

# **The Luna's Choice (theo and ayla) by Kat Silver Chapter 51**

Chapter **51**: Ayla

Surprised

didn't begin to cover what I was feeling. How did she know about Theo? Had he told Kylee? Goddess, please don't let him have told Kylee. I worked to push my anxiety down. I just needed to give her a chance to explain.

"How?" I managed to choke out.

She squeezed my hand. "Ayla, I met my mate when I went to the Greytooth pack to see Kylee. She wanted my help with the mating ceremony. My mate is Briggs, Theo's Beta."

I smiled. "I'm happy for you, Mina. I only meet him once, but

Beta Briggs seems like a good man."

"He is," she said with a bright smile, but it faded quickly. "What about Alpha Kingston? Is he good to you?"

"He is," I replied. "He has really been there for me since... since I left the pack."

"You have no idea how relieved I am to hear that, Ayla," Mina stated. "I've been worried sick ever since I found out what Theo did to you. And everything Kylee did."

Anger rolled off of her at the mention of my sister.

"Mina, Kylee doesn't know about me and Theo, does she?"

"No," she confirmed, shaking her head. "Briggs insisted you didn't want her to know. So, none of us have told her."

"Thank you. I just don't want to put that on her."

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## Chapter 51: Ayla

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“Ayla,” Mina scolded. “She a liar. You have no reason to keep protecting her.”

“Mina, it doesn’t matter what she’s done to me,” I insisted.

“I just want both of us to move on from all of this. As long as she doesn’t know, she and Theo will be happy. Then I can move on with Kingston.”

Her expression changed. She almost looked pained.

“What’s wrong?” I asked.

“Theo and Kylee broke up. They’re not going to be mated.”

My heart fell to my stomach. This couldn’t be happening. I needed him to mark Kylee. He was supposed to be taking care of her and Ma. He was supposed to free me from our bond. How would I be able to truly be with Kingston if he didn’t mark

her?

“No, that can’t be true,” I said. “He wouldn’t... Why?”

“Theo found out about everything. He found out that Kylee had been lying about you and about their relationship.”

“What do you mean she lied about their relationship?” I asked.

“She told you she and Theo were fated mates, didn’t she?” Mina inquired.

“Yeah,” I verified. “I wasn’t sure if she lied or if we were both somehow his mate.”

“She lied, Ayla. But she also lied about when they actually got together. She may have met or at least saw Theo when she visited the campus her senior year, but they didn’t start seeing each other until last year,” Mina told me.

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## Chapter 51: Ayla

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This was too much. Why would she do something like that? I pinched the bridge of my nose. I didn't know how to feel about this. Kylee wasn't the person I thought she was. I don't know when she turned into someone who could do those things. Maybe I hadn't really been there enough to see it.

"I think she planned it all," Mina said, interrupting my thoughts. "I think she saw him, found out who he was, and was determined to be with him. She planned it all. She didn't care if he had a mate out there or not."

I wanted to be mad at Kylee, but mostly, I was just ashamed. She put herself before Theo and the pack. She didn't care if she was robbing him of the person the goddess wanted him to be with. She didn't care if that would weaken the whole pack.

"What about Ma? Is she okay?"

"Kylee was pretty pissed when they were leaving the packhouse. But Aunt Marie just seemed anxious and pretty sad, actually. But she got the letter you wrote. Theo's keeping the deed to the house locked up at the packhouse, though. That way, she can't gamble it away."

At least I won't have to stress about that.

"Ayla," Mina said tentatively, "Theo wants..."

"So, tell me about Briggs," I interrupted her. I didn't want to know. I couldn't go down that road now.

Mina seemed to understand and was obliged to start telling me about her and Briggs. I was glad to hear that my first impression of him was correct. It sounded like he was good to her. He made her happy. I wouldn't accept anything less. Our

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## Chapter 51: Ayla

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conversation shifted to Kingston and then to us reminiscing about when we were kids together.

“There’s something you should know about Kingston, Mina,” I said. I looked around to see if there was anyone close enough to overhear. “He knew Dad and your mom. He told me they were from the Greytooth Pack originally.”

“What?” Mina said, her eyes widening. “How did he know them?”

“It’s kind of a long story,” I said. “This isn’t really the place for it, but want to tell you everything I know. Maybe you can come to our suite later on.”

“Yeah, I can probably make that happen,” she said with a smile.

“You ladies seem to be having a good time.”

I looked over to see Kingston coming to sit next to me on the couch. I was surprised to see Briggs in tow. He took the spot on the other side of Mina, putting his arm around her and pulling her against him. I smiled at seeing him be so affectionate with her and her enjoying every second of it. Kingston put on his own shameless display, grabbing my hand as he put his arm around my shoulders and kissed my hair. I fought the urge to roll my eyes, but I also liked it. I smiled up at him.

“You two

teased.

find something interesting to talk about,” Kingston.

“Just catching up,” I said. “Reminiscing.”

“I was reminding Ayla about the time she received a love letter

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## Chapter 51: Ayla

in fifth grade,” Mina said. “She corrected his spelling and grammar and returned it.”

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“I guess it shouldn’t have been a surprise you grew up to be a writer,” Kingston said with a chuckle.

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## The Luna’s Choice (theo and ayla) by Kat Silver Chapter 52

### Chapter 52: Briggs

I wasn’t surprised when I ran into Alpha Kingston on the way down to the lobby, but I didn’t know how the interaction would go. Ever since Theo used my name to get onto Sablemane lands, I knew there was a chance he would hold a grudge against me. I doubted he would do anything about it here, but it could make things difficult for Mina. I would hate to see that happen.

We ended up taking the elevator together. There was some tension in the air, but he didn’t say anything.

“Alpha Kingston,” I broke the silence, “I want to apologize for Alpha Theo’s actions. I didn’t know he got Pierce’s number or that he would use my name. I tried to stop him from going in the first place.”

“It’s fine, Beta Briggs,” he replied, his tone was tight. “I won’t pretend I was happy to see him. In fact, I was pissed off just to find him in her office. Even more so when he accused her of more so when he accused her of theft and pressed charges against her.”

He did what? Theo, you're such a damn idiot.

"But in the end, I think it gave Ayla some closure," Kingston said. "She's moving

Shit. That didn't sound good. I didn't want to cross Alpha Kingston. But my best friend wanted his mate back, and Kingston was in the way of that happening.

"So she's here with you?" I asked.

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Chapter 52: Briggs

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"She is," he said. "Speaking of, I hear congratulations are in order. She ran into her cousin, Mina, earlier. They're downstairs catching up. I'm glad to see you've found your mate."

"Thank you."

I had a feeling they had run into each other when Mina hadn't come back to the room yet. She had left to see if she could find Ayla. I'm glad she had. She had been eager to see her and was going a little crazy not knowing if she would be here or

not.

We stepped off the elevator, but before we got far, Kingston stopped me.

"I have a feeling the incident didn't have the same effect on Theo," he said. "Whatever he may be planning, I suggest you put a stop to it. I'm not letting him near Ayla this weekend."

"Theo's not here," I informed him. "He had an urgent matter to attend to. Luna Grace and I are here on his behalf."

"And you brought your new mate with you," Kingston stated. "Who also happens to be Ayla's cousin."

I knew what he was implying. And while Luna Grace did have some kind of plan, she wouldn't tell Mina or me what it was. As much as it felt like I was betraying Theo, we all needed Kingston to remain accepting of Mina in Ayla's life.

"Mina isn't exactly a fan of Theo's either," I said, trying to hide the bitterness in his voice. "She's aware of what has happened between them. She just wants to see her cousin safe and happy."

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Chapter 52: Briggs

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"Good," Kingston said with a nod. "Then she'll be glad to see that I make her happy."

I highly doubted he would just demonstrate to Mina how happy he made Ayla. When we joined them in the lounge, he made a show of being close to her. I did my best to hide the tension I was feeling. I hated to say it, but she did seem happy with Kingston.

But I believed she could be happy with Theo, too. And my loyalty was with my Alpha and my best friend. So, when we were back in our suite later that night, I wasn't sure what Mina would say.

"So, how was Ayla?" Luna Grace asked. "She's been the talk of the evening. I hear she looked quite lovely."

"As beautiful as always," Mina said.

"She seemed content," I replied, unable to hide the sadness and concern in my voice.

"I'm glad to know she isn't struggling," Luna Grace said genuinely.

“Kingston really cares about her,” Mina said. “I’m still not sure about going through with this. I like Theo. I do. I’m glad I’ve gotten to know him, but Kingston has been good to her from the start.”

Luna Grace grabbed Mina’s hands gently. “I understand your reservations. But you’re not going through with anything. You’re asking your cousin to take part in an important event in your life. And I’m hiring her for a job. Neither will stop her from being with Kingston if that’s what she wants.”

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Chapter 52: Briggs

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Despite being Theo’s mother, Luna Grace really did want the best for Ayla. Theo had mentioned there was some kind of relationship between his parents and Ayla. None of us knew the nature of the relationship, but it was enough for Luna to accept that she may not be able to fix this for Theo.

My phone started ringing in my pocket. I knew it had to be Theo. I answered the call as I walked toward the balcony for some privacy.

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“Hey, man,” I said.

“Any news for me?” he asked.

“She’s here,” I informed him. “Mina was able to spend some time with her.”

“How is she?”

“She’s doing good,” I said. “Her leg is all



And she's

apparently made quite an impression."

"That's not surprising," he said. I could hear pride in his voice. It made my heart ache because I knew there was pain there.

too.

It took a lot for us to convince him not to come this weekend. He had been a different person ever since he ended things with Kylee. He had been less stressed about pack business, quickly becoming more efficient and organized. He started to rely more on his ranking pack members to help keep things running smoothly rather than trying to take everything on himself. He was finally settling into the Alpha role the way I thought he would.

He had even taken the time to get to know Mina. Not just

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asking about Ayla, but really trying to get to know her. It meant a lot to me and was also important for her. She was moving back to Greytooth territory so we could be together. It made sense for both of us with me being the pack Beta, and she was born a Greytooth. She was happy to be rejoining her mother's pack. So it would be important that she and Theo not only got along but actually liked each other.

"I bet Mina was excited to see her," Theo said, breaking through my thoughts.

"Yeah, it was good for her," I said with a smile.

"I sent you an email with a couple more things to address in the meetings tomorrow," he informed me. "I know the Gatherings can keep you pretty busy, but try to keep me posted."

"I will," I said. "Your mom will be with me for the first two, but she wants to attend the afternoon Luna session. But I should,

be fine without her."

"You'll be just fine," he assured me.

"Thanks, man."

"And Briggs..."

"Yeah?" He seemed hesitant.

"Could you... could you tell her I'm glad she's healed?"

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Chapter 53: Briggs

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## **The Luna's Choice (theo and ayla) by Kat Silver Chapter 53**

Chapter **53**: Briggs

The day was tedious. The meetings were largely made up of arbitrary updates from all the pack leaders in attendance. There were a few concerns regarding border disputes and rogue attacks, and several trade proposals were put forth.

Any packs involved would have the opportunity to meet privately for moderate

d negotiations. I used that time to follow up with the Alphas who experienced fires similar to the one we had at the library.

I left the conference room with what information they could give me and promises that they would send us anything else they had on their investigations after they returned to their territories. As I walked into the bar, I spotted Ayla, and my hackles raised.

She was talking to Alpha Conner. Theo and I knew Conner, and we didn't like him. He was a ruthless leader and a misogynistic prick. We had heard rumors of more than one of his she-wolves leaving his pack for inappropriate advances from him and his ranking circle. And we knew for a fact he beat at least one of his partners.

Ayla responded with a polite but forced smile. Her posture was rigid and formal, moving away with every inch he took toward her. I couldn't hear what they were saying, but she was definitely uncomfortable. The bartender set a drink down in front of her. He also eyed the interaction between the two and lingered close by. Ayla picked up the glass and moved to

leave, but Conner grabbed her arm.

was next to her in a second.

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## Chapter 53: Briggs

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"There you are, Ayla," I said, getting Alpha Conner's attention long enough to allow Ayla to free herself. "Mina sent me to let you know we found a table on the patio."

"Beta Briggs," she said with relief, "that sounds perfect."

“Now, hold on, beautiful,” Alpha Conner said smoothly, “I think you can spare a few more moments to share a drink with me.”

“No, thank you, Alpha,” Ayla said firmly. “My party is waiting for me, but I hope you have a lovely day.”

“Then perhaps I’ll just join you,” Conner insisted.

I noticed two other Alphas and a Beta coming up to us. They must have noticed the situation as well.

“I’m afraid this is a private meal, Alpha Conner,” I interjected. “Come on, Ayla.”

He turned away from Ayla and grabbed my shoulder.

“Do you really think a Beta has any business with a she—wolf like her?” he said quietly.

“Is everything okay over here?” a man I recognized said. I believe his name was Gregory, Alpha of the Moonvalley Pack.

“Yes, Alpha,” I said, guiding Ayla to my side. “I was just telling Alpha Conner here that Ms. Garner is a cousin, and my mate and I are waiting for her to join us on the patio for lunch.”

Alpha Conner eyed me for a moment, deciding whether I was telling the truth or not.

“We were about to head in that direction ourselves,” Alpha Gregory said. “We’ll walk with you.”

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Chapter 53: Briggs

They all eyed Alpha Conner. The energy coming off of everyone was palpable. I wasn't sure whether Conner would be stupid enough to continue his protests. Luckily, he sat back down on his bar stool, giving us a bitter smile.

"No worries," he said. "I'll see you this evening, sweetheart."

I barely managed to stifle the growl that bubbled up. Ayla tucked her arm in mine and pulled me toward the direction of the patio. The others continued along with us until we stepped out into the sunlight. Once we were outside, it was like she could breathe again.

"Thank you, gentlemen," she said, turning to the three men who had also come to her rescue. "I appreciate the escort."

"It was our pleasure, Ms. Garner," the second Alpha stated. "I'm Alpha Vincent. This is my Beta, Aaron, and Alpha Gregory."

"Ayla Garner," she replied, shaking their hands. "And this is Beta Briggs. It's a pleasure to meet you all."

Alpha Gregory chuckled. "Yes, we know who you are, Ms. Garner, but we are happy to be formally introduced. I'm sure Alpha Kingston won't be too pleased about Conner harassing you."

"Yes, well, it may be best to let me handle the news," Ayla said. "I'd rather he didn't start a war on my account."

"Of course," Alpha Vincent said.

They said their goodbyes and left Ayla and me alone on the patio.

"Are you okay?" I asked.

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She smiled and tipped her head for me to walk with her. "I'm fine. No harm done. Thank you for your help back there."

"Of course," I said. "Alpha Conner is a real bastard. Whatever you do, don't let him get you alone."

"I'll keep that in mind." She set her drink on the patio railing. "Mina told me about Theo and Kylee. How... how is Theo doing with that?"

Her question took me by surprise. I didn't want to read too much into the inquiry. Not yet, at least. But I wasn't sure what to tell her.

"He's dealing with it," I said. "It actually seems to have been good for him. He's been a better Alpha. He's been more himself than he's been in a long time."

Ayla nodded. "That's good to hear. I'm sorry Kylee lied. I'd like to say she did it out of misguided love, but I don't know."

My brow furrowed as I looked at her.

"What?"

"You have nothing to apologize for, Ayla," I said. "You aren't responsible for anyone else's actions, and you've been hurt by them more than anyone else. So, I do want to hear you

apologize for anything."

"Okay," she laughed. "But everyone made mistakes in this situation."

We stood in silence for a moment.

"Theo's glad you've recovered from the accident," I told her.

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## Chapter 53: Briggs

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The corners of her lips tipped up slightly. “Tell him thank you.”

She looked at her watch and cleared her throat.

“I’ve got to meet Kingston before the Luna meeting,” she said. “Thank you again, Briggs, for rescuing me from Alpha Conner.”

“Mina would kill me if I let anything happen to you,” I teased. “Theo would, too, you know.”

She rested her hand on my forearm, squeezing it as she gave me a gentle smile. I could see there was pain in her eyes. She didn’t say anything else before she walked away.

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## Chapter 54: Ayla

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# **The Luna’s Choice (theo and ayla) by Kat Silver Chapter 54**

## Chapter **54**: Ayla

I slipped my dress on and pulled up the zipper. Emma had made me get a wardrobe for the whole weekend, but it was this dress that she absolutely wouldn’t let me leave without. I couldn’t lie that I felt good in it. It was a sexy black one-shoulder number that hugged every curve. I spent extra time on my

makeup and hair, and as I looked in the mirror, I was pretty impressed with my self.

Satisfied with my appearance, I left the room to meet Kingston in the suite's sitting area. A smile spread across my face at his expression when he saw me.

"You think this will do?" I asked coyly.

"At driving everyone crazy?" he said, closing the distance between us. "Absolutely."

"Well, that wasn't exactly what I was going for," I chuckled. "I was thinking presentable would suffice."

He leaned in and kissed me. "You look gorgeous," he said. "But I think there's something missing."

I furrowed my brow, looking down at my attire. "What did I forget?"

Kingston stepped away and picked something off the side table behind him. When he turned back to me, I saw that it was a velvet box. He opened it and I gasped. Inside was a brilliant emerald necklace with diamond accents. He removed it from the box and stepped behind me to put it on me.

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Chapter 54. Ayla

"Kingston," I said, "this is too much. I can't wear this."

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"Of course you can," he said. His hands started roaming. I laughed as I grabbed them.

"If you start that, we'll never make it downstairs," I said.



“Right now” – he pulled me against him – “that doesn’t seem like a bad thing.”

I snickered again. “As nice as that sounds, I’m looking forward to spending some more time with some of the others.”

“Okay,” he said. “I’m glad you’re enjoying the weekend.”

I took his arm, and we headed out of the room. I saw Alpha Vincent and Beta Aaron waiting for the elevator as we approached and offered them a smile.

“Good evening, Alpha Vincent, Beta Aaron,” I said. “It’s nice to see you again.”

“Ms. Garner,” Alpha Vincent said kindly, “it’s a pleasure to see you as well. Both of you.”

“Alpha Vincent. Beta Aaron,” Kingston said, extending his hand to each. “I didn’t know you knew my date.”

“We met this afternoon.”

“Yes, they were kind enough to escort me and Beta Briggs to the patio,” I said, feeling a little guilty about not telling Kingston about the incident at the bar yet .

“Did you need escorting?” Kingston asked me.

“No,” I said with a smile. “I met another Alpha at the bar I didn’t

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Chapter 54: Ayla

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It care much for. These two, along with Beta Briggs and Alpha Gregory, assisted in giving me a graceful exit from the conversation.”

The elevator dinged and the doors opened. I hid the relieved breath I released as we entered, hoping it was enough to keep Kingston from asking more questions.

“So, Alpha, how have you been finding the meetings this year?” Alpha Vincent asked.

“Fairly standard for the most part,” Kingston said. “Although I’m curious to learn the outcome of the Arrowclaw and

Moonshadow agreement. I know it would put some of my pack along the southern border at ease, knowing there is less of a risk of open conflict again.”

“Yes,” Beta Aaron said. “We’re hopeful as well. It seems likely to end well with Alpha Anthony finding his mate in the Arrowclaw pack.”

“She’s actually Alpha Patrick’s niece,” Kingston said. “They’re apparently close, too. So, it is looking good.”

“Are you talking about Aniya?” I asked.

“Yes,” Alpha Vincent said. “I believe that was her name.”

“I met her today,” I said as we stepped off the elevator. “She’s quite lovely. We spoke about the possibility of a cross-pack scholarship program. She was pretty interested.”

“Really? What kind of scholarship program?” Alpha Vincent asked.

“Well, each pack has at least one university in its territory.

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Chapter 54: Ayla

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Many have multiple. That’s wonderful,” I said. “But it seems that has meant they cater almost exclusively to their own pack members. While it may not be intentional, we thought it seemed rather limiting. It’s important for the younger generations to broaden their experiences. So, we were playing with the idea of a scholarship exchange between packs.”

“That sounds like a great idea,” Alpha Vincent said with a smile. “You’ll have to send me information on what you come up with.”

"It's just an idea at this point," I replied. "But if it becomes more, I'll keep you in mind."

We came to the banquet hall entrance and split off from Alpha Vincent and Beta Aaron. Kingston took two glasses of offered champagne and handed one to me. We moved

further into the banquet hall, mingling with everyone who had arrived.

"Alpha Kingston," Alpha Harden got our attention as he approached us. "Ms. Garner, you look ravishing this evening."

"Well, thank you, Alpha," I said with a smile. "You look quite dashing yourself."

"I clean up decent," he teased with a wink. "I hear you have been fitting right in with the other Lunas this weekend, Ms. Garner. I hope Alpha Kingston knows what a natural you are. Otherwise, another Alpha might just swoop in and sweep you off your feet." He leaned into me. "My son, Jason, wouldn't mind the chance."

"I'm well aware of how lucky I am, Alpha Harden," Kingston said, pulling me tight against him. "And I like Alpha Jason. I'd hate to have a falling out because he overstepped with my

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Chapter 54: Ayla

girl."

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Alpha Harden laughed. "So would he," he said. "Don't worry, Alpha. He'll be nothing but respectful."

"That's good to hear," Kingston said. Their banter **was** lighthearted, but there was also a seriousness behind it. It seemed strange.

"So, Alpha Harden, how do you feel the Gathering has been going?" I asked. "It seems everything has been going smoothly."

“It has,” he replied kindly. “Hopefully, it will continue to do so after my speech this evening.”

“Do you have bad news?” I asked, concerned.

“Oh, not at all,” he chuckled.

“Alpha Harden’s speeches tend to drag on a bit,” Kingston teased.

“Just trying to share my wisdom.”

I was laughing when I heard a familiar voice.

“Ayla, my dear girl,” Luna Grace said as she joined us, “you look absolutely lovely.”

I gave her a bright smile and returned the embrace she offered. “Thank you. And you look as elegant and beautiful as always, Luna Grace.”

“You’re so sweet,” she said. “Alpha Kingston, would you mind if I stole Ms. Garner away for a moment?”

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Chapter 54: Ayla

Kingston hesitated briefly but hid his apprehension well.

“Not at all, Luna Grace,” he said kindly.

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## **The Luna’s Choice (theo and ayla) by Kat Silver Chapter 55**

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Chapter **55**: Theo

I was parked on the street a few houses down from the address Ozzy had given me. I had been by twice already, and no one had been home. Both times I left with a feeling in my gut that something was off. I was able to see through a couple of the windows. It appeared someone was still occupying the residence. I just had to catch them when they were home. I just needed to get a glimpse of him, catch his scent. Then I'd be able to know if he was a pack member.

We hit a dead end with the investigations, but Briggs had spoken with the other Alphas, and we all agreed that their fires were likely related to ours. We know that whoever set the fire was the one who killed Mrs. Walport. The only thing we were struggling to figure out was why. The only thing that gave us an idea was that two boxes of files were missing from

having trouble figuring out what

arrow it down.

the archives. But re

was in them to help us

So I was waiting for som

to come back to the house. If this was connected to the other pack fires, then the culprit wasn't a Greytooth. I had already checked any known non- pack member in the territory at the time of the fire. This man may be our last possible lead.

My phone pinged from the center console. It was probably Briggs checking in. I picked it up and opened the message. My heart stopped. He had sent me a string of pictures. They were all of Ayla. They were at the banquet.

She was stunning.

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Chapter **55**: Theo

Her smile was enchanting even through the phone screen. I could only imagine the impact in person. Goddess, I wanted to be there.

But my mother insisted I stay behind. It took everything I had to give in to her request. I told myself I needed to get answers about the fire. If I was going to get Ayla back, if I was going to bring her home, I needed to make sure she was safe here. That meant finding the murdering bastard that targeted my pack. And something told me he was still here.

I kept glancing at the pictures as I waited for the guy to come home. Ozzy said his name was Randall. He was in the city for some kind of job, but Ozzy couldn't remember what. I was tempted to let myself in and search the house, but I knew I needed to speak with him first.

A car finally pulled up to the house an hour later. I waited for him to get inside and settled before getting out of my car. I walked the short distance and knocked on the door. It took a minute to hear movement, but he finally answered.

His scent hit me, and I instantly knew he wasn't a Greytooth. It was also clear that he didn't know who I was, which was another sign he wasn't a pack member. All pack members can recognize their Alpha, even if they've never met them.

"What can I do for you, good sir?" he asked.

"Hello," I replied. "I heard that we had a visitor to the city, and I thought would come by and introduce myself. I'm Alpha Theo Arden."

He shook my extended hand and stepped outside, closing the door behind him.

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Chapter 55: Theo

"It's nice to meet you, Alpha Theo," he said. "I'm Randall Fallweather."

“It’s good to meet you, Randall. So, what brings you to the Greytooth pack?”

“Ah, I’ve got some work in the area. I’m a photographer and a bit of a historian,” he said. “I’m working with Professor Armand at the university on a project.”

“That’s good to know,” I said. “So, what pack are you from?”

“I’m from the Redpaw pack,” he replied. “Although haven’t spent much time there the past year or so. My work brings me all over the place. Speaking of, I’ve been up since five this morning. I don’t mean to be rude, but I’m a bit tired.”

“Of course,” I said. “Please, forgive my intrusion. I hope you have a nice evening.”

He nodded as I turned to leave. He waited until I was on the street before he re-entered the house.

He was hiding something. I could feel it.

But I couldn’t tell if it was what we were looking for. I needed to get into the house and do a search. But I couldn’t do it tonight. I would have to come back at a better time and with supplies. I would have to hide my scent, or he would know.

But he was definitely hiding something.

I started the engine and pulled onto the street. In the meantime, I could do a little digging into Randall Fallweather. The Redpaw pack was a few territories away, but I had met the Alpha before. Luckily, he would likely be at the Gathering

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Chapter **55**: Theo

this weekend, and I could have Briggs ask him

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Out our

visitor. I would also stop by the university tomorrow.

I knew of Professor Armand. I wanted to learn more about this project he was supposedly working on.

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## **The Luna's Choice (theo and ayla) by Kat Silver Chapter 56**

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Chapter 56: Ayla

Luna Grace looped her arm in mine and started to lead me away. I had seen her before the afternoon Luná meeting, and we had talked for a short time. She had said how disappointed she and Alpha Torin were to hear that I had left the pack, but she was glad I had found a place with Kingston and the Sablemane pack. From our conversation, I didn't think she knew what had happened between me and Theo.

"I was very impressed with you at the meeting today," Luna Grace said when we were away from the others

"Thank you, but I didn't have much to offer," I said graciously. "It was just the one idea."

"It is a great idea," she said. "I hope to help you make it a reality someday soon."

"I would like that," I replied honestly.  
e said. "

"There's something else I want to talk to you about," sure you know about Alpha Torin's condition."

"Yes," I confirmed. "I was sorry to hear the diagnosis. Alpha Torin has been good to me and my family."  
"

"He would be glad to hear you say that," Luna Grace said sincerely. "Anyway, his condition has progressed faster than we had hoped. I've been thinking about what it will be like when he's gone."

I hated the pain in her voice. She was trying to mask it, but I could still hear it. I'm not sure anyone could fully hide the pain of losing their mate. Especially when they have been together for so long. I still had

Chapter 56 Ayla



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trouble hiding my own, and I was never with Theo.

"I can't imagine how hard that must be," I said quietly.

She squeezed my arm gently.

"I've been trying to come up with something that would keep him with us," she continued. "I initially thought about a monument, but that seemed a little surface-level. I want to do something that shows who he is, who he was, and everything he did throughout his life. That's when I thought of you."

"Me. Lunca Grace?" I was confused. "What can I do for him?"

"I want to hire you to write his memoir," she said.

I froze. "Luna Grace," I said. "I'd be honored, but I don't write non-fiction."

"Perhaps, but we both know you can. Besides, I don't think Torin would talk to anyone else."

I was touched by the statement, but it was likely an exaggeration. Alpha Torin had been kind to me in the past, but I didn't think he had any sentimental attachment to me. I couldn't think of any reason he would be more receptive to me specifically. Either way, I wasn't a Greytooth anymore and didn't live in their territory. This was a job for a pack member, and the information needed to accomplish it should be gathered in person and take time. I wouldn't want to do it any other way.

"I'm sorry, Luna Grace," I said. "It truly would be an honor, but I live with the Sablemane pack now. This project is too personal for an outsider to take on over video chats and emails."

"Ayla," she said, lifting her hand to my cheek, "ties or not, you will

Chapter 56: Ayla

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never be an outsider. Come stay with us. I know Mina asked you to come help plan her and Briggs' mating ceremony. You can work with Torin while you're there."

Helping Mina only meant coming out for a few weekends. Getting the material I would need for a biography could take weeks. It wasn't the same thing. With one, I could safely avoid Theo. With the other, that would be nearly impossible.

Mina hadn't pushed for more from me. I hated that she was hesitant. about even asking me to be a part of the ceremony. Of course I wanted to be a part of it. I didn't care if Theo would be there. I wouldn't miss this for the world.

Mating ceremonies were the equivalent of a human wedding. It was where a couple would commit to each other in front of their friends and family before marking each other. The ritual originally became popular with chosen mates

when fated mates became a rarer occurrence than they had been a few hundred years ago. Ranking pack members eventually picked up the tradition to show unity with the rest of the pack. It was an important part of their relationship and often helped strengthen the mate bond and the bond with the pack. This was especially important when one of them was coming from another pack.

Nothing would stop me from being there for Mina on that day.

But to spend weeks in Greytooth territory? I don't know if I could do that.

Kingston wouldn't like it. I knew that much. Besides, I needed to stay close to him. If there was anything to his theory, our bond would get stronger the longer we were together. And there was my job and Emma and the other pack members that had become my friends. I didn't want to jeopardize that right now.

Still, I couldn't deny the pull of her request. It really was an honor to be asked to do this. And she was right. I could do it. I would love to be able to do this for Alpha Torin and Luna Grace.

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Chapter 56: Ayla

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She seemed to sense my inner debate and held my hand in h\*

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"You don't have to answer right now," she said. "You just think about it and let me know. We'll be staying at the lake house for now. You can stay with us. We have a lovely guest house that's all yours.

"Okay," I replied with a smile. "I promise to consider it."

"Wonderful," she said. "And this is a job, Ayla. It's not a favor. So, if you decide to take it, just name your price."

I laughed. "We'll worry about that if the time comes."

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"Of course," she said, taking my arm again. "Now, we should be getting back inside. I'm sure Alpha Kingston is getting a bit antsy with me taking all your time."

"I'm sure he would live," I replied.

"I wouldn't," a deep voice came from the shadows. "I wouldn't let you out of my sight looking like that."

A figure stepped out into the light. It was Alpha Conner.

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

[ad\_2]

## **The Luna's Choice (theo and ayla) by Kat Silver Chapter 57**

[ad\_1]

Chapter 57: Ayla

"Alpha Conner," I said, attempting to keep my tone polite but not welcoming.

"We were just heading back inside to join the others. I'm sure Alpha Kingston would allow you to join us there."

"Beautiful, no one 'allows' me to do anything," he said, stepping close to me.

"I'm an Alpha. I don't answer to anyone."

"Accept your pack, of course," I replied.

Alpha Conner let out a low chuckle.

As Ms. Garner said," Luna Grace interjected, "we were just heading back inside. So if you would excuse us.

We moved to push past him, but he grabbed my arm firmly.

"Not so fast," he said. "If you think my leadership is subject to anyone's approval, perhaps it's time you spent time with a real Alpha." He reached up and ran a finger down my neck, sending shivers down my spine. "I'll show what a true Alpha can do."

"Please let go of my arm."

"Alpha Conner, release her at once," Luna Grace commanded, holding my hand. "Your behavior is despicable."

I almost mind-linked Kingston, but I thought better of it. Alpha Conner hadn't hurt me. Despite making my skin crawl, he hadn't done anything to start a brawl over. And if Kingston saw this, there would be a brawl. I didn't want that. I could get out of this myself

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Chapter 57: Ayla

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"I don't think so, Luna Grace," Alpha Conner spat. "You are welcome to return to the festivities, but Ms. Garner and I are staying out here. It's my turn to have a private word."

He pushed his aura out, trying to put a command behind his words. I could feel the weight of it but easily pushed it back.

"We will do no such thing, Alpha Conner," I insisted. "Now let me go."

Standing my ground seemed to both impress and piss him off. His grip on my arm tightened painfully, and he yanked me toward him, throwing me against

the outside wall, knocking the wind out of me. He positioned himself between Luna Grace and me, bearing his canines and growling as she moved to attack him.

But she didn't get the chance.

A flash of movement ripped Alpha Conner off of me. I saw him fly briefly through the air before landing hard on his back, Kingston's hand around his throat. Luna Grace was at my side in a second. So was Mina.

"Ayla, are you alright?" Briggs asked urgently. Luna Grace must of mind-link him.

"Don't let Kingston kill him. Not here."

Three other males were already pulling Kingston off of Alpha Conner. When they pried him off, Conner was coughing and spitting, but he was also laughing.

"What's wrong, Amvorov? Mad your woman decided to try her hand at a real Alpha?"

"What did you just say?" Kingston said dangerously, his eyes flashing yellow as Lennix threatened to break free.

"She came on to...  
"

He didn't get the chance to finish the sentence before Kingston was throwing punches. Alpha Conner went to block one, but Briggs grabbed his arm, and another Alpha held him back, letting Kingston continue to beat him. It was five against one. Even though Alpha Conner was a vile ba\*\*ard, the others couldn't keep attacking him. Not at the Gathering. This was neutral ground. I saw Alpha Harden and many others heading in our direction. I feared what they would do to Kingston, Briggs, and the others.

"Stop," I yelled forcefully.

Everyone froze. All eyes were on me in a second. I don't know how long they stood staring at me. It felt like forever. However, it was probably only a few seconds. Alpha Harden was the first to react.

"What is going on here?"

"He f\*\*\*ing attacked Ayla," Kingston roared.

Alpha Conner tried to speak, but it looked like his jaw was broken. His nose definitely was, and his eye was already swelling badly.

"We all saw it, Alpha Harden," Briggs said, throwing Conner to the ground.

"Ms. Garner refused his advances," Luna Grace stated, her arm around my shoulder. "If I hadn't been here, I believe he would have forced himself on her."

Alpha Harden approached me and gently lifted my arm, where a hand-shaped bruise was forming. His jaw clenched with anger.

“Alpha Vincent, Alpha Gregory, take him to the security station and

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have the guards cuff him up and find his Beta,” he ordered. “Alpha Kingston, I think it would be best if you brought Ms. Garner back to your suite.”

Mina and Luna Grace stepped aside, allowing Kingston to pull me against him. He turned me toward the banquet hall and guided me to our suite. I could feel everyone’s eyes still on us as we left. Once we were in an empty hallway, he stopped and turned to me.

“Are you okay?” he asked, his hands holding my face to look at him.

I nodded. “I’m fine.”

He looked at me for a second before he continued toward our room. He didn’t say anything else until the door closed behind us.

“Why didn’t you tell me Alpha Conner was the one bothering you earlier today?” he asked angrily. “He’s the one you were talking about Vincent and Greg saving you from, wasn’t he? I never would have left your side had I known.”

“First, I didn’t know he was capable of anything like that. So I didn’t want you to go after him for nothing.” I said, annoyed by his attitude toward me. “And second, you can’t be my shadow twenty-four-seven, Kingston.”

“I will if it keeps you safe,” he yelled. “You heard what Luna Grace said. She wasn’t wrong. He would have assaulted you, Ayla.”

“He could try,” I snapped. “Believe it or not, Kingston, I can take care of myself. Do you really think he’s the first male who’s tried something like that?” Rage filled his eyes. “Ayla, did...”

“They didn’t,” I insisted. “I learned how to defend myself a long time

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Chapter 57: Ayla

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”

ago.”

He sighed heavily and pulled me into his arms. He held me tightly for a few moments.

“I hate that you ever had to experience that,” he whispered. “I can’t take the memory away, but I can ensure it doesn’t happen again.”

I shook my head. “I’m not exactly glad I had to use those skills, but I am grateful to have learned the lesson that they were necessary. I’m not going to stop you from protecting me, Kingston. But you can’t keep me in a bubble, either.”

He didn't say anything. Instead, he just held me until there was a knock on the door.

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

[ad\_2]

## **The Luna's Choice (theo and ayla) by Kat Silver Chapter 58**

[ad\_1]

Chapter 58: Kingston

I reluctantly let Ayla go and went to answer the door. Once I opened it, Mina pushed her way through and went straight to Ayla, throwing her arms around her.

"Are you okay?" she asked.

"Yes," Ayla said lightly. "I really am fine."

Briggs nodded toward me as I allowed him into the suite. Alpha Harden was right behind him.

"Ms. Garner," Alpha Harden said, "I want to formally apologize. Alpha Conner's behavior was appalling and absolutely unacceptable."

"What's going to happen to him?" Ayla asked.

"That will be a topic of discussion for tomorrow," he replied. "We have laws for the Gathering, and every Alpha that attends is agreeing to also a\*\*de by the laws of the hosting pack."

Ayla nodded.

Alpha Harden gave her a reassuring smile, then turned to me. With a look, he indicated he wanted to speak with me in the hall. I followed him out of the suite. Leaving Ayla with her cousin and Briggs.

"Alpha Conner will remain in custody until tomorrow," Alpha Harden said. "But there's something I need to ask you."

I had a suspicion about what he was going to ask. It made me nervous. I wasn't sure how I was going to answer.

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Chapter 58. Kingston

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"I know Ayla only recently joined your pack. Where is she from?" Harden asked. "What do you know about her family?"

"Ayla was a Greytooth," I said. "She came to me as a rogue. She cut her ties

after a dispute with her mother and sister. Who were also born and raised as members of the Greytooth pack.”

“What bout her father?”

“He died when she was fourteen,” I stated. “Why are you asking?”

“Kingston,” he said seriously, addressing me informally, “I know you felt it too. She commanded us. All of us. That shouldn’t be possible. Not to mention every unmated Alpha here has been drawn to her since she arrived.”

“She’s a strong she-wolf,” I insisted, worried that he would figure something out that he shouldn’t. “She’s a natural Luna. Tensions were high down there. We were all more susceptible to commands. It doesn’t mean anything.”

Harden nodded. “Okay,” he said. “If that’s what you believe happened, then that’s what happened. But do her a favor and take her home. Whoever she is, she’s a target here. And the others may start asking questions as well.”

He definitely suspected something. This wasn’t good. I suddenly felt incredibly stupid for bringing her here. It’s not like her family was ancient history. Harden probably remembered when the Onyxcrown Pack fell. The only packs I trusted to be allies to the Dominis family were the ones who allowed us through their territory when we were fleeing. The Blue Fang Pack wasn’t one of those. I had no idea where he stood on their downfall.

He must have sensed my unease.

apter 58. Kingston

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“Kingston,” he said quietly, resting a hand on my shoulder. “No one knows anything. If you say she was a Greytooth, she was a Greytooth. Nothing else.”

“That’s all she was,” I said. “Now she’s a Sablemane.”

“Okay,” he said. “Still, you should get her home. We have enough witnesses to handle this without you two. Everyone will understand your absence tomorrow.

“Yeah, we’ll head out in a bit,” I agreed. “Let me know what happens with that bastard.”

“I will.”

“He better be punished, Harden,” I insisted, my anger returning. “If you don’t take care of this, I will.”

“You have my word. There will be consequences.”

“Thank you,” I said, returning to the suite.

Ayla and Mina were on the couch. Ayla had changed already and gotten comfortable and otherwise seemed no worse for wear. I was grateful she didn’t seem too traumatized about the night’s events, but my own anxiety grew. I couldn’t help the dread that I had put her in danger by bringing her. But with the things happening back at the pack, I wouldn’t have been able to leave her either.

Pierce was supposed to arrive early this morning but had to stay behind. He called me early in the morning to tell me there had been another break-in. This time it wasn't at the lodge. This time, someone broke into city hall. I had led Ayla to believe I didn't know who had broken into my lodge. I didn't know exactly who it was, but I had recognized the scent. It was

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a scent that shouldn't have been there. The person who had that scent died many years ago.

If he was still alive, he could only have been searching for one thing. He was likely the one who broke into city hall, looking for any records that would give him what he needed. I couldn't risk him finding it.

But had bringing her here only brought attention to and suspicion about her identity?

I needed to get her home. I could keep her safe at home. No one would find out who she is.

I sat on the arm of the couch next to Ayla, rubbing my hand down her back. I needed the connection. Probably more than she did. It reminded me that she was safe at that moment.

"Alpha Harden said we won't have to stay for the trial tomorrow," I said. "I think we should head home early. I'd rather you not have to deal with all the attention. Are you okay with that?"

"Yeah, that's fine," she said, looking up at me with a soft smile.

"I

guess we'll leave you to get some rest then," Mina said, leaning in to give Ayla a strong hug. "I love you."

"I love you, too," Ayla replied.

"Talk to you soon?" she asked.

"Every chance we get.

They smiled and hugged again. Ayla gave Briggs a hug, too, and thanked him for coming to help. She walked them out as they said all their goodbyes.

When it was just the two of us again, I could see she was tired. It had been a long day. I wrapped her in my embrace, kissing

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288 Vouchers

her firmly as I tried to breathe her in

"Let's get to bed," I said. "It'll be an early morning.

She nodded and held my hand as I led her to the bedroom. I tucked her in before stripping down and pulling on a pair of sweatpants. I would have to



throw the shirt out and get the suit dry-cleaned. It was covered in Alpha Conner's blood.

At least I was able to protect Ayla from that animal.

I slipped under the covers beside her, wrapping myself around her small frame. I would be smarter from now on. She had to be priority now.

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

[ad\_2]

## **The Luna's Choice (theo and ayla) by Kat Silver Chapter 59**

[ad\_1]

Chapter 59: Ayla

Things had been a little tense between Kingston and me since the Gathering. His overprotectiveness seemed to kick into high gear after what happened at the banquet. It had been four days, and he hadn't let me go anywhere or do anything without him. I had confronted him several times, and he just said he was protecting me. But he wouldn't tell me why he thought I was in so much danger that he had to be so close to me all the time.

Alpha Harden had called us after Alpha Conner's judgment meeting. They gave him the option to serve two years in a Blue Fang prison for breaking the laws of the pack and the Gathering. Or he could choose to be stripped of his Alpha rank and banned from leaving his pack territory for at least five years. He opted to be stripped of his rank, which didn't satisfy Kingston as much as I expected it to.

But still, we followed up, and Alpha Conner hasn't shown any signs of immediate retaliation toward us. Even if he did, the pack has been alerted to watch for any trouble. There was no reason for Kingston's behavior.

I thought something else might be going on. Maybe it had something to do with Pierce's absence at the Alpha Gathering. But he denied all my questions. He said everything was fine. But he still wouldn't give me some space.

It was starting to stress me out. I received another card from my stalker on Tuesday. I couldn't bring myself to tell Kingston because I was afraid he would lock me in our apartment for the foreseeable future. Especially since the message had referred to the events at the Alpha Gathering.

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I found the blue envelope when I came into the office that morning. It was the same as the others; except for the message inside.

He was a fool to take you.

He can pretend you belong to him all he wants.

But you're mine.

He was too weak to take care of that Alpha.

But I'm not.

I will keep you safe.

See you soon, my love.

I was working at my desk when Erica came in with a file for me.

"Here is the revenue report you needed," she said cheerily.

"Thanks, Erica," I replied. I stopped her as she was leaving. "Hey, can I ask you something?"

"Of course," she stated.

"I was recently offered a job. Don't worry," I rushed. "It's only a short-term project. I can work on it outside of here for the most part. But it would require me to be away for a few weeks initially. I haven't made any promises or anything. I'm still committed to this company. But it is a good opportunity."

"Ayla, sweetie," Erica said with a smile. "You have picked up the ins and outs of this business faster than I could have expected. Another month or so, you'll be running this place on your own. If you need to take some time, take some time before you're completely indispensable to us. Just let me know what you need."

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Chapter 59: Ayla

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"Thank you," I replied. "I still haven't decided on anything yet, though. I'll let you know if I do."

I hadn't told Kingston about Luna Grace's request. I wasn't going to take the job at first, but with everything going on here, I needed a break. This would give me some distance to reset. Besides, Luna Grace said I'd stay at the lake house about an hour from the city, and I'd have my own place. I would barely see Theo. It may even be relaxing.

I just had to deal with Kingston. I knew he wouldn't like the idea, but I wanted to do this.

When Kingston and I got home, I had been thinking about how would break the news to him most of the day. I called Luna Grace that afternoon and told her I was interested in taking on the project. We discussed some details, and I told her I would give her my final decision the next day.

I thought I would have doubts about reaching out to her, but I was actually getting excited. When I came to Sablemane territory, I felt I needed a change in everything, including my career. And I did. I was happy with my job and the prospect of taking over the publishing house soon. I liked what I was doing. But I didn't realize that I missed writing too. Instead of changing my career trajectory, maybe I just needed a different approach to my writing.

"Hey," Kingston said, pulling me out of my thoughts, "what's on your mind?" It was time to bite the bullet.

"Um, I want to talk to you about something," I said.

Kingston grabbed my hand and guided me to the couch, pulling me down next to him as he sat.

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Chapter 59: Ayla

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"What's up?"

"Luna Grace offered me a job last weekend," I started. "She wants me to write Alpha Torin's memoir."

"Okay..." he pressed.

"I want to do it," I stated. "But it would mean going to stay with them for a couple weeks."

"Ayla, you're joking, right?"

"I need to interview Alpha Torin. It needs to be in person so I can gauge his emotional response, study his mannerisms, really get to know him better. I can't do that over the phone or email," I told him.

He got up from the couch. I could tell he was getting angry.

"No," he said flatly. "You're just going to have to turn down the job."

"Excuse me?" I had expected him to be upset and not like the situation, probably try to talk me out of going. But I didn't expect him to flat-out refuse the idea. "Tell me you're joking now, Kingston."

"I'm not letting you leave the territory where I can't protect you, let alone send you back to a pack where your ja\*\*\*\*s of a mate is just waiting for you with open arms." He was practically yelling by the end of his statement.

"Theo has nothing to do with this," I yelled back

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

[ad\_2]

## **The Luna's Choice (theo and ayla) by Kat Silver Chapter 60**

[ad\_1]

## Chapter 60: Ayla

"The hell he doesn't," Kingston bellowed. "There's no way you're going. It's not happening. What were you even thinking, Ayla?"

I stood up. "I was thinking it was an honor to do this for a man who helped save my family. I was thinking I could be there to help my cousin plan the most important day of her life. I was thinking about seeing the few friends I left behind without an explanation. I was thinking, maybe, just maybe, I could make sure my family was f\*\*\*\*ng safe without me.

Kingston scoffed. "Yeah, the family that betrayed you every chance they got. And a man who left you to deal with them by yourself. That's such an honor," he said sarcastically. "All they'll try to do is weasel their way back into your life to take advantage of you again. And Torin just wants to get you back with Theo. And as far as Mina goes, she's lived without you for ten years. I highly doubt it would break her heart if you weren't there."

The sound of my palm against his face registered before the feeling of it did. How dare he? My fists were clenched at my sides and I was fuming. I could even feel Dasha stir slightly at the back of my mind. Kingston's shoulders fell, and I could tell he regretted what he said, but it was too late.

"Ayla, I'm..."

"Shut up," I spat. "First of all, I wasn't asking your permission, Kingston. I was letting you know what I was considering so we could discuss it. It was a courtesy. If I decide to go, I will f\*\*\*\*ng go. You don't own me, Kingston. I'm not your f\*\*\*\*\*g property. Second, don't you dare pretend to know the feelings of people you don't know.

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288 Vouchers

Especially when it's about people I love." I stepped closer to him, practically in his face. "And third, if you don't trust me to be around the mate I rejected, that's not my f\*\*\*\*ng problem."

I pushed past him, heading for the door. I couldn't be around him right now. I was about done with his sh\*t.

I was almost to the door when he jumped in front of me, grabbing my arms.

"Ayla, stop," he said desperately. "I'm sorry. I shouldn't have said that."

"Which part?"

"Any of it," he rushed. "I just don't want you to leave me."

"I'm not leaving you, Kingston," I said. "I'm just going for work."

"But I can't protect you if you're not here," he insisted, pushing his hands

through his hair.

"And what do I need protection from so desperately, Kingston? Because I can't take the constant shadow anymore," I yelled. "You keep treating me like a child. You won't tell me what you're so worried about, and I can't do anything on my own. I need some d\*\*n space."

His face went pale and fear filled his eyes. "From me?"

I sighed. His expression broke my heart, but I couldn't lie to him. I reached out and grabbed his hand gently.

"I think we both need a little space," I said quietly. "I'm not leaving you, Kingston. That's not what this is. But I'm going to do this. I need to go back for a while."

He wrapped his arms around me. He held me as if I would disappear if

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288 Vouchers

he let go.

"What if he tries to get you back?"

"Kingston," I said with exasperation.

"I'm serious, Ayla. Now that he and Kylee broke up, nothing is stopping him."

"Except for any inclination that he wants me back," I said. "If he wanted to be with me, don't you think he would have shown up to the Gathering?"

Kingston didn't say anything.

"My feelings haven't changed, Kingston," I told him. "I'm still with you."

\*\*\*

Kingston

Ayla and I had dinner together, but there was still a tension between us. When we were done, she settled on the couch to read for a while. I needed to talk to Pierce, so I headed toward his apartment. He opened the door before I even had to knock.

"Whoa," he said when he saw me. "You look like s\*\*t."

I pushed into his living room. "Ayla's going back to Greytooth territory."

"Whoa, what?" Pierce said with concern. "What the hell happened?"

"Luna Grace asked her to write a biography for Alpha Torin," I replied. "She has to go to interview him and get the information she needs."

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"Okay, so she's coming back."

"She said she needs space, Pierce." I threw myself down on his couch. "She practically said I was smothering her."

"Man, you kind of have been," Pierce said.

"I'm just staying close," I snapped. "I'm trying to keep her safe. With the break-in at city hall and me stupidly drawing attention to her at the Gathering, I can't afford to make a mistake."

"But you still refuse to tell her why you're acting this way," Pierce pointed out.

"Of course she thinks you're being clingy."

"Really?" I shot at him incredulously. "You too?"

"Hey, just calling it like I see it. Either she thinks you're being clingy, or she starts to think you're hiding something, which you are. Neither is going to work out well for you, dude."

"I'm not telling her, Pierce."

"Then maybe it's good for her to get away from the pack for a few days,"

Pierce said, handing me a beer he had pulled from the fridge.

"Giving Theo exactly what he wants," I snapped. "You know he's going to try to get her back. Ayla doesn't think he will, but he will."

"Then he tries," Pierce said with a sigh. "Either way, you can't keep her here like a child, Kin. If she's telling you she's feeling smothered, you've got to back off. Besides, do you really think she could forgive Theo for what he did?"

"She forgave her mother and sister," I said.

"Yeah, but she still cut them out of her life." He took a drag from his

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Chapter 60 Ayla

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bottle. "She knows her worth, Kin. But if you're worried about him making an impression, you better leave her with one he can't beat."

"And how the hell do I do that?"

"Show her support. Let her know you realize this is important to her. That you get this is something that she needs to do. Show her that you believe she'll come back to you, even if you don't."

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

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