

# The Luna's Choice (theo and ayla) by Kat Silver Chapter 81

[ad\_1]

## Chapter 81: Theo

It was a rough night, but I finally fell asleep around four in the morning. I didn't think I'd be able to sleep, but having Ayla in the room across the hall made it

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scent was all over me, either, instead of worse. It didn't hurt that her

They let me sleep in because it was almost noon when I finally regained consciousness. I pulled myself out of bed. When I opened the bedroom door, a strange smell wafted up from downstairs. It wasn't a bad smell. It was kind of pleasant but still strange.

I slipped into the laundry room when I got downstairs and grabbed a shirt before heading to the kitchen. Ayla was at the stove, adding some kind of plant to a pot.

?Seemed to get more gorgeous every time I

saw her. I shook my head, pushing away the thoughts that invaded my mind.

"What's all this?" I asked, going to the counter where an array of foliage was laid out.

She paused for a minute, looking out the back window where we could see my father sitting in his chair in the back.

"Hopefully, something that will help," she said.

I didn't think she managed to get much sleep after the night's events. But she was entirely focused on her current task, so I didn't want to interrupt that. I left her to her project and went out to sit with my dad.

I faltered slightly when I got a better look at him. Most of his joints were visibly swollen. His knees and ankles were twice their normal size. The knuckles of his hands and his wrists were now prominent

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Chapter 81: Theo

1288 Vouchers

features. It would take time for them to return to a point where they at least looked normal. But the pain would still be there for him.

I took the seat next to him, not speaking.

"I'm sorry, son," he said after a time. "I wanted to make it right for you. I had to go into the woods. I had to make it right."

His mind was always muddled after these episodes. He wouldn't make much sense today. I reached up and rested a hand on his shoulder.

"It's okay, Dad," I assured him. "It'll all be okay."

It wasn't long before Ayla came out to us, holding a jar that released the same scent from the kitchen. She knelt down by my father and rested a hand on his. His face seemed to light up at seeing her.

"Alpha," she said softly, "I think I can help with the pain, but I need to massage this into your skin. Is that okay?"

"I'm so glad you came back," he said. I didn't think he registered Ayla's question. "I was scared when you left the pack. But you came back."

She looked at me. I nodded to let her know she could do whatever she needed. She poured a small portion of the oily contents of the jar into her palm. Rubbing her hands together briefly, she took Dad's hand and massaged his swollen joints. I watched as she took her time, making sure to spend time on each individual area.

Dad slowly began to relax. I could see the relief Ayla was giving him as she continued her ministrations. His eyes closed and his breathing slowed. He had fallen asleep. But she continued.

"What are you using?" I asked quietly, not wanting to disturb him.

"It's an old homeopathic remedy," she replied softly. "There's ginger, 25.30%

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288 Vouchers

green tea, and a mixture of willow bark, Boswellia, and cat's claw. I found the Boswellia and cat's claw growing not too far from here around an old, dilapidated shed. I wasn't sure I was right, so I've been researching to make sure."

I moved down to the ground, holding my hand out. Ayla filled my palm, and I started working on his other hand.

"Where did you learn to do this?"

"My father." She smiled gently as she moved on to Dad's knee. "My grandmother was an osteopath. A healer. She taught my dad. He taught me. I've been thinking about him a lot lately."

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"I should have done more," Dad said suddenly, causing both our heads to snap in his direction. "I promised Jack I'd protect you. I should have taken you in. But we were afraid that would draw attention. I couldn't draw attention to you. No one can know. He made me promise."

I looked at Ayla. She had a pained and confused expression.

"Dad, what are you talking about?" I probed gently. "What did you promise

Jack?"

"I should have just taken you in," he continued. "I stayed away, but he

watching from afar, watching but not knowing. And you suffered. The goddess is punishing me, punishing my family, for that mistake. I should have been a better Alpha."

"Dad..."

"You are a wonderful Alpha," Ayla said.

His gaze moved to the trees, but he didn't seem to be seeing anything anymore. His expression was far away.

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Chapter 91. Theo

288 Vouchers

"I deserve this pain. The goddess has inflicted me with this," he whispered.

"But don't punish my son. Please, goddess, this wasn't his fault."

"Why are you being punished?" I asked, hoping to reach him.

"They were the oldest. The goddess's favorites," he mumbled. "I failed the Blessed One. I thought I would put her in danger. Too many eyes on me. Too many eyes. I made a mistake. Forgive me."

He was rambling, but these weren't random, meaningless thoughts. He was talking about Ayla and her family. Alpha Harden was right. He did know something about her family. I turned to Ayla again. Concern filled her eyes. Did she know what he meant?

I gently gripped my father's shoulder. "Dad," I urged.

He seemed to snap out of whatever nightmare or delusion he was experiencing. He looked at me, and I saw the man I had known my whole life in his eyes.

"Come on, Dad," I said. "Why don't we get you inside for a rest."

He nodded and allowed me to help him from his chair and into the house. I settled him into his recliner, and he dozed off almost immediately. I had so many questions for him. But it would be a while before he would be healthy enough to handle that.

But there was something deeper going on. My father's attachment to Ayla had an explanation, and I needed to figure out what that was. Especially if he felt he was being punished for something involving her and her family.

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

[ad\_2]

## **The Luna's Choice (theo and ayla) by Kat Silver Chapter 82**

[ad\_1]

Chapter 82: Theo

I went back outside to find Ayla. I saw her sitting on the swing in the yard. I didn't know how much longer I could go on. Watching her relieve my father's pain. Seeing how she was willing to put herself in danger to help him. The thought of something happening to her. I felt our bond growing stronger. At least, my side was.

I went to where she sat.

"You alright?" I asked.

"Relatively speaking..." She was gripping a blue envelope in her hands.

"What's that?"

"Hmm? Oh." She jumped slightly, tucking the envelope into her back pocket.

"It's nothing. Just a card."

I didn't believe her, but I needed to deal with one problem at a time.

"May I?" I indicated the spot next to her on the swing.

She nodded.

I took my seat, resisting the urge to grab her hand. I would need to stay away from her for a while. Her kindness gave me more hope than I could take.

"You know what my dad was talking about, don't you?" I asked, trying to focus on anything other than where we were touching.

"Some of it, maybe," she said.

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288 Vouchers

"Ayla, who was your father?"

"I don't really know anymore," she said shakily. "You know, he said he wanted to tell me something. Something important. That night he left. Then he never came back."

"I'm sorry, Ayla," I said.

"Ten years," she continued. "Ten years, I wondered what it was. Now that I've found out, I don't know what to do with it. What it means. Why it means

anything.”

“You know what he was going to tell you?” I shifted to face her. “How?”

She closed her eyes. “I...” She sighed. “Kingston. He knew my father.”

My chest tightened. “How?”

“It’s complicated,” she said, pushing off the swing and walking toward the trees.

“Hey” – I followed her, turning her to face me – “you can talk to me, Ayla. I promise. I will never hurt you again.”

“Will you hurt him?” she asked.

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“No,” I said, ignoring Kieran’s contradiction. must have doubted me because she gave me a look. I chuckled. “Look, I’m not going to pretend to like the guy, but I just promised not to hurt you again. Hurting him would hurt you.”

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“Okay,” she said. “What do you know about the Onyxcrown Pack?”

I suddenly didn’t like where this was going.

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Chapter 82: Theo

288 Vouchers

“I know enough,” I said. Dad had taught me about Onyxcrown and the conspiracy that brought them down. If all this had to do with them, it likely wouldn’t be good. “What do they have to do with you?”

“My father was from the Onyxcrown Pack,” she said. “More precisely, he was the future Alpha of the Onyxcrown Pack. Before they were destroyed. He escaped the massacre and ended up here. But I don’t know what that has to do with your dad or any promise or any Blessed One. Whatever that means.

“Okay, okay,” I calmed her, brushing her hair behind her ear. “We can figure that out. Okay? Give it a few days and I’ll talk to my dad. When he’s recovered a bit more.”

“I don’t think I even want to know,” Ayla said. “So my dad was from the Onyxcrown Pack. I’m not. I’m a Greytooth... I was born a Greytooth. Being a Sablemane doesn’t mean I’m any closer to reviving a decimated pack either.”

I tried to ignore the slip. I wouldn’t be able to stop reading more into it than there was if I thought about it too long. But while her heritage may not mean much to her at the moment, it meant something to my father. And he was torturing himself over it.

“I’ll tell you what,” I said. “I’ll talk to Dad about it. For all we know, it may be nothing. It could have just been the ramblings of an addled mind. I’ll let you

know whatever he says, and if you want to look further into it, you can.”

“Okay,” she agreed. “Thank you.”

Our eyes held each other’s. It was times like these, when we were alone that I got to see the real Ayla. She was open and honest, and vulnerable. She felt safe with me. They were some of the happiest and most painful moments.

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Chapter 82 Theo

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But, like the rest, it ended too soon. The mask returned and she stepped away.

“I should get the kitchen cleaned before your mom gets back,” she said.

I nodded. “Where did Mom get off to?”

“She called the doctor this morning,” she said as we began to walk back to the house. “She said she needed to go to the hospital in the city to pick up some more meds for Alpha.”

“Yeah, he’s taking some specialty drug,” I clarified. “You can’t get it just any pharmacy.”

“Ah,” she replied. “Oh, and Beta Harry went with her. He said he’d pick up your car for you and bring it back. How did you even get here last night?”

“I ran,” I said with a shrug. “The roads up here wind around through the mountain. Kieran can make the run in almost half the time in a straight shot.”

“Oh,” Ayla said. “I guess that makes them being this far away easier for you.”

“Yes, it does.”

Ayla started clearing off the counters once we made it to the kitchen. She was tense again. It had been a long day already, and she’d had a lot thrown at her. I had a feeling that my unexpected presence wasn’t helping. I had made it clear to my mother that we wouldn’t ambush her again. If I was going to be here, she would know ahead of time.

I know this was an extenuating circumstance, but that didn’t mean it wasn’t hard on her. I needed to stay with my parents for a few days while Dad recovered. There was a risk he would have another episode.

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Chapter 82 Theo

17 288 Vouchers

during this time when he was still disoriented.

I was thinking about what to do when the house phone rang.

"Hello," I answered.

"Hey, man, it's me," Briggs said. "Luna called and said you made it in time last night. How's Alpha doing?"

"He's okay," I stepped into the other room for some privacy. "Thanks to Ayla."

"Ayla?" Briggs asked.

"I'll tell you about it later," I said. "But what's up?"

"I just got off the phone with Tim, the warrior running the patrol route near Bresdale."

Bresdale was the small town nearby.

"And?"

"They thought they caught the scent of a strange wolf last night," he said. "He and a couple of the others followed the trail. They believe it was just some wolf out for a run. They didn't seem to be heading toward your parents. They just wanted to report it since they didn't recognize the scent."

It could be nothing, but I was still suspicious. The news helped me make my next decision.

"I'll try to check it out," I told Briggs. "I've got to stay up here for a few days.

Can you do me a favor?"

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Chapter 83: Ayla

288 Vouchers

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

[ad\_2]

## **The Luna's Choice (theo and ayla) by Kat Silver Chapter 83**

[ad\_1]

Chapter 83: Ayla

I stored any ingredients for the oil that would keep and put the remainder in jars. I would write down the recipe for Luna to have when I was gone. I'd have to take her to where I found the plants growing wild so she could accurately identify them when she needed more.

I tried to keep my mind on rearranging my schedule, but it was a struggle. Intrusive thoughts of Theo kept pushing through. Dasha even stirred in the back of my mind as she sensed my frustration. With Alpha in his current condition, we wouldn't be sitting for any interview sessions for several days at least. I didn't need to ask to know that Theo would want to stay close to his father right now.

I was considering returning to Sablemane until Alpha Torin was feeling better when Theo came back!

"Hey," he said, "I know it's getting a little crowded here, and that won't make work any easier for you. So, I wondered if you wanted to stay at the packhouse for a few days?"

"Huh? What?" I was taken aback by his question. It took me a moment to accept it was because it hurt. He didn't want me here. I shouldn't have cared, but I did.

"Not because you're not welcome here," he rushed, moving toward me but stopping before reaching out for me. "Ayla, I want you here more than anything. But I know that's hard on you, and that's not fair. I need to be here right now..."

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"I know that, Theo," I interjected. "I don't want you to leave your parents. They need you."

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Chapter 83: Ayla

288 Vouchers

"I know. I've asked Briggs to prepare an apartment for you at the packhouse in case you want it. Mina would be ecstatic to have you so close. You'll have all the privacy you need to work. Unless you want to go home, of course. Mom will keep in touch and let you know when Dad's well enough for you to come back. Whatever you decide. We're not holding you captive here, Ayla."

His last words were teasing, but I knew this was painful for him. He kept saying this was hard on me, but if I was being fair, this was harder on him.

"You're right," I said, forcing my tone to be light-hearted. "I was just thinking about what I would do the next few days, so I think I'll take you up on that. Thank you."

I didn't have anything else to say, so I turned back to the dishes. Theo went to sit with Alpha in the living room. When I was done, I went back up to my room. I had decided to go back to Sablemane for the week. I needed to see Kingston. He was right about us being apart for so long.

I grabbed my phone and clicked his contact.



“Hey, babe,” he said brightly when he answered.  
“Hi,” I replied, focusing on how nice his voice was. “What are you doing?”  
“Just going over some intel,” he said. “What about you?”  
“Well, I’m about to start packing,” I said. “I’m coming back for a few days.”  
“What? You are? When? Today?”  
“Well, it’s a little late to drive all the way back today,” I said. “I figured.

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Chapter 83: Ayla

288 Vouchers

I’d stay at the packhouse with Mina tonight, then head to you tomorrow morning.”

“That’s great, babe. So you got what you need already?”

“No, Alpha Torin needs some time off,” I said. “I’ll come back when he’s feeling better next week.”

“Oh, okay,” Kingston replied, disappointed. “Hey, at least I’ll get you back for a couple days. Let me know when you get home, and I’ll be there as soon as I can.”

“Wait, are you not home?” I asked, confused by what he meant.

“No,” he said hesitantly. “I was called out to a border town to look into something.”

“Is everything okay?”

“Yeah, everything will be fine,” he assured me, but I got a weird feeling.

“Then can Pierce take over for you? I really want to see you,” I said.

“I want to see you too, babe. You have no idea. I’ve been going crazy without you,” he insisted. “But this is something I need to take care of. Just come home and I’ll be there before you know it. You can spend time with Emma.”

“Emma’s working out of town this week,” I said, “I just need to see you, Kingston. I’ve had some things going on that I really want to talk to you about in person. If what your dealing with isn’t a big deal, why can’t you have someone else take care of it?”

“I just can’t,” he insisted.”

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Chapter 83: Ayla

1288 Vouchers

“Okay,” I conceded, feeling a little unwanted again. “I’ll just stay with Mina for a couple days. Let me know when you’re done, and I’ll head straight back.”

“You can come home, Ayla,” Kingston said, getting frustrated. “I’m sure Erica would appreciate you actually coming into the office for once.”

“Excuse me?” What the hell? “Erica and I are working just fine with me here. What’s the matter with you, Kingston? I’m coming back to see you. If you’re not there, I can wait until you are. What difference does it make if I’m in Greytooth or Sablemane if we won’t even be together?”

He knew he just pis\*ed me off.

“No, Ayla, I’m sorry, that came out wrong.”

“You bet your a\*s it did,” I spat.

“Babe, I’m sorry. I didn’t mean it like that,” he rushed. “I just miss you, and this is just cra\*\*y timing. But that’s not your fault. I’m sorry. Just... just come home when you can. I’ll let you know the moment I’m heading back. Then I promise, I’m all yours. We’ll spend the rest of the week just you and me.”

“Okay,” I replied, calming down some. “I’ll talk to you later.”

“I love you,” Kingston said.

“You, too.”

I hung up the phone. The call was strange. I couldn’t help the feeling of dread in the pit of my stomach telling me there was more serious going on than Kingston was telling me.

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Chapter 83 Ayla

1 288 Vouchers

Kingston

I went back into the building, entering the room where the man sat in the chair. Blood dripped on the floor from where the silver cuffs and wolfsbane burned into his skin. The scent of it mixing in the air with various other bodily fluids.

I grabbed his hair and yanked his head up to look at me.

“Well, Corben,” I growled coldly, “it looks like your time is running out. I have someplace to be. So you better start talking.”

He stared back at me through one eye, his other swollen shut, but he remained silent.

“Fine,” I hissed. “You’re the one deciding how long and painful your death will be.”

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

[ad\_2]

## **The Luna's Choice (theo and ayla) by Kat Silver Chapter 84**

[ad\_1]

### Chapter 84: Ayla

I was glad I came to stay at the packhouse. The past three days had been great. Theo was right about having privacy. I had a small apartment to myself and it was perfect. I got so much work done during the day. In the evenings, I spent time with friends. I was reunited with our childhood friend Annabell and a few other people I had either gone to school or worked with throughout my teenage years.

My mood had lifted after my first night here. After Theo suggested I leave and Kingston refused to come back to see me, I felt a bit dejected. I knew I was being sensitive, but it still bothered me. But once I got here, Mina and Briggs swept in and dragged me out to socialize.

We were going out again tonight. We had planned a big dinner with about twelve people. Zeff was coming and was bringing Holly, which I was excited about. Annabell was bringing her mate. She had convinced her mother-in-law to babysit their infant and was happy to get a break. A good friend from my freshman year in high school and two guys I worked with as a teen were also coming.

We had reserved the covered patio of a popular local restaurant and were having a fantastic time. There was good food, good drinks, and great company. Most importantly, I fit in. I felt wanted.

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I was talking with Annabell, her mate, and my friend Lenny when I saw a familiar face through the window. It was the guy I saw the day I had lunch with Zeff. I had thought I had seen him a couple of days before as well, but I kept waving it off as coincidence. I swore he kept looking at me, but again, I just brushed it off. I could also be familiar to him, and he couldn't remember either.

Chapter 84 Ayle

288 Vouchers

But then I saw him smoking in the parking lot, and he was definitely looking at me like he knew exactly who I was. I didn't like it. There was a gate to the parking lot on the patio. I opened it and walked toward him.

"Hey," I called to him. "Do I know you?"

He didn't say anything. He just turned to leave, flicking his cigarette away.

"Hey," I called again, picking up my pace. "I'm talking to you."

"Ayla, what's wrong," Briggs asked behind me. Mina, Zeff, and Lenny weren't far behind me.

"I think that guy has been following me," I said, admitting it to myself as much as to them.

"Hey, you," Briggs said, heading to catch up to him.

The guy tried to quicken his pace, but he didn't seem to want to run. Briggs caught him by the shoulder and turned him to face me. When I approached and saw him close up, I remembered where I knew him from. And I got pi\*\*ed.

"You," I spat. "What the hell are you doing here?"

He started to speak but Zeff broke in. "You know this guy, Ayla?"

"He's one of Kingston's Ga\*\*as," I informed them. "Parker, isn't it? Did Kingston send you to spy on me?"

"I'm only here to ensure you're safe," he insisted.

"You've got to be kidding me," I said. "No wonder he hasn't been calling me ten times a day anymore. He has you to inform him of my

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every move. If you're not spying, why is it I only see you when I'm here in the city? When I'm actually daring to speak to anyone other than Kingston?"

Parker didn't say anything, but I didn't need him to. It only took me a minute to realize the answer. I laughed bitterly.

"You couldn't get past the patrol."

Parker looked at my companions. "Can we have a minute?"

"No," I snapped. "You can tell Kingston you're coming back. I don't need you lurking in the shadows everywhere I go."

"I can't do that, Luna," Parker said.

I balked at the title. I pushed him back, separating us from the others.

"I am not your Luna," I corrected. "Not if your Alpha keeps acting like this."

Parker's eyes went wide. "Luna, I didn't... He didn't mean..."

"Of course he didn't," I growled. "He doesn't mean to make any of the st\*\*id decisions he's made. Go home, Parker. I'll deal with your Alpha."

"Lu- Ma'am, I can't," he protested. "He commanded me."

"Well, now I'm commanding you. GO HOME."

Shock and surprise filled Parker's expression, but all he could do was nod and

leave. Briggs approached me as I pulled my phone out of my purse.

“Do you want me to send someone to follow him and ensure he leaves

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Chapter 84. Ayla

1 288 Vouchers

the territory?”

“No.” I said. “He’ll leave.”

I hit Kingston’s contact and listened to the line ring.

He didn’t answer.

Some of the others in our group had come to see what was going on. was so embarrassed.

“I’m sorry, guys,” I said sadly. “I’m going to have to call it a night. I’m not in the mood to visit anymore.”

They were all supportive and understanding. Mina and Briggs wanted to take me home, but I insisted they stay and continue to enjoy the night. I had ridden with them, so Briggs gave me the keys to his truck. Annabell said they’d get them home.

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I spent the ride home trying to calm down while trying to call Kingston. But every time it went to voicemail, I got increasingly pi\*\*ed off. I had made it all the way to my apartment and slammed the door when he finally called me back.

“Ayla, what’s wrong?” Kingston said, his voice panicked.

“What’s wrong?” I replied. “What’s wrong is the actual nerve you have. You’re constantly telling me how much I need to be protected. So much so that you feel the need to go behind my back and have me followed. And yet, when I actually NEED you, you can’t be bothered to pick up the f\*\*\*\*ng phone. How dare you send Parker to spy on me?”

“He’s not there to spy on you, Ayla,” Kingston snapped. “He’s there to make sure Conner, or anyone else, doesn’t lay a hand on you.”

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Chapter 84: Ayla

288 Vouchers

“And who else would want to lay a hand on me, Kingston?” I pushed. “I’ve already told you, Theo’s not here. So if you’re talking about him, you just proved you don’t trust me.”

“Of course I trust you,” he growled.

“Then who else would be coming after me, Kingston?” I knew he was keeping something from me. I knew it. When he didn’t answer, I knew he still wouldn’t tell me. And I was done with it. “Kingston, you embarrassed the hell out of me tonight.”

“If you had stayed home when I told you to, we wouldn’t be having this conversation, Ayla.”

“Who’s coming after me, Kingston?”

“No one,” he yelled. “I promise, no one is coming after you.”

“Then you don’t trust me,” I stated. “I’m not going to be the victim of your insecurities, Kingston. I’m done. We’re over.”

“Ay-”

I hung up before he could say anything else, throwing my phone against the couch cushion with a yell. I took a few minutes to calm down, waiting for the regret and sadness to set in. But they didn’t. I was still just mad. I pushed my hands through my hair, letting out a frustrated cry when I ripped a few strands out. It had caught on the ring I was still wearing.

I looked at it and again, waited for the regret to come. The only regret I felt was putting it on in the first place.

I took it off my finger and tossed it on the counter without looking 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 85**

[ad\_1]

Chapter 85: Theo

I sat on the porch beside my dad, listening to the sound of the crickets and frogs under the moon’s light. He had been thinking coherently for a couple of days now, and I was ready to ask him about Ayla and her father. I had discussed it with my mother first, and she agreed something was going on that we needed to know about.

“Dad,” I started, “do you remember much of what you said the day after your episode?”

He sighed. “I remember the thoughts that kept going through my head. Not really if I spoke them or to whom.”

“You told Ayla you should have taken her in,” I informed him. “That you had failed her and that the goddess was punishing you for it.”

Dad’s demeanor shifted.

“Dad, you know something about Ayla and her family. Something very important. I need to know what that is. Is it because Jack was the Onyxcrown Alpha?”

He looked at me. “You know about that?”

I nodded. “Ayla told me, but that’s about all she knows about his past. I think you know something about hers. Something about who she is.”

Tears filled his eyes, surprising me.

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“I’m sorry, son,” he said. “I’m so sorry. It’s my fault. This affliction” he indicated his swollen knees – “is my punishment. But the goddess is punishing you too. My mistake robbed you of your mate.”

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Chapter 85 Theo

298 (Vouchers

“Wait, what?” My heart started racing. “What are you talking about, Dad? You didn’t do anything for me to lose my mate. Why would you even think that?”

“Jack was a friend,” Dad said. “A good friend. A good man. When he found his mate here, he came to me. It was a huge risk for him, but he told me who he was, and he pledged his loyalty to me as his Alpha if I swore to keep his identity hidden. Him the Alpha of all Alphas – swearing to serve me.

I gripped his hand, offering support to help him continue.

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“He came to me one day,” he explained. “He said his oldest daughter had shifted for the first time. He was so proud. But he was worried as well. Do you remember what I told you about why the Waar P\*k targeted the Dominis family?”

“They were the oldest bloodline, thought to be favored by the moon goddess herself,” I stated. “The society believed they were creating that image themselves in order to gain power over the other packs. They believed the Alpha Dominis wanted to become king.”

My dad nodded. “But there was more to it. Many of the pack leaders knew

Alpha Alexander. He was a peaceful man. He often gave up more in a compromise than any other. But the Waar P\*k found out about a legend. A tale passed down within the Onyxcrown Pack.”

“What tale?” I asked.

“I had heard it before,” my father said. “It was a fairy tale. A bedtime story told to children. The moon goddess would bless the line of her most faithful wolves by becoming one of them.”

“The Blessed One,” I whispered, looking to my mother standing behind Dad.

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Chapter 85: Theo

288 Vouchers

“But it was just a myth,” Dad said. “Even Alexander didn’t believe it would happen. It was just a nice pack tradition.”

“But the Waar P\*k Society used that to gain followers and take them out,” I said.

“Yes,” he confirmed.

“What does that have to do with Ayla?” I asked.

“Jack wasn’t a believer either. Not until his family was killed and his pack destroyed,” Dad said. “Even then, he admitted it was more of a hope. Something to cling to when he felt the loss the strongest. So, when his first child was born on the autumnal equinox, under a full moon, he said he had a feeling she was the one.”

“Ayla?”

“He wasn’t sure until she turned thirteen. When she shifted for the first time. After that, he was positive,” he explained. “He was

ed that the Waar P\*k would come looking for her. There were still rumors that they never disbanded and were hunting down refugees. He was terrified they would find her and kill her.”

Dad rubbed his knees absently, working out some of the stiffness.

“He planned his own death,” he whispered. “He knew he was walking into a trap.”

“What?” I said incredulously. “How could he do that? What about his sister? Her mate? He would orphan his own children? His own niece?”

“They weren’t supposed to be there,” my dad rushed. “He didn’t know they were part of the trap. Lily was supposed to bring Marie and the kids to me so I could help them relocate. Marie didn’t know about any of it. And when they didn’t take Mina too, we hoped they either didn’t

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Chapter 85: Theo

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know the kids existed or didn't know where to find them. Harry and I decided the safest thing for them was to leave them where they were and keep watch. But we couldn't get close. They would be watching s."

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He had done the right thing, but I understood why he was beating himself up about leaving the family to fend for themselves. I understood more than he knew. It explained so much of what he had been going through since Ayla left the pack. But there were still some things I didn't understand.

"Why was Jack so sure Ayla is this Blessed One? Do you believe it? What about Kylee?"

He shook his head. "There's only one. It's not Kylee. I believe Ayla is... special. She's different. Jack said part of the story said they would know the Blessed One by her wolf. He didn't tell me more than that, and I've never seen Ayla's wolf."

He may never get that chance because of me.

"Dad, why do you think you lost me my mate?" I asked.

"He brought Ayla with him that day," he replied quietly. "He said he knew you two were going to be fated. When I met her that day, I knew he was right. But when that didn't happen, I knew it had to be my fault."

My mother was quietly crying behind him, her hand resting on his shoulder.

"Dad, you didn't cause me to lose my mate," I said. "I promise she's out there. And if I don't end up with her, the only person I'll have to blame is myself."

"Theo, you have to protect Ayla. You can't tell anyone about this. If

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Chapter 85 Theo

they find her, they will kill her.

"I swear I won't ever let that happen," I promised.

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

[ad\_2]

## **The Luna's Choice (theo and ayla) by Kat Silver Chapter 85**

[ad\_1]

## Chapter 85: Theo

I sat on the porch beside my dad, listening to the sound of the crickets and frogs under the moon's light. He had been thinking coherently for a couple of days now, and I was ready to ask him about Ayla and her father. I had discussed it with my mother first, and she agreed something was going on that we needed to know about.

"Dad," I started, "do you remember much of what you said the day after your episode?"

He sighed. "I remember the thoughts that kept going through my head. Not really if I spoke them or to whom."

"You told Ayla you should have taken her in," I informed him. "That you had failed her and that the goddess was punishing you for it."

Dad's demeanor shifted.

"Dad, you know something about Ayla and her family. Something very important. I need to know what that is. Is it because Jack was the Onyxcrown Alpha?"

He looked at me. "You know about that?"

I nodded. "Ayla told me, but that's about all she knows about his past. I think you know something about hers. Something about who she is."

Tears filled his eyes, surprising me.

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"I'm sorry, son," he said. "I'm so sorry. It's my fault. This affliction" he indicated his swollen knees — "is my punishment. But the goddess is punishing you too. My mistake robbed you of your mate."

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## Chapter 85 Theo

298 (Vouchers

"Wait, what?" My heart started racing. "What are you talking about, Dad? You didn't do anything for me to lose my mate. Why would you even think that?"

"Jack was a friend," Dad said. "A good friend. A good man. When he found his mate here, he came to me. It was a huge risk for him, but he told me who he was, and he pledged his loyalty to me as his Alpha if I swore to keep his identity hidden. Him the Alpha of all Alphas — swearing to serve me.

I gripped his hand, offering support to help him continue.

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"He came to me one day," he explained. "He said his oldest daughter had shifted for the first time. He was so proud. But he was worried as well. Do you remember what I told you about why the Waar P\*k targeted the Dominis

family?"

"They were the oldest bloodline, thought to be favored by the moon goddess herself," I stated. "The society believed they were creating that image themselves in order to gain power over the other packs. They believed the Alpha Dominis wanted to become king."

My dad nodded. "But there was more to it. Many of the pack leaders knew Alpha Alexander. He was a peaceful man. He often gave up more in a compromise than any other. But the Waar P\*k found out about a legend. A tale passed down within the Onyxcrown Pack."

"What tale?" I asked.

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Chapter 85: Theo

288 Vouchers

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Chapter 85: Theo

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Chapter 85 Theo

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

[ad\_2]

## **The Luna's Choice (theo and ayla) by Kat Silver Chapter 86**

[ad\_1]

Chapter 86: Ayla

I had to shut my phone off for the rest of the night. I got tired of Kingston's endless calls. Mina came by my room about an hour after I got back. I told her that I ended things with Kingston.

"Are you okay?" she asked, sitting on the couch beside me. "How are you feeling?"

"Pi\*\*ed off, mostly," I said. "Other than that, I don't know. I really don't know what I'm feeling these days. I miss Kylee and Ma, but I don't want to be around them. I like the Sablemane Pack, but I'm not sure I really belong there. I care about Kingston. I liked him a lot. But now I don't think I can trust him. I thought leaving the pack was the best thing for everyone. Now... I feel like I should be here."

"What about Theo?" Mina asked. "How are you feeling about him?"

I let out an empty laugh. "I can't even touch that right now."

"Maybe you should."

"Mina, I can't," I said.

"Then what are you going to do?" Mina asked.

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"Obviously, I can't stay here. Kingston will just send someone else."

"You don't think he'd have someone hurt you, do you?" Mina asked, sitting up straighter.

"No, of course not," I assured her. "I may not trust him enough to be with him, but he's a good man. He wouldn't do anything like that. But

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Chapter 86: Ayla

289 Vouchers

I am going to head back to the lake house tomorrow. At least I know Kingston's men won't cross the patrols."

"Okay." She stood up. "But a little bit of advice, sweetie. If you don't want to think about your feelings, maybe it's because they aren't so confusing after all."

She kissed my head and left the apartment.

I slept in the next morning, hiding away in the apartment. I finally turned my

phone on at about one o'clock. My voicemail was full and I had a bunch of texts. I read a few of them but realized I was still too mad to be interested. Instead, I got cleaned up before leaving for the lake house.

I found Alpha and Luna in the living room together when I arrived.

"Ayla, welcome back," Luna said, getting up to hug me. "Is everything alright?"

"Yeah, all's good," I said. "Alpha, how are you feeling?"

"I'm doing pretty good," he said kindly. "Thanks to that oil you gave us."

"I'm glad it helps." I smiled at him. "Um, do you guys mind if I stayed in the guest house tonight? I got a late start today, so I'll probably be up late. I don't want to bother anyone."

"Honey, you can take the day off," Luna Grace said. "But you are welcome to stay wherever you like. I think the patrols have everything locked down. And we haven't heard anything that suggests Conner is anywhere in our territory."

"Thank you," I said.

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Chapter 86. Ayla

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"Hey, Mom, that shed door needs..." Theo came in from the back. He froze when he saw me. "Ayla."

He knew. Briggs must have told him.

"Theo," I acknowledged him before turning back to Alpha and Luna. "I think I'll just hang out in the guest house tonight. I'm not really in the mood for company."

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"Okay, honey," Luna said. "Just let me know if you need anything."

I went to the guest house, closing the door behind me and hoping Theo didn't come knocking. Or maybe I was hoping he would.

"Ugh," I grunted, throwing myself onto the bed. "Life was simpler when I was a doormat."

It wasn't a lie. It's funny how working until you dropped was easier than dealing with emotions. I wasn't lying when I told Mina I missed Ma and Kylee. I even missed Kingston. Despite his recent behavior, there was still something between us. There was still a pull.

Three months ago, all I had to worry about was finishing my book and making sure Ma didn't drink herself to death. Maybe I did just need to go back to that life.

I was thinking about going back home once I was done with Alpha Torin's

book when there was a gentle knock on the door. I exhaled loudly and dragged myself up. I opened the door to find Theo standing outside with a plate holding a sandwich.

"Mom sent me," he said sheepishly. "She wanted to make sure you had lunch."

I took the food even though I wasn't really hungry.

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Chapter 86. Ayla

24# Vouchers

"Thanks." I said.

"Ayla, are you okay?" Theo asked.

"I don't want to talk about it, Theo," I insisted.

"I know, but are you okay?" he asked again.

I went to set the sandwich on the counter. Theo followed me in, waiting for me to answer, or break down, or both.

"I'm okay," I said. "Still a little pi\*\*ed off, but okay."

"Okay," he replied. "I didn't tell Mom. I figured you wouldn't want to deal with her nosiness and meddling."

I laughed lightly. I could only imagine what lengths Grace would go through to push us together now.

"Is this where you tell me how we should be together?" I said. "That you still want me and that Kingston is a fool?"

"Do I really have to say it?" he replied with a wry smile. But it fell quickly. "I know just because you're not with him, that doesn't mean you will fall into my arms like nothing happened. I'm not a default. I don't want that. But I do want you. More than anything in this world. I want our bond. Whatever you decide, whether you accept me or not, I am your mate."

I couldn't deny the fluttering in my stomach. The racing of my heart. The physical desire to fall into his arms, as he said. It was far more intense than I had felt with Kingston, but I wouldn't deny that I still felt them.

"So is Kingston," I stated quietly.

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Chapter 86. Ayla

288 Vouchers

Theo's face paled.

"What..." He swallowed hard, taking a step back. "What are you talking about?"

"I'm saying if our bond was severed, I would be fated to Kingston," I told him.

“Or any other Alpha.”

“No,” he said, shaking his head. “That’s not... That can’t be...” He started pacing. “But we’re... How do you know?”

I told him about Kingston’s theory. How he helped me heal without my wolf. How his wolf reacted to me. How he seemed to help me get Dasha back.

That seemed to hit Theo the hardest. To the point where I could feel his heartache through the bond.

“She’s not back completely, Theo,” I said. “You know that. Kieran told you.” Theo was quiet, but I could see the battle he was fighting in his mind.

“Did Kingston tell you why he believed that was possible?” Theo finally asked.

“He said it was because of my family. Because the bloodline was so old.”

“He just said it was because of your family line? Nothing else? What about Kylee? Does he suspect the same is true of her?” he pressed. Like the answers were important to solving some kind of puzzle.

“No, we know it’s not the same for Kylee. I don’t know why she’s different,” I said. “Why are you asking?”

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Chapter 86: Ayla

“Ayla, I talked to my father last night,” Theo replied. “About your family.”

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

[ad\_2]

## **The Luna’s Choice (theo and ayla) by Kat Silver Chapter 87**

[ad\_1]

Chapter 87: Theo

I told Ayla what Dad said about her and her father. I told her about the bedtime story and what it meant. I told her that her dad believed she was the one that the moon goddess had promised. I hesitated to tell her about his death. I didn’t want to bring that pain back up for her again. But something told me she needed to know, and keeping it from her wouldn’t protect her.

Her legs seemed to give way beneath her. I caught her, sinking to the floor as I held her tightly. She clung to my shirt as so\*s wracked through her body.



“But why?” she cried, struggling to breathe against the waves of tears.

“Shh,” I soothed, rocking her in my arms. “He found out the Waar P\*k were getting close. He drew their attention away from the rest of you. He couldn’t see any other way of keeping them from discovering you. All of you.”

“But why did he have to die?” she sobbed. “Why didn’t he run? Why didn’t your dad stop him?”

I lifted her from my chest, holding her face to look at me. “He didn’t know. Ayla, your father sacrificed himself to save you and Kylee. If there was another way, he would have taken it. But all that mattered to him was that you two were safe, okay? He loved you so much.”

I kissed her forehead and pulled her back against my chest, letting her cry. I wasn’t going to let go. She needed me. I thought about everything I had learned in the past twenty-four hours. Who Ayla was. Everything that meant. That I wasn’t her only fated mate. That Kingston knew who she was all along and never told her.

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Chapter 87 Theo

288 Vouchers

I could live with losing her when I believed she was with someone who genuinely cared for her and would protect her. But I no longer trusted that Kingston was that person. He was using her. Whatever happened, I had to make sure she didn’t go back to him.

Her so\*s slowly turned into sniffles and her breathing evened out.

“I’m sorry,” she mumbled, wiping at the wet spot she had made on my shirt.

I chuckled, holding her tighter. “Don’t be. I’m tempted never to wash this shirt again.”

“Gross,” she said with a soft laugh.

My fingers drifted through her hair as we sat there on the floor. Her tears had subsided, but she didn’t move to get up. And I sure as hell wasn’t about to.

“Thank you,” she said. “For telling me.”

“You deserved to know,” I replied.

Ayla pushed up suddenly. She had a distant look in her eyes, not really seeing anything.

“Ayla...”

‘Mate spoke,’ Kieran told me.

My heart ski\*\*ed a beat. I tipped Ayla’s face up to look at me.

“Is it Dasha? She spoke to you?”

She nodded. “She asked who did it.”

“Who did what?” I asked.

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Chapter 87. Theo

288 Vouchers

"Who killed our family," she clarified. "Did... did your dad ever find them?"

My heart sank a little. "No," I said. "He tried. He hoped your dad would have left something behind that would lead us to them, but he never found anything."

"Will you help me find them?" she asked. "I just want to try. I know it's a long shot, but I need to try."

"Absolutely," I agreed. "Whatever you need."

"How am I going to tell Mina?" she said, her brow furrowing

"I'll be there if you want me to be," I insisted. "Briggs will too. No question."

Ayla leaned against my chest again, drawing circles on my hand resting on her knee. Taking in her scent. Feeling her relax against me. Knowing she felt safe and comfortable. Every inch of my body wanted to respond to my mate. It was the sweetest torture I could ever imagine.

"Ayla," I whispered against her hair, "if you want me to go, you're going to have to tell me. I can't do it on my own anymore."

She took a deep breath. "I probably should. I still don't know how I feel about relationships. I'm probably not ready for one at all."

"Well, I can't exactly claim to be an expert in relationships either," I chided.

"Other than casual dates as a teenager, Kylee was my only relationship."

"Really?"

"Yeah," I chuckled at her surprise. "It's important for Alphas to be with their fated mates. I didn't want to commit to anyone or make any

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Chapter 87: Theo

1 288 Vouchers

promises I couldn't keep when I found my mate. Most of the girls I hung out with understood that. They never asked for more."

"Except for Kylee, I'm guessing," Ayla said. "What made her different?"

I winced at her question. This wasn't the direction I meant the conversation to go. I didn't want to talk about my time with Kylee.

"Theo, it's okay to say something nice about my sister," Ayla teased. "She's not an entirely terrible person."

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"I guess it's hard to remember why things were different with her after everything," I replied, instinctively tightening my hold on Ayla. "When I first met

her, I didn't think she would be any different than the others. But then something changed. The attraction became stronger. Then we got my dad's diagnosis and she was there for me. Or at least, I thought she was at the time. Honestly, I think I was scared I wouldn't find my mate. Watching my parents, seeing how my mother supported and cared for my father through everything... I wanted that so badly. You know they were together at my father's Alpha ceremony."

Ayla nodded against my chest.

"The picture of them is still in my office," I continued. "It was the same with my grandparents and great-grandparents. They all found their fated mates before they were twenty. I started to believe I wouldn't find mine or didn't have one in the first place. I didn't know what that would mean for the pack. What that said about me."

Ayla looked up at me. "Fated mates are never guaranteed."

I reached up and cupped her cheek. "I should have waited. I should have been stronger."

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Chapter 87. Theo

288 Vouchers

She laid her head back on my shoulder, her hand going around my waist.

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"Wanting companionship and support – wanting to be loved — is not weakness, Theo. The world is too unpredictable. There's wisdom in acknowledging that you need something to thrive and doing what you can to fulfill that need. You were deceived."

"Making me the fool for trusting her.

Ayla sat up and looked me in the eye. "You are never in the wrong for giving someone the benefit of the doubt. They broke that confidence. More often than not, the consequences of trusting the wrong person are far less than not trusting the right one. When trust is broken, you can't withhold it from everyone. You just have to learn how to better measure the risks."

"Like trusting a loanshark to keep his end of a bargain?" I joked, getting a smile from Ayla.

"I weighed the risks," she replied. "And I got lucky."

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

[ad\_2]

## **The Luna's Choice (theo and ayla) by Kat Silver Chapter 88**

[ad\_1]

Chapter 88: Ayla

Theo and I talked for hours. Eventually, he picked me up and moved us to the couch, where we were more comfortable. I understood what he went through when he talked about wanting a mate to support him through this transition in life. It was the same desire that had me leaning on him the way I had.

When I found out my father was killed, I didn't have that. I couldn't let anyone see me break down. They needed me to be strong. But this time, Theo was there. He offered comfort and support, letting me work through my grief and sadness without expecting anything in return. I didn't want to let that go.

I don't know when I fell asleep, but I woke up in bed the next morning. I was still dressed and, to my surprised disappointment, alone. I got out of bed and went to the front room. Theo was asleep on the couch. A smile tugged at my lips.

I leaned against the doorjamb as I looked him over. His arm was thrown over his head, partially covering his face. He had two-day-old stubble that added to his rugged appeal. He was too tall for the couch, and his broad shoulders barely fit on the deep-set cushions. His cotton shirt stretched over a muscled chest, riding up slightly to reveal an enticing trail of hair leading below his waistband.

I felt my cheeks flush with heat and pushed the thoughts from my head.

A shower. That's what I needed. A long, cool shower.

I emerged about an hour later to the smell of coffee and eggs. Theo was at the stove, dishing breakfast onto plates.

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Chapter 88 Ayla

288 Vouchers

"You didn't have to do this," I said, coming up behind him.

He turned to me and smiled. "I told you, you'll have to tell me to leave if you want to get rid of me."

He leaned over and kissed my cheek. My knees may or may not have gone a little weak. I shook it off and went to my phone charging on the counter. It had died sometime the day before. I had plugged it in before showering. Turning it on, I was greeted with more missed calls and texts.

A pang of guilt hit me.

"Everything okay?" Theo asked.

"Yeah," I said, putting my phone back down and sitting at the table.

We were about halfway through the meal when Theo spoke again.

"What is he saying?" he asked cautiously.

"Huh?"

"Kingston," Theo indicated. "I'm sure he's trying to get in touch with you."

"Oh, yeah," I said. "Just a lot of sorry's mostly. I haven't really read them all."

"Briggs said he was having you followed," Theo expressed. "Did he say why?"

"He said it was about Conner and keeping me safe," I said. "But it doesn't excuse it. He had been acting strange before that, anyway. He's been keeping something from me."

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Chapter 88 Ayla

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"Ayla," Theo said tentatively. "I know I have no room to comment, but please be careful with Kingston. I don't like that he didn't tell you about the Blessed One tale. I'm afraid he may have been using you."

"We don't know if he knew the story," I said quietly.

"Perhaps," he replied. "But you said he was the Beta's son. It's highly unlikely he didn't."

I sighed. "I know."

I had wondered why Kingston hadn't told me about that. Even if he had just brought it up when we talked about his memories of the pack. I still had a hard time believing he was using me for something. An Alpha's daughter and a Beta's. It made sense that we would have a real connection.

Either way, it didn't matter. I still didn't want to be with someone who wasn't honest with me or treated me like a child. I did think I needed to talk to him, though. He deserved that much.

I cleared our plates and went to the sink to wash the dishes. Looking out the window, I noticed Alpha Torin's truck was gone.

"Where did your parents get off to?" I asked.

"Hmm?" Theo got up and looked out the window himself. "I don't know. They didn't let me know they were leaving."

We went to the house to see if anyone was there. There was a note on the kitchen island left for Theo.

"They went into the city," he told me. "Dad's doctor got him in for some new screenings. Something about an experimental treatment, I guess. I'll give Mom a call about it."

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Chapter 88 Ayla

288 Vouchers

"Oh, that sounds like a good thing," I speculated. "When will they be back?"

"Tomorrow morning," Theo said.

"Alright," I said.

"Did you have plans today?" Theo asked as he leaned against the counter.

"I was supposed to be back in Sablemane," I replied. "Since that's not happening, I'll get some writing done."

"I have some work I need to get done." Theo informed me. "I'll be in the office if you need anything."

"If you need to go home, you can," I said. "You don't need to stay on my account."

Theo smirked and pushed off the counter. "I know."

He kissed my head as he passed by, heading to his dad's office. Heat crept up my cheeks again, and I rolled my eyes.

I returned to the guest house and pulled my laptop from my computer bag. A blue envelope fell to the floor at my feet. I had shoved it in the bag before I left for the packhouse. Beta Harry had given it to me the morning after Alpha's episode. He said he had found it in the guest house. I had managed to hide my shock from him and brush it off as nothing more than a friendly greeting card.

It wasn't, of course. The fact that this creep had followed me all the way here was unnerving. But I had decided against telling Theo about it, at least for now. I'd tell someone if another one showed up, but I was already causing enough trouble for everyone. I didn't want another fuss. But I did feel a little uneasy working in the guest house on my

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Chapter 88. Ayla

288 Vouchers

own. So I grabbed my things and returned to the main house, settling on the couch.

I tried to focus on work, but I was struggling. After about two hours, I gave up. There were too many things running through my mind. Theo's alluring scent hanging in the air wasn't helping. I shut my laptop, tucking it under my arm as I went to the office door. I rapped my knuckles on the open door, getting Theo's attention.

"You getting any work done?" I asked.

He smiled. "Not as much as I should," he replied. "You?"

"I'm pretty caught up. I'm running out of material," I said.

"Is there anything you can do without Dad?"

"Actually, I need to interview some people in his life," I said. "Get their side of some experiences. Share some of their own. You're on the list. / If you think you have time?"

"I think I can pencil you in," he teased.

"Oh, thank you. You're so generous," I said sarcastically, taking the seat in front of the desk.

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

[ad\_2]

## **The Luna's Choice (theo and ayla) by Kat Silver Chapter 89**

[ad\_1]

Chapter 89: Ayla

Theo and I went through my list of questions. I recorded and took notes on his perspective of his time with his father. It was interesting to hear the differences in how Theo recalled events compared to his father. Sometimes it was quite amusing.

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"Okay," I said. "Last question – what is your earliest memory of your father?"

"Ooo," Theo grunted. "Let's see..." He thought for a moment. "My earliest memory of my father would have to be when he told me we were wolves."

Despite being a part of us, our wolves are dormant when we are born. It's considered a major milestone for a parent to show their children what we are and what it means. It happens at a young age, usually around four or five years old.

“Dad brought me up near the top of the mountain. He told me that we come from a special group of people. People who have animals inside them. With our animals comes an extended family that we are bound to,” Theo stated. “And that we have a very important role in that

>

family. It was our job to take care of them. To lead and be led by them to maintain peace, balance, and prosperity. Our animals our wolves – would guide us.”

—

Theo looked through the window as he replayed the memory in his head.

“When the sun set, he shifted. He was the first wolf I had ever seen,” Theo said reverently. “He was magnificent. I was so fascinated by him. And he was so patient. He let my four-year-old curiosity explore and

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Chapter B Ayla

288 Vouchers

climb and tug. We spent that night in the woods. Just me and him. From that night on, I couldn't wait to get my wolf."

I smiled at him. "It sounds like a beautiful experience."

"It was." He nodded. "I think we have a picture of the morning we returned."

Theo stood, coming around the desk. He went to a set of shelves behind me. That was the first time I had noticed all the pictures that filled them. I moved next to him to examine them. Theo picked up a frame from one of the top shelves and showed it to me. It held a photo of a small Theo riding on the back of Alpha's massive brown wolf.

"I've tried to be at as many of my pack members' first shifts as I could since I was twelve," Theo said. "They have all been an exhilarating experience. Getting to see their wolves for the first time. That night is still the most remarkable shift I've experienced. At least so far."

"My father was the first to show me, too. I'm not sure anything could beat that first time," I said.

"I could think of one that might," Theo uttered, his hand gliding gently along my waist.

I looked up and was nearly overwhelmed by the intensity in his amber eyes. His hand went to the nape of my neck, and he tugged me against him, his lips taking mine. Electricity coursed through me, shooting to every inch of my body. Every inch.

I couldn't fight it anymore. I returned the kiss, my arms wrapping around him. I opened for him. The taste of him washing over me until he pulled away.

"Have dinner with me," he rasped out.

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"What?" I breathed, not sure I had full control of my body anymore.

"Have dinner with me," he repeated, his forehead pressed against mine.

"Tonight."

"We're the only ones here. Who else would I be eating with," I teased.

"I mean dinner

"A date?"

—

candlelight, champagne, music..."

He nodded. "I know I don't deserve it, but I want a second chance, Ayla. I want to do this right. Please, will you have dinner with me tonight?"

My heart was racing and my whole body was tingling. A strange sound escaped my lips.

Did I just... giggle?

What the hell was going on?

I wanted to say yes. That's what was going on. I really wanted to say yes. I could feel the thoughts of doubt and guilt coming to the surface. So I let myself make a split-second decision.

"Okay."

"Yeah?" Theo's face absolutely lit up

"Yeah," I laughed.

He kissed me again. "You're sure?" he asked between kisses.

"Yes," I insisted.

He kept peppering me with kisses until I stopped him.

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"So, where is this dinner taking place?" I asked.

"Here," he stated.

"Who's cooking?" I asked skeptically.

He chuckled. "I will take care of that. In fact" – he checked his watch – "why don't you go to the guest house and get ready. Dinner's at eight-thirty."

"That's four hours from now," I exclaimed. "How long do you think it takes me to get ready?"

"You can do whatever you want," Theo said. "Take a nap, read, take a four-hour bath. I don't care if you show up in a sack. I just want you to open the door when I come to get you."

"Why don't I help you?"

He started to lead me out of the room by my waist. "I would love for you to cook with me... tomorrow. Tonight, I want to treat you."

"Okay," I said.

"I'll come to get you when I'm ready," Theo said.

He kissed me at the door and watched me walk to the guest house. Once I shut the door behind me, I realized what had just happened. I waited for the panic and second-guessing to set in, but all I felt was excitement. I had gotten to know Theo over the past week. Especially today.

He was smart and good with business. He was generous, funneling most of his earnings back into the pack. He was funny and playful and sarcastic. But he was also humble. He adored his family and loved his pack.

Che Pya

I liked him.

298 Vouchers

I decided to take his suggestion and take a long bath. I relaxed and tried to keep my mind off whatever Theo was doing next door. Despite his declaration that I could wear a sack, I wanted to look nice. I sha\*ed, washed my hair really well, scrubbed, and lotioned every part of my body. I took extra time on my

makeup and curled my hair. I didn't rush. Instead just tried to enjoy the self-care.

Also, I had to keep myself busy to calm my anticipation.

I decided to wear the dress I had bought for the gathering that week. It was the only thing nice enough for the occasion. At least, I thought it was. I still had no idea what Theo was planning. But it was getting close to the time when I got dressed.

It was an emerald green floral print wrap dress that I just fell in love with. I was glad I bought it. I felt amazing in it. I knew I shouldn't be nervous, but the confidence boost I got in that dress wouldn't hurt.

I was slipping into a pair of heels when there was a knock on the door.

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288 (Vouchers

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

[ad\_2]

## **The Luna's Choice (theo and ayla) by Kat Silver Chapter 90**

[ad\_1]

Chapter 90: Theo

I had borrowed a pair of slacks and a button-up shirt from Dad's closet. It was probably the longest I had spent in front of the mirror in a long time. I wanted everything to go perfectly but would settle for just making Ayla happy. I prayed Ayla wouldn't see how nervous I was. I took a few deep breaths before knocking on the guest house door. When it opened, my jaw dropped.

Ayla looked incredible.

She smiled, straightening her dress timidly. "Is it okay?"

There was no controlling it. I closed the distance and kissed her deeply, her scent hitting me like a drug I was quickly becoming addicted to.

"You're perfect," I said. Grabbing Ayla's hands, I stepped back and looked her up and down again. "As stunningly sexy as they are, you may want to ditch the heels."

She looked at me suspiciously.

"Just trust me?" I requested.

She rolled her eyes with a half-grin and slid out of the shoes, kicking them off to the side. Still holding her hands, I pulled her down the porch. I pulled a length of cloth out of my pocket.

"May I?" I indicated using it as a blindfold.

"Do you blind all your dates?" she teased as she turned for me to secure the fabric.

Vouchers

"Nope," I said. "Only the most important.

Taking her hands, I began to lead her across the yard. We traversed the soft grass until we came to the wooden path leading down to the lake. I guided her every step of the way, letting her know when to step down.

"It would probably be more of a mystery if I didn't already know this path," she chuckled.

"The where isn't the surprise," I stated.

It was nearly dark. Only the last dim rays of light could be seen along the horizon. The dock was in the shade of the trees, making the effects of the setting as nice as I had hoped. I added some poles along the edge and strung lights along them. I brought down the iron table and chairs that used to be on the patio until my parents got a larger set. It was set with candles and flowers. There were larger flower arrangements set around the dock as well. All made up of Ayla's favorite flowers.

I stopped her before the dock. I grabbed a single dahlia I had pulled from a vase and moved behind her.

"Are you ready?" I whispered in her ear.

"That depends," she replied softly, "are you about to push me into the lake?"

I chuckled. "I think this will be better." I tugged the blindfold loose.

Ayla gasped as she opened her eyes, taking in the romantic setting.

"Theo... It's beautiful."

I turned a small stereo on with a remote and presented her with the fiery dahlia I had selected.

"How did you know?" she asked.

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"Lucky guess?" I tried as I guided her to the table. She didn't buy it. "Or I may have called Mina."

I pulled her chair out for her and let her settle. There was a tray table next to ours that held our dinner. Also Ayla's favorites. It was lucky that not only did Mom have the ingredients on hand but also that I could make a mean lasagne.

"How in the world did you do all this in four hours?" Ayla asked as I poured her a glass of champagne.

"Determination," I replied, giving her a wink. And I had Briggs bring the flowers and help set everything up. I made him park down the road so she didn't hear his truck. But I would keep that information to myself if I could.

"Determination does get things done," she conceded.

After filling our plates, I settled in across from my mate. Praying to the moon goddess that I didn't screw this up again.

"So, you got to learn a lot about me today," I noted, starting the conversation.

"But I haven't had the opportunity to learn more about you."

"Our surroundings say otherwise," she chided with a bright smile that had my heart racing.

"This stuff is easy to find out," I replied.

"Okay, what do you want to know?" She took her first bite and almost melted in her chair. "This is fantastic. Did you actually make this?"

I laughed. "Is that so surprising?"

"Knowing your mother, not really," she said.

"Yes, she thought it was important I learn every life skill. I even do my own laundry," I stated. "What about you? I recall you're a pretty good cook yourself. I'm assuming you were the one who actually cooked that day we met."

"I did," she said. "Ma taught me some, actually. She was pretty involved with us before Dad died. She helped teach me to enjoy the task. But I guess I honed my skills out of necessity."

"What about writing?" I asked. "Who taught you to love that?"

"Loss," she stated. "Well, loss and my high school principal. He's the one who suggested journaling as an outlet. It helped a lot those first couple years."

"Speaking of high school, graduating as young as you did is quite impressive," I commented. "I know you did it so you could work more, but why didn't you go to college once you got financially settled?"

"I didn't start getting stable royalties until after my second book was published," Ayla explained. "By then, Kylee was about to graduate and start college herself, and someone needed to take care of Ma. It just never felt like something I could make work."

"What if you could?" I asked. She tried to make it seem like it wasn't a big deal, but I could see it was. I doubted she would ever admit it, but she felt like she missed out. "You don't have to care for Kylee and Marie anymore, Ayla. Why not go now?"

She shrugged. "I don't even know what I would study at this point."

"You had to have something in mind before life got in the way," I pointed out.

She smiled. "My dad studied sociology. I always thought I follow in his footsteps. Become a social worker. Or maybe psychology. Maybe

Chapter Theo

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both."

"You should consider it," I said. "You won't have any problems getting

accepted anywhere you want.”

“I just might,” Ayla replied.

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

[ad\_2]