right now."

"Well, you better muster some by the time she gets here," Briggs said. "Kylee has been bitching enough about y ou never being around anymore."

His comment didn't help my mood. I had seen a change in Kylee for the first fe w days after the incident at the library, but it didn't last. It wasn't even a week before she started complaining about the things she was asked to do or finding ways to get out of them. We would have already had another talk if I hadn't been so busy. I would have to make time s oon.

This time, I would postpone the ceremony. She still had a lot

Chapter 33: Theo

to learn. That's if I even stayed with her.

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I stood from my chair, going straight to the carafe of whiskey I kept in the office and pouring myself a glass.

I didn't think I

was ready to break off our mating entirely yet. I wanted to give her more time. It's still a big change for her. If I didn't make it work with her, I wouldn't be able to try with anyone else. Not with the bond w ith Ayla still intact.

I lifted the glass but nearly dropped it as a sharp, searing pain pierced my hea rt, bringing me to my knees.

"Theo," Briggs called. "What the hell?"

The pain didn't alleviate. It was steady, making it hard to breathe. I gasped to pull air into my lungs as I tried to make sense of what was going on. It was Kie ran's agonizing howls that made me realize what it meant.

"Theo, what is it?" Briggs was at my side as I fell back against the cabinet.

I felt the tears start to well in my eyes. I really had lost her.

"Theo?"

"He's with her."

My head fell back against the wooden cabinet, my eyes closing as I let the tea rs fall, too tired and hurt to fight

them. Briggs gripped my shoulder in support but didn't say anything. There was nothing to say.

I had no right to be angry. No right to be jealous. I had no right to feel anything about another male's another Alpha's – hands on Ayla.

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,,didn't move until the feeling finally passed, allowing me to

Chapter 33. Theo

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breathe

again. My fisted hands slowly **relaxed**, revealing my bloody palms from my cla ws extending.

"What have I done, Briggs?"

Briggs dropped down to the floor beside me.

"I didn't know," I said quietly. "I didn't know she would feel it. We aren't marked. We shouldn't be able to feel..."

Briggs sighed. "Theo, it's time to face that this isn't a normal bond. It's time yo u figured out a way to fix this."

I shook my head. "I've already lost her, Briggs. She... She's with him now."

"The bond is still there, Theo. She's not lost yet. You can fight

for her."

I flung the whiskey glass across the room, shattering it against the opposite wall.

"She didn't want me in the first place," I yelled, getting back on my feet.

"You don't know that, Theo," Briggs yelled back, pulling

himself from the floor as well. "Do you want to know what she said when I talked to her? She s aid to tell you that there is always two sides to every story. The side you never gave her a chance to explain."

"That doesn't mean anything."

"I saw the look in her eyes, Theo. She wanted you to know," he said angrily.

"She'll never forgive me, Briggs. Not after what I did. Not while

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Chapter 33: Theo

she has him.".

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"Damn it, Theo," Briggs bellowed, getting in my face. "Stop it. I won't watch yo u destroy yourself because of your fucking pride."

"I can't live through it again," I yelled. I took a few deep breaths to calm down. "I can't do it. Kieran can't do it. If she rejected us again..."

I didn't give him a chance to say anything else. I walked out without another w ord.

#Lunas #Choice #theo #ayla #Kat #Silver #Chapter

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The Luna's Choice (theo and ayla) by Kat Silver Chapter 34

Chapter 34: Briggs

After what happened the night before between Theo and Ayla, I wasn't expecting him to make an appearance today. I would figure out some way to appeas e Kylee about it, but I was getting tired of having to deal with her.

But more importantly, I was worried. Really worried.

Theo was falling apar

I had thought

about telling his parents what exactly was happening with him more than once . In fact, I was planning on telling his mother after I had spoken to Ayla in Sabl emane. But then the fire happened, and Mrs. Walport's murder and things just got even crazier.

So, I would deal with Kylee for a while longer if it kept her out of Theo's hair.

Kylee's cousin, Mina, would be there any minute, and I was waiting to greet her. I had just spoken to a pack member when the most amazi ng scent hit me. I turned to the door and found a gorgeous face staring back a t me, as frozen as I was.

"Mate."

I was

across the space in three strides. My hands went to her face as my mouth too k hers. I probably should have said something to her first. Perhaps introduced myself. But she was kissing me back. Her arms were wrapped around me. So I didn't care. Neither did my wolf, Malcolm, who was happier th an he had ever been.

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Chapter 34: Enggs

Electricity was coursing through me, leaving a tingling sensation in its wake.

I understood what Theo meant now.

I felt complete. She was perfect. She was...

"Mine," I gasped out.

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"What the hell, Mina?" Kylee's voice broke through the haze of the world outsi de us, and I had to stifle a growl.

Mina. That was my mate's name. It was beautiful, just like her.

She pulled away f

he slightly, and I felt like a part of me

was being taken.

"Kylee," Mina said, "I just found my mate."

She looked up at me with the most beautiful blue eyes.

"Oh my gosh," Kylee squealed. "You're joking. That's amazing. That means yo u get to come live with me. You can be my second."

Mina's expression changed slightly as she looked at her

cousin.

"This is so exciting. Come on." Kylee grabbed her hand. "We have so much to talk about and get planned out."

Oh, hell no. She wasn't about to drag my mate away from me thirty seconds a fter we'd found each other. I stepped between them.

"Kylee, can we please have a few moments?"

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Chapter 34: Briggs

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"Of course," Kylee said brightly. "Come join us while we catch up. You're alwa ys welcome."

"Um, Kylee, sweetie," Mina said. "I'm going to take a few minutes alone with m y mate. This isn't a moment I want to share with everyone."

"Oh," Kylee said, visibly dejected. "Okay. I guess that's fine. Briggs can help you find me when you're ready."

"Thank you," Mina replied, giving Kylee a hug.

As soon as she rel pulled her into an behind us.

her, I grabbed Mina's hand and

/ room, shutting and locking the door

"That's the least I've seen Kylee argue or complain in weeks," | said between kisses. "How did you do that?"

Mina laughed. It was a sound that had my heart soaring.

"A little trick Ayla taught me," she said. "We discovered a long time ago you ki nd of just have to tell Kylee how things are going to be. If you give her an option, she'll do what she wants every time."

I kissed her again.

"I guess I should introduce myself," I said.

She laughed again. "Yeah, that probably should have been done before we practically jumped each other in the hallway."

I chuckled. "Absolutely not," I said. "I'm Briggs."

"Mina."

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Chapter 34: Briggs

"It's nice to meet you, Mina."

"Just nice?" She raised an eyebrow.

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I smiled broadly. "Wonderful. Fantastic. Incredible. Any other adjective you would like."

"That's better," she said, kissing me again. "So, what happens now?"

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"Well" I brushed her hair back from her face – "we get to know each other. That seems like a good place to start."

"I can live with tha of this too."

e replied. "Although, I'm open to more

She pressed her lips to mine, snaking her arms around my neck. I wasn't going to argue. She was amazing, sparks flying through me with every touch. My hands moving down h er body.

Then her phone started ringing in her pocket. I grunted as I pulled away.

"That's probably Kylee," Mina said with a sigh.

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"Yeah, I'm sure she's excited to spend time with you," I said, not really wantin g to share my new mate.

"Yeah, she can be a little demanding," she replied, denying the call. "As long as Ayla's around, we should be able to manage her."

Shit.

"Ayla's not

here. She wasn't able to come up with them," I said, hoping she wouldn't ask more questions just yet. Theo would

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relationship with my mate with a lie.

"Oh," Mina said. "Okay, I guess I'll try to call her later. But I'll miss the Kylee buffer."

"You two don't get along?" I asked.

She shrugged. "It's not that we don't get along. I love Kylee. She can just be a lot to handle all the time."

"You can say that again," I said with a laugh.

She smiled, but he

"What's wrong?"

ression changed.

She took a deep breath and let it out. "I'm going to ask you something, Briggs, and I need you to be honest with me."

"Of course," I said, meaning every word but dreading that she would ask me something I couldn't tell her.

"Are Kylee and Theo fated mates?"

That wasn't a question I was expecting, and I was surprised by

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1. it.

"No," I said.

She nodded and chewed her cheek. It was adorable. But it didn't distract me fr om her question.

"Why would you think they were?"

"It's nothing," she said, turning her face away. "I shouldn't

have asked. It was just something that had been bugging me.

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Chapter 34: Briggs

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have to tell them soon because I wasn't going to start my relationship with my mate with a lie.

"Oh," Mina said. "Okay, I guess I'll try to call her later. But I'll miss the Kylee buffer."

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have asked. It was just something that had been bugging me.

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Chapter 34: Briggs

We should get going before she comes looking for us."

She grabbed my hand and started heading to the **door**.

288 Wouchers

"Wait," I said, stopping her. "Why would you think Theo and Kylee are fated mates?"

She huffed, but more out of frustration than anger.

"Because Kylee told us they were."

"She did

what?" I tried to keep my anger out of my voice. Mina had no idea what was h appening around here, so she wouldn' t understand where it was coming from. But it was hard.

"Yeah, when she told me about him

when they first got together. But the way she talked about their relationship ne ver really

added up to me. I've had several friends who found their fated mates. Her rela tionship didn't sound like theirs."

"Did she tell Ayla the same thing?" I asked, barely managing to keep my tone even.

Mina nodded. "Yeah, and their mom. She actually told Ayla before anyone."

You've got to be fucking kidding me.

No wonder Ayla accepted the rejection. She must have thought this was some sick joke from the goddess. She thought she would be taking her sister's fated mate and that Theo was rejecting her for the same reason.

That lying little...

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The Luna's Choice (theo and ayla) by Kat Silver Chapter 35

Chapter 35: Theo

I felt like I was on auto-pilot for days after I felt Ayla with Kingston. I slept even less. My nights were plagued with dreams of them together whenever I closed my eyes. The only way I could get any peace was to get drunk enough to pass

out.

I was avoiding my parents, and Kylee, and anyone else for that matter. Especially Briggs. After Kylee's cousin, Mina, turned out to be his fated mate, I couldn't handle being around them.

I was holed up in my office again when he burst through the door without knoc king..

"In case you didn't get the hint," I said, "I'm not in the mood to talk to you."

"I'm just here to do my job," he replied, dropping a folder on my desk. "I finally heard back from some of the other packs. There have been four similar fires set in other territories. Two with casualties."

I picked up the file and was eagerly opening it when Kylee rushed into my office, followed by her mother.

"You need to find her, Theo," she yelled angrily.

"What are you..."

"Ayla," she interrupted, fury rolling off of her.

I felt the blood drain from my face. Had she found out her

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Chapter 35. Thas

sister was a rogue?

"Calm down, Kylee. What's going on?" I said, trying to maintain some compos ure.

249 Waurturg.

"She took it all. She stole everything," Kylee shrieked. "She stole every last pe nny our mother had. She took my tuition money. Everything."

"Shit," Briggs said under his breath from behind her.

"What?" I asked, standing up as my anger quickly built.

"Over thirty thousand dollars from Ma's

account. Gone. Her phone is off. She's not answering emails. The neighbors s ay that they haven't

seen her in weeks," Kylee continued. "She took everything and ran like the selfish brat she is."

"Kylee," Marie admonished, but there wasn't a lot of

conviction behind it. "Alpha Theo, we have no idea where she could be."

"Don't worry," I said. "I know exactly where she is. I'll take care of this, Kylee."

"How do you know where she is?" Kylee asked with a strange look.

"Ayla cut ties with the pack a few weeks ago," I told her.

Marie gasped, her hand going to her mouth. This wasn't exactly the way I was going to break the news to them, but right now, I didn't really care. I couldn't believe I had been wallowing over her all this time. I couldn't believe Kieran couldn't see what a snake she a ctually was and reject her like I had.

2/5

Chapter 35. Thro

'Not true. She lies.'

288 Voucher

I cut him off, pushing him **out** of my head. I was tired of his stubbornness, I grabbed my phone and keys from the desk drawer.

"She wouldn't do that," Marie said.

"Of course she would, Ma," Kylee spat, not evening caring that her only sibling cut herself off from them. "She's always been selfish like that."

"Just let me handle this," I insisted, heading for the door. "I'll make sure you get every penny back, Marie."

I was halfway down the hall when Briggs caught up with me, grabbing my arm.

"Whatever you're about to do, Theo, don't," he hissed at me.

"I'm ending this once and for all," I said through gritted teeth. "She's just as bad as I thought she was."

"You're not even going to check..."

"I'm done, Briggs," I interrupted. "I'm not living with her hanging over my head anymore.

I didn't leave town right away. I stopped

at the police station to file a report to press charges against Ayla. I had to get t hings expedited, but it wasn't too hard. It still took most of the evening to get al I the paperwork together. So I got

a hotel room to avoid returning to the packhouse and headed out before sunri se the next morning.

3/5

Chapter 35 Thay

1284 Vouchers

Briggs had been calling me practically non– stop since I had left, so I cut my phone off a few hours into the drive. Until I go t to the Sablemane border, that is.

I pulled over on

the side of the road and turned my phone back on, scrolling through to find Be ta Pierce's number. I had gotten the number from Briggs' contact list when he wasn't paying attention. I texted him that something happened with Ayla's mother and I needed to see her. That would hopefully get me permission to enter the territory and Ayla's location.

I waited about twenty minutes before he messaged back. As soon as I read it, I was peeling off. I was still a few hours away. I used the time to try to settle m y chaotic thoughts and fighting Kieran. I was warring with my emotions. The p art of me that didn't want to believe that she had done this and the part that desperately needed to believe it.

If I could confront her, I would get an answer, and I would be free.

I made it to the address he gave me around noon. I checked the building direc tory and found the company Ayla worked for, taking the elevator to the fifth floor. There was a front desk with a secretary sitting at it. "Hello," I said with a gentle smile. "I'm here to see Ms. Ayla Garner. My name i s Briggs."

"Ah, yes," the woman said. "She's out to lunch at the moment, but she should be back shortly. Would you like to wait in her office?"

"Yes, that would be great."

"End of the hall to the right of the corner office," she said with

4/5

Chapter 35: Theo

a smile.

I nodded and headed in that direction.

288 Vouchers

I closed the door when I got there, pausing to let her scent wash over me. She must not have been working here long. Her scent was still settling in. But **it** w as still very present. I hated that I missed it. But I had.

I could sense the source of that intoxicating scent even through the door.

Ayla was here.

The Luna's Choice (theo and ayla) by Kat Silver Chapter 36

[ad_1]

Chapter 36: Theo

I stood in the middle of the office. She had paused outside the door. She knew it was me.

When she finally opened the door, she looked at me with no expression on her face. But her eyes told me a lot was going on inside her. She was still beautiful. And s*xy as hell in a business skirt and blouse that accentuated every curve. I felt my resolve slip for a moment.

"Theo, what are you doing here?" she asked calmly.

My anger and determination were renewed as I remembered my purpose for

coming here. I held up a large envelope.

"I'm here to deliver these," I said, dropping it on her desk. "I wanted to personally make sure you got them."

She walked over to her desk. I finally noticed the walking boot on her leg and had to push back the wave of quilt and

concern.

Looking at me, she picked up the envelope. "What is this?"

"That would be your court summons and a copy of the warrant for your arrest." Shock flooded her face. "Excuse me?" she asked. "And what on earth have I supposedly done now?"

"Don't play dumb with me, Ayla," I said, stepping closer. "You didn't really think we wouldn't know you took the money, did you? You cut your ties, so you took every dime your mother

Chapter 35: Theo

had so you could run away."

Her eyes widened, and her mouth fell open. But then she started laughing bitterly and shaking her head.

"I should have known she would have put this on me," she said, sitting at her desk and typing something into the computer.

"Don't try to blame Kylee."

Her head snapped up at me and she stood back up. "I wasn't. I was talking about Ma. But thank you for correcting me in assuming who accused me of taking it."

The printer kicked on and started spitting out papers. Then another scent hit me, and it took everything to smother the growl building in my chest.

"Ayla, what's going on?" Kingston came walking in. He froze when he made eye contact with me. His jaw clenched as he quickly pushed his own anger aside. "Alpha Theo, I'm

disappointed that Beta Briggs wasn't able to get my message across."

I didn't respond. I watched him swagger his way over to Ayla, putting himself partially between us and entirely too close to her.

"What is this about, Ayla?" he asked.

"Apparently, my mother has managed to drink and gamble away the last of the money I sent her already," Ayla said, not breaking eye contact with me. "Except she's saying I stole it from her instead. So Theo has decided to press charges on her behalf."

2/5

III Chapter 36. Thas

Kingston turned on me. He was about to come for me, Ayla grabbed his arm. "Stop," she said.

1282 Vouchers

but

I would have gladly taken him on. I didn't care if it was his territory or not. I wanted to tear the b*stard apart.

The sound of the printer faded, and Ayla grabbed the papers off the tray. "What are you doing?" Kingston asked.

Looking at me, she set the stack on the desk in front of me. "That's three years' worth of bank statements."

Kingston put his hand on the pile. "Ayla, you don't have to do this," he insisted. The hand he put around her waist nearly sent me over the edge. "If this foolish pup isn't smart enough to check your mother's bank records before pressing charges..."

"What did you just say?" I was done with this a*shole.

"You heard exactly what ... "

"Stop it. Both of you," Ayla yelled, walking around the desk and handing me the bank statements. "Three years is more than enough to prove that I not only didn't take a thing from my mother but that I had absolutely no reason to. I'd go back. ten, but that would be a bit overkill."

Kingston managed a smirk at her words, but his eyes were full of disgust toward me. The feeling was mutual. What kind of Alpha preys on a woman in Ayla's position?

There was a knock as someone came to the door.

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"Ayla, sweetie," a woman said, "I've got those stats I wanted to review with you. Just come next door whenever you're ready."

Ayla changed her expression, putting on a polite smile as she answered. "I'll be right there, Erica. Just finishing up.

"And Theo," Ayla said once the woman was gone. She picked up the envelope off her desk and walked up to me, shoving it into my chest. "I can guarantee I won't be needing these."

Tingles erupted beneath her hand. Even through the fabric of my shirt, I was affected by her touch. She pulled her hand back and walked out of the office without another word.

As I watched her leave, I felt Kingston approach me.

"She's not yours anymore," he said quietly.

"You don't get to decide that," I snarled.

"Oh, but I do," he replied. "Ayla is a member of my pack, and I will protect her."

His words hit me like a freight train. I had been so distracted by her that I didn't realize she didn't have the scent of a rogue.

She had already joined his pack.

He continued to speak. "I know you're about to find out exactly how big a mistake you've made. But I'm only going to say this once, stay away from her. You're not welcome on my lands. The threats end now."

My blood ran cold. "What threats?"

"Don't," Kingston growled as he got in my face. "Ayla may not believe they're from you, but I know better."

4/5

Chapter 36 Thro

"I would never threaten Ayla," I hissed.

1288 woucher

"No?" Kingston said. "Oh, yeah, that's right. You just keep her bound to you so you can rip her apart while you f*ck her sister."

My fist made impact before I even knew what I was doing. Kieran had flown to the forefront, fighting to take control of the shift. Kingston straightened up, his eyes glowing yellow and his canines extended. He moved to lunge at me, but Ayla appeared between us.

"What the hell is the matter with you two?" she yelled. "Theo, get out." "Not until this a*shole tells me who's threatening you," I growled.

Ayla looked back at Kingston. I couldn't see her face, but I knew she wasn't happy. She looked back at me.

"That's none of your concern, Theo," she said.

"Ayla…"

"I'm not a Greytooth anymore," she insisted. "I'm not your problem. So just go."

Her eyes pleaded with me. I was hurting her again.

I left the office, ignoring the sound of Kingston comforting her behind me.

#Lunas #Choice #theo #ayla #Kat #Silver #Chapter

[ad_2]

The Luna's Choice (theo and ayla) by Kat Silver Chapter 37

[ad_1]

Chapter 37: Kingston

I tried to talk Ayla into going home for the day after Theo ambushed her at her office, but she insisted on staying, despite the fact that her leg was bothering her. And I suspected the pain from the broken bond was also worse after

seeing Theo again. It made it really hard to leave her in her office.

So, when the time came to leave, I was eager to get her back home. All I wanted to do was get her comfortable and hold her in my arms for the rest of the day. But she seemed a little distant on the ride home. I thought it was the stress of the day, but something told me she was mad at me.

"I'm going to go change. Maybe go to bed early tonight," Ayla said, heading toward her room as soon as we entered the house.

I reached out for her arm. "Hey, is everything okay?" I asked tentatively. "Are you still upset about Theo showing up?"

"Why did you have to antagonize him?" she snapped.

"Ayla, it wasn't hard to do," I replied. "Besides, he needs to know to leave you alone."

"I can take care of that myself, Kingston," Ayla yelled. "Couldn' t you telt he looked awful? He's obviously going through a lot right now, and I doubt he's thinking straight. Then you had to add that I was being threatened to the mix?" "You may not believe it's him, but I..."

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29 Wouchera

"It's not Theo," she bellowed. "And you didn't have to throw it in his face that I'm with you."

"Are you with me?" I yelled, my own frustration taking over.

"What are you talking about?"

"Are you with me, Ayla? And I don't mean as a pack member," I said. "You know how I feel about you, but I have no idea how you really feel about me, let alone what this relationship is to you."

Ayla looked at me. Without saying anything, she threw her arms around my neck, her mouth slamming into mine. I instantly returned the embrace, giving in to everything she demanded from me. We were both breathless when she pulled away.

"I'm with you, Kingston," she said. "I want to be with you. I have feelings for you. You're not just my pack Alpha to me. But I can't give in to those feelings yet. My heart won't let me. Not until Theo marks Kylee, and I'm free of the bond."

"What if he doesn't mark her, Ayla?" I asked. "What if he tries to come back for you?"

After today, there was no denying that was a very real possibility. Theo would figure out how wrong he was about Ayla. If he hadn't already. She was right about Theo looking terrible. I didn't think he'd slept in a while. If he was struggling with the bond as well, then finding out his reasons for rejecting her didn't actually exist could easily have him fighting to get her back.

Ayla sighed. "I don't know Theo, and my experience with him. hasn't exactly

instilled any trust, I don't want to be with

2/4

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Chapter 37: Kingston

1248 Vouchers

anyone who doesn't want to be with me, and I don't want anyone I can't trust." "Then why wait for him to finish this?" I rushed. "I want you by my side, Ayla. I want to make you my Luna."

She gasped. "Kingston ... ".

"I'm serious, Ayla," I insisted. "If you want me, I'm all in. Forever."

She leaned in and kissed me again. This time it was gentle and light. And I didn't miss the sadness in her eyes before she did

it.

"I can't," she whispered. "Not yet."

I wasn't surprised by her response, but it still hurt. I turned my head, clenching my jaw.

"It's not because of Theo," she explained. "It's... it's Dasha."

I relaxed, reaching up to brush my fingers across her cheek. "What do you mean?"

"I'm scared," she said, wincing. "I'm worried if I go there with you if we committed to each other before she was ready,

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she won't come back. I'm scared she'll see it as another

betrayal. I'm scared I'll lose her forever. I can't... I don't know if I could live through that, Kingston."

Her anxiety became more evident as she spoke. I could see the fear building. "Shh, it's okay." I pulled her to me, holding her tight. "It's okay. I understand. I'm sorry. I didn't think about what that could do to Dasha."

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Chapter 37. Kingston

1288 Vouchers

Lennix was there in my mind, and he agreed with Ayla. He

wanted to meet her wolf. He wanted to be with Dasha, too. I couldn't deny either of them that wish or that I wanted it too. I could wait as long as she needed.

"Lennix and I will be here when you both are ready," I said softly. She tightened her arms around me, making me smile.

"I'm going to change," she said, resting her chin on my chest. as she looked back up at me. "Maybe we can do something together tonight. Just the two of us?" "I can definitely make that happen," I said, smiling as I kissed her forehead. She headed toward her room while I went to the kitchen to get an idea for dinner. Maybe I would cook for her tonight.

"Kingston..." Ayla cried from her room, an edge to her voice that had me on alert.

I ran to her room. "Ayla, what's wrong?"

She was standing in the middle of the room. I came up behind her, following her gaze to see what had caused her reaction.

A blue envelope was lying on her desk.

#Lunas #Choice #theo #ayla #Kat #Silver #Chapter

[ad_2]

The Luna's Choice (theo and ayla) by Kat Silver Chapter 38

[ad_1]

Chapter 38: Briggs

Theo wasn't answering his phone and I was freaking out. He was going to do something stup*d. If he showed up in Sablemane territory and tried to get to Ayla, Kingston would kill him on the spot. My only hope was that Ayla wouldn't risk war breaking out because of her.

"Briggs, what's wrong?" Mina asked as she met me in the hall. She could tell I was upset.

"Your cousin is about to start a f**king war, that's what,' said, making sure not to direct any anger toward her.

"Whoa," Mina said, her eyes going wide. "Hold on. What are you talking about?"

I was tired of being in the dark about this. I would find out who Ayla really was once and for all.

"Would Ayla take money from her mother?" I asked.

Mina scoffed. "Yeah, sure, like Aunt Marie would ever have any money for her to take."

"What?"

"Marie has a gambling addiction," Mina said as if I should have known that. "Ayla has been paying for everything for all three of them since she was

fourteen. Including Kylee's high school and college tuition."

I felt my face go pale and I thought I would vomit. Realization washed over Mina's face.

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Chapter 38. Briggs

1200 Wouchers

"Wait. Are you saying Kylee said Ayla stole money from Aunt Marie?" I looked her in the eye. "Theo's on the warpath. He's going after Ayla, and he's going to get himself killed."

"Ayla would never hurt him. She'll be able to clear this all up."

"No, Mina," I said, dreading what I had to do. "Ayla isn't a Greytooth anymore. She's not here in our territory."

"Excuse me?" she said, stepping back from me.

I looked around, not wanting to have this conversation overheard, and pulled her into a nearby room. I made sure it was empty before shutting the door. "What the f**k is going on, Briggs?"

"Mina, I'm going to tell you everything, but I need you to promise me you won't say anything to Kylee or Marie. Not yet, at least," I said. "Please."

She crossed her arms over her chest. "And if I don't?"

I sighed. "Then I'll still tell you. But it could cause a lot of problems for

everyone if you say anything. So, I hope you won't."

Her face softened slightly. "Fine."

I nodded. I was terrified of what this would do to our

relationship. I didn't want to lose her over this, but I wouldn't keep it from her either.

"Ayla cut her ties with the pack about a month ago," I said.

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Chapter 38: Briggs

1288 Nouchers

"Why the hell would she do that?" Concern and confusion were all over her face.

"Because she's Theo's fated mate, and he rejected her."

I watched as shock was quickly replaced with rage. "Are you f**king kidding me right now? Why the hell would he reject her?"

I grimaced.

"If you tell me he rejected her for Kylee, I'm the one who just might start a war."

"It's not that simple," I said.

Ttold her the rest of the details, the reasons why they both rejected each other. At least, the parts of Ayla's side that I knew, although admittedly, that wasn't much. When I told her about Ayla losing her wolf and her car accident, her eyes were rimmed with tears of sadness and anger. It was breaking my heart. "Ayla was in Sablemane territory when she crashed," I

continued. "Alpha Kingston saved her and took her in. He likes her. A lot, from what I can tell. She was still a rogue the last time I saw her, but she won't be for long. If he hasn't already brought her into the pack."

"So you think if Theo goes near her, Kingston will kill him," Mina said. "Probably," I said, "I don't know for sure."

"Ayla won't let that happen," Mina rushed. "Although, right now, I wouldn't consider it much of a loss. I'm tempted to kill

3/6

Chapter 38: Boggs

him myself."

"Mina…"

288 Vouchers

"I get that he's your Alpha and your best friend, Briggs, but Ayla's my cousin," Mina said before turning away. "Why would she do that?"

"She wanted to be free of the bond ... "

"Not Ayla," she shot back at me. "Kylee. I knew she could be selfish, but this is borderline vindictive. Although, I shouldn't be surprised after our conversation last night."

"What conversation?" I asked, my hackles raised.

"I asked her why she was going through with this mating when she knew they weren't fated mates. She said she knew they were meant to be together even if the goddess didn't," Mina said bitterly. "I asked what if he meets his mate? What would she do then?"

"What did she say?"

Mina made a face. "Kylee said she would just have to understand that Theo was hers."

"What the f**k?" I said, sickened at Kylee's callousness and blatant sacrilege.

"Hey, I'm sure your Alpha had a hand in this," she snapped. "He's been stringing her along for over two years now. You can't blame her for getting so attached."

Did she just say two years? Had Kylee been telling people they had been together for over two years?

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Chapter 38: Briggs

"Mina, they've barely been together a year," I corrected.

288 Vouchers

Mina's face went slack. "No, they've been together for nearly two and a half years. They met when she visited the college her senior year."

I shook my head. "No, Theo didn't even meet her until a few months before

we graduated. They only started dating a couple months before his dad's diagnosis."

Anger flared through my mate again. I'd be terrified if she ever directed that look at me. Her hands clenched into fists and she was shaking with rage. "That manipulative little b*tch," she hissed, heading toward the door. "I'm

going to tear her apart..."

I grabbed her around the waist before she could leave.

"You can't tell her," I insisted. "She doesn't know about Ayla and Theo. Neither of them do. And they don't know she went roque either."

"Well, they're sure as hell about to find out," she seethed.

"Not yet, please."

"Why?" she yelled, pushing me away forcefully.

"Because I don't want to give them the opportunity to talk their way out of this," I burst out. "Besides, Ayla doesn't want Kylee to know they're mates. Even now. She insisted on it."

"Of course she did," Mina said bitterly, tears forming again. "D*mn her martyr syndrome."

I wasn't going to confront Kylee yet. But I would make sure I 5/6

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Chapter 36. Briggs

got as much information on Ayla as I could to encourage Theo to make the right decision after all this.

288 (Vouchers

"You said Ayla paid for everything for years?" I said. "How did she manage that when she didn't even graduate high school?"

Mina made a face. "You're joking, right? She told you that, too? Ayla graduated with honors at fifteen. She's practically a f**king genius."

"Wait, then why was she just an assistant at the publishing house?"

Mina rolled her eyes. "Theo really didn't bother to learn a d*mn thing about her, did he?"

I didn't want to answer.

"She wasn't a da*n assistant. She's one of their authors," she clarified. "One of their most successful authors, actually."

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#Lunas #Choice #theo #ayla #Kat #Silver #Chapter

[ad_2]

The Luna's Choice (theo and ayla) by Kat Silver Chapter 39

[ad_1]

Chapter 39: Theo

I didn't know why, but I ended up at Ayla's old house back in my territory. I was sitting in my car out front as I tried to organize my thoughts. Our whole interaction took less than twenty minutes, but it was enough to send my mind into a whirlwind.

I hadn't looked at the statements Ayla had given me yet. I was starting to believe I didn't need to. There was no deception in her eyes when I spoke to her. Briggs was right. I had no idea what was really going on with this family. But I needed to know.

I picked up the stack of papers and started to go through them, my heart sinking further with each one. Anger set in when I saw the thirty thousand dollar transfer out of her account from the day she left the pack.

She didn't take the money. She gave it to Marie.

Throwing the papers back in the passenger seat, I got out of the car and headed for the house. I still had the key, so I let myself in, looking for signs of whatever Briggs was talking about when he was here. It didn't take me long to find it.

Sitting on Ayla's bed was a small black home safe, the fire- proof kind usually used for documents. There was an envelope sitting on top of it. Picking it up, I found a letter inside. I knew it was meant for Kylee and Marie, but I didn't care. I needed to know what it said.

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Chapter 39: Theo

1288 Vouchers I sank onto the bed as I read the contents of the letter. I read the pain behind Ayla's words as she managed to forgive them for what they had done. Making excuses for the things they said.

When I finished, I turned to the safe sitting beside me. It required a code to open. I don't know how long I stared at it, trying to figure out how to open it until I went with my gut and entered a number.

It popped open.

I found everything I needed to know. The titles to Marie's and Kylee's vehicles. Both were in Ayla's name. A bank trust for Kylee set up by Ayla. A life insurance policy on Ayla with Kylee and Marie as the beneficiaries. The deed to the house, also in Ayla's name, and the paperwork to sign it over to Marie.

At the bottom, beneath everything, I found Ayla's high school diploma. I

choked out a laugh as I held back the s*bs that were burning my lungs. Even in pain, my mate was clever enough to get the last word.

But she wasn't my mate anymore, was she? I had let her go. Like she was nothing.

I got up and left her room, heading to the back door. I needed to run. Kieran was begging to be let out and I needed to let him. I made it halfway across the yard before I froze, looking at the spot where I rejected Ayla. Where I made the biggest mistake of my life.

I barely managed to strip down before Kieran forced the shift, taking off into the trees behind her house. Not knowing where we were going. Not caring where we ended up.

2/4

Chapter 39: Theo

11 288 Vouchers

We ran until we could barely stand. Sometime in the night, I managed to stumble back to the house and collapsed in Ayla's bed. Breathing in her scent like a lifeline, letting it envelop me in a delusional sleep.

I dreamed she was there with me. She lay by my side, and she was smiling. She was happy.

I don't know how long I slept, but when I finally opened my eyes, I felt different. I got up and packed everything back in the safe exactly how I had found it, taking it and the letter with me. Getting back into my car, I finally turned my phone back on, texted Briggs, and drove home with a clearer head than I had for over a month.

I pulled up to the packhouse late that afternoon. I made sure that I was seen getting back and headed straight to my office, where Briggs and Mina were already waiting for me.

"Theo..." Briggs started, but I stopped him with a gesture.

"You'll want to witness this," I said, setting the bank statements, the letter, and the safe on my desk. Briggs fell silent, putting his arm around Mina's waist to reassure her.

I didn't think I would have to wait long for Kylee to arrive, and sure enough, it wasn't even five minutes after I had walked into my office when she barged in. "Theo, you're back," she said, rushing to me and throwing her arms around me, making my whole body tense up. "Did you find her? Did she give you the money back?"

I grabbed her arms, pulling them off of me and pushing her 3/4

Chapter 27. Thes

1288 Vouchers

away. Her touch made me sick. I wanted her gone as soon as possible. But I

knew she would fight, and honestly, I was looking forward to it. I could see everything she was and had done so clearly now. She would learn a lesson today.

"Theo," she said, looking up at me with confusion, "what's wrong? What happened?"

"You and your mother have until the end of the day to pack your things and leave," I said evenly. "You're no longer welcome in the packhouse."

Kylee looked shocked, her mouth falling open as she tried to find something to say.

"Theo, what are you saying?" she finally said.

"I'm saying we're done. I no longer want anything to do with you."

"Theo, don't do this," she cried. "I'm your mate."

"You are not my mate," I bellowed. "You will never be my mate. I would never mark a selfish, lying, manipulative brat like you."

"Why would you say that?" Kylee said as tears streamed down her face. "She put you up to this, didn't she? Ayla told you to do this because she's jealous of me."

Chapter 40: Theo 1283 Wouchers

#Lunas #Choice #theo #ayla #Kat #Silver #Chapter

[ad_2]

The Luna's Choice (theo and ayla) by Kat Silver Chapter 40

[ad_1]

Chapter 40: Theo

"Theo," Briggs warned as he saw my hands clench into fists as I was shaking with rage.

"She said nothing about you," I said, my voice eerily calm. "But she did give me these." I handed her the bank statements. "You can imagine my surprise when I found out that not only does your sister have absolutely no reason to take money from anyone, but there are a surprising amount of transfers going out of her account. Including a thirty thousand dollar transaction from a month ago. I'm guessing to your mother's account."

Kylee looked at the papers she was holding, shaking her head. "No, she's lying..."

"Shut up," I commanded. "You have been lying, Kylee. Open it." I pointed to

the safe on the desk.

"What?" she sniffled.

"The safe, Kylee. Open it."

"I... I don't know the code," she protested.

"It's your birthday," I spat.

She slowly approached the safe and punched in the numbers. When it opened, she pulled the papers out.

"What is all this supposed to be?" she whined.

"Look at them, Kylee."

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Chapter 40: Theo

288 Vouchers

She looked back down at the documents she held. I stepped in close to her, pushing my aura out to engulf her.

"You're going to be honest with me now, Kylee. Did you know couldn't lie under an

about all this?" I ordered, knowings Kylee. Did you know Alpha's command.

"I... I didn't know she owned the house," she muttered. "I didn't know about the money."

"You knew she paid for your school," Mina shouted. "You knew she got you your scholarship in high school."

"No," Kylee whimpered. "That was Ma."

"How the hell do you figure that worked out, Kylee? She hasn't held a job for more than a couple months in over a decade."

"But…"

"Ayla devoted her life to you," Mina growled. I wasn't even going to stop her. She obviously needed to get this off her chest. And I wanted to hear what she had to say. "Working three and four jobs for years just to keep a roof over your head. She gave up more opportunities than you'll ever have in your life. Just to take care of you. And this is how you f***ing repay her?"

"She was never there for me," Kylee spat. "This is all lies. Ma was the one who..."

"You're mother was at your beck and call, giving in to your every whim. When she wasn't too drunk or out gambling every penny she got her hands on. But she wasn't the one taking care of you."

2/6

288 Vouchers

"How the hell would you know?" Kylee yelled. "You left us a long time ago." "Because Ayla actually made an effort to stay in my life," Mina said. "She loved you, Kylee. More than anything. And you've treated her like garbage." Kylee turned back to me.

"Theo, you can't believe this," she said, rushing toward me. "You love me. You said you wanted me to be your mate."

"Actually, I've been thinking about that," I said. "You were the one who brought that up. You were the one telling me how Alphas were always stronger with a Luna by their side. How I needed someone to help me take over the pack."

"You know packs are stronger with..."

"You manipulated me," I bellowed, sending her back a few feet. "You knew exactly what you were doing."

"She's been lying about your relationship," Briggs said. My head snapped to him. "She's not only been saying you've been together for over two years, but she told Ayla you were her fated mate."

I saw red. No wonder Ayla was so scared of hurting her sister. I stalked toward her, not sure what I would do, until Briggs stepped between us, holding me back.

"Theo, don't," he said.

"Theo, I love you," Kylee whined.

"Get out," I growled. "And don't let me see you here again."

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Chapter 40 Theo

288 Vouchers.

Kylee started to say something but thought better of it, instead running out of the room. I took a few minutes to calm down. Kieran was pacing circles in my head, feeling smug and satisfied. But I wasn't. The damage Kylee had done – that I had done because of her still had to be fixed. And I would fix it.

"Theo," Briggs said, "what are you going to do?"

"Mina" – I turned to her as she stood beside my Beta – "I'm sorry. You have no idea how sorry I am for how I treated Ayla. For everything I've done." She was still angry, and definitely with me, not just Kylee. I I couldn't blame her and I wouldn't expect anything less. I was glad someone in her family actually cared about her. I knew had to prove myself to her as much as to Ayla.

"Don't expect me to be singing your praises anytime soon," she said. "Kylee may be a manipulative bi*ch, but you're an Alpha. You should be able to think for yourself."

"Mina," Briggs said, shaking his head.

"No, Briggs," I said. Her words cut deep and hit me right in the gut. But I respected her for saying it. "She's right." I picked up Ayla's letter and held it out to her. "This is from Ayla. It's meant for Kylee and Marie, but I think you should decide whether to give it to them or not."

Mina took it gingerly, nodding to me. I could see gratitude in her eyes. "What are you going to do now," Briggs asked, putting an arm around Mina's waist again, letting her lean into him.

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Chapter 40. Theo

I averted my eyes and sat against my desk.

"I'm going to find a way to get my mate back," I said.

1288 Vouchers

"Bout fu***ng time," Briggs said, half under his breath. Mina elbowed him. "I'm not helping you," she said. "From what I hear, she may be better off where she is."

Again, right for the gut.

"Mina," Briggs said again. I had a feeling he would be saying that a lot from now on. "They're fated mates."

"And if you ever treated me like that, I doubt I would care," she said, shooting him a look.

I could tell she didn't mean it. She would care, she may kill him for it, but she would care. I wondered where she got that kind of fire. How much of it came from Ayla?

"I screwed up. Big time," I acknowledged. "I am well aware of how much of a colossal f*ck up I am. But I will spend the rest of my life making it up to her. If she'll give me the chance."

"You'll have to get her away from Kingston first," Briggs said.

"Yeah," I said, my stomach churning as I remembered the way he touched Ayla. "He showed up when I met with Ayla."

"And you're still alive?"

"I told you Ayla wouldn't let anything happen to him," Mina half mumbled.

Before I could say anything else, the door to my office burst

5/6

Chapter 40: Theo

open, and my mother barged in.

289 Vouchers

"What the hell is going on in here, and why is Kylee in tears?"

6/6

Chapter 41: Ayla

288 Vouchers

Chapter 41: Ayla

#Lunas #Choice #theo #ayla #Kat #Silver #Chapter

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