## The Lycan King's Second Chance Mate (Ashanti) #Chapter 0341 - Read The Lycan King's Second Chance Mate (Ashanti) Chapter 0341

Chapter 0341

ASHANTI'S POV.

Now I know where I've seen his face.

The media.

He's a very famous designer. He won the Fashion King Competition five years ago when he was only twenty years old.

He's a Fashion and Design genius.

"Yes, that one."

"Mr. Kirk, I'm honored to be in your presence right now." My enthusiasm is wrapped around every word that spills out of my mouth.

He's a big deal!

"I love your designs and the fact that you've achieved so much at such a young age inspired me so much! You are amazing!"

"You're making me blush right now." He chuckles shyly and his face nearly splits into two halves with a smile. "You are amazing as well. Your designs are unique and dazzling. I love them."

"Thank you! I'm honored to hear you compliment my designs. Thank you very much."

"You are welcome. Can I uh... get your phone number? I hate that I'm holding you out here when you're supposed to be in there enjoying a sumptuous dinner with your brother. I'd like to invite you out sometime."

"Sure."

He fishes his cell phone from his pocket and holds it out to me. I calmly take the phone and dial my number in it with a fat smile on my face. This is the first time in my entire life to experience this. A guy taking my contact. A handsome guy at that.

It feels so good!

When I'm done, I hand the phone to him.

"Thank you." He saves the number before sliding it into his pocket again and looking at me. "How about I walk you in? I need to return you to your brother in one piece so he doesn't bite my head off the next time we meet."

Oh, he's even got a sense of humor. He's also very charming!

"I bet he will if you don't."

"Let's be on the safe side then." He holds out his arms which I take and we both walk into the restaurant.

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"You're already getting admirers," Ryan remarks once the guy is gone and I'm settled in my seat.

"He's not an admirer."

"Of course he isn't!"

Sarcasm.

I shoot him a glare. He shrugs.

"How could he be?" Then buries his face in the menu he's holding.

"Did you bring me out here just so you can pick on me all through?"

"I didn't have that thought in mind, but I can't say I'm not enjoying myself. You're fun to pick on." He says without any care in the world. I simply shake my head and pick up the menu before me.

Our meals arrive about thirty minutes after placing our orders. Another banter starts when I try to steal a piece of beef from his plate.

After eating, we leave the restaurant

and go for a drive around town.

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That's when discovered something that will kill our mum if she ever finds out. During the ride, I noticed Ryan had a good mastery of the city. We never got lost even once and

when I asked him how that's possible, he refused to tell me no matter how much I begged him.

He's been coming here without the knowledge of anyone at home. Mum will pass away if she hears this.

"Wanna go for a few drinks? This seems like a good club." His voice snaps me out of my thoughts. I look outside and see that we're indeed parked in front of a club. I turn to face him.

"A club? Drinks? Really?"

"What? I turned 18 one month ago. I'm legally allowed to drink and go clubbing." He winks at me and opens his car door before I can protest. Soon, he's at my side of the car, opening the door for me.

"Ryan, this is not a good idea."

"Let's have fun. It's the weekend. The contest starts on Monday. You need to do something fun before delving into all the stress that comes with the competition. Come on!" He e holds my hand and starts pulling me towards the entrance of the club

that has got a few people lined up to get an entry.

Everything happens so fast.

One minute he's taking out his

wallet, the next, he's slapping a chunk of cash into the bouncer's hand and soon, I find myself seated by the bar counter of a club with dim multi-colored lights and people dancing and drinking and smoking.

The last time I was in a place like this was at the Lycan Harem where I had to serve Lucan men.

That memory makes me cringe.

"Here. A drink for you." Ryan pushes me a glass and I look at the liquid in it but because of the poor lighting of the room, I can't make out its real colour.

"What's this?" I ask over the loud music blasting throughout the hall.

"Espresso Martini. It's the perfect drink for a young night."

"Oh..." I reluctantly take up the glass and grimace when the smell hits my nostrils. I take a sip and roll the liquid on my tongue before swallowing it down. It tastes like a mixture of vodka and coffee.

Not bad at all.

I give a nod of approval. Ryan chuckles.

"Is this your first time coming to a club?"

My mind goes back to the Harem.

Those times don't count so I nod my head.

"Yeah."

"Oh..."

"You sound like this isn't your first time coming here."

"Oh, it isn't. I've been here a few times. That's why I was able to get us in so easily." He explains and my brows crease in confusion.

"How's that possible? You turned eighteen barely one month ago. How did you get in?" I am curious. He chuckles on his glass.

"And why should I tell you?"

"Ryan!" I call firmly. "What other naughty stuff have you been doing behind our backs?"

"Oh, you don't wanna know."

"I wanna know... wait... you do have a girlfriend, don't you?" I give him a queer look. He chuckles yet again and shakes his head.

"No, I don't."

I scoff in disbelief.

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ASHANTI'S POV

"Liar!"

"I'm not lying!"

"Why don't you have a girlfriend? No one has caught your attention yet?" I ask, smiling, and deep within me, I'm amazed.

Never did I think Ryan and I would ever get to discuss something like this. He never opens up to anyone at home. Not even our mum. He does like me!

"Nope."

"Alright then, look around ... maybe someone will."

"What kind of big sister encourages her kid brother to find a girlfriend in a club?"

"Look who's talking." My forehead creases as I give him a queer look. "Someone who never does things the conventional way!" He takes a chug of his drink and nods.

"Touché."

"So tell me what I need to know."

"I'm waiting for my mate." He calmly deciphers and I'm dumbstruck with awe. That's the sweetest thing I've heard in a while. I shoot him a surprised smile. "Yeah. I don't see myself being with anyone else but the one who was destined for me, so I'm waiting for her."

"That's... that's..... enchanting. She's one lucky girl."

"You think?"

"I know."

"But I'm weird."

"No, you're not!" I deny firmly, shaking my head from side to side as I try to find a better way to say what I want to say to him. "You're just different." "In a weird way." He insists. I shake my head in denial.

"In a special way." I correct him. "In a cool way. Jeez, do you have any idea how cool you are?"

"You think I'm cool?"

"Has no one ever told you?"

He goes mute and I know that's because he has been told. Several times.

I wink at him and take another sip of my drink to let him digest all that I just said. His social battery will soon run out and I know after this, he's going to need about one week to recharge himself.

I'm already ready for the one week of ghosting that lies ahead.

"Will the beautiful lady permit me to get her another drink?" A voice asks from my left side and I quickly turn to see who it is.

Another stranger.

A good-looking young man.

I flash him a tight smile.

"No. Thank you."

He looks at Ryan.

"I hope I'm not interrupting..."

"Yes, you are!" I answer quickly.

"No, you are not!" Ryan contradicts me, stepping down from his stool "Feel free." He gestures to the man to take his seat. "My only issue is for her to be in one piece by the time I return."

"You have nothing to be worried about."

Ryan winks at me before disappearing into the crowd.

I'm going to kill him.Content © 2024.

I look back at the man who's now occupying Ryan's seat with a serious expression on my face.

"How do you know that's not my boyfriend or mate you just chased away?" I ask calmly, firmly. The man smiles, displaying his perfect dentition.

"Two reasons. Number one, he looks too young and number two, I kinda overheard a part of your conversation with him. You're siblings. The identical pitch-black hair sells you out."

I playfully roll my eyes at him.

"So, you're a know-it-all."

The man throws his head back and howls in laughter. That makes me giggle.

"I'm just a man who wants to buy you a drink."

"Oh..." I shoot a brief glance at my glass before looking at him again and shaking my head. "That won't be necessary. I'm going to leave when I'm done with this round. I'mgust passing by."

"I insist."

"Don't sweat it. I won't accept your drink."

"Well then, if you won't let me buy you a drink, how about you let me have your first and last dance for the night?" He gives me a lopsided smile that reveals his cute dimple.

Gods! He's so handsome!

Focus, Ashanti.

Focus!

"First you ask to buy me a drink and then you ask for a dance... What next are you going to ask me? My virginity?"

"Very funny!"

A stern response comes through,

but it's not from the man sitting in front of me. It's from behind me. I whip my head back to see who it is and terror rakes its claws down my spine when my eyes fall on Alpha Reagan.

He looks like he's ready to set something on fire.

Fuck!

Chapter 0343

ASHANTI'S POV.

"Alpha Reagan!" I call when my voice finally returns. He ignores me and looks at the man who's now on his feet.

"Do I have to tell you what to do?" His voice is deep and gruff when he asks that question. The terrified man's forehead nearly touches the ground when he bows his head.

"No, my Lord. I'm sorry, My Lord." He apologizes and scampers away, trembling.

I turn back to the Alpha Reagan who's frowning like an angry bear. My eyes narrow into a tight glare.

"Was that even necessary?" I try and fail to keep the annoyance out of my voice. Without saying a word, he comes over and takes the seat the man just vacated. His expression is as hard as granite.

"What are you doing here?" He asks grimly, his voice filled with dark undertones.

"What are you doing here?" I return his question. He shoots me an affronted look. My blood ices over.

"I asked you first."

"What does it matter?"

"Why were you talking about your virginity with a strange man in a club?" He asks carelessly, not even bothering to keep a low tune.

I nearly spilled the drink in my mouth. I quickly push it down my throat and stare at him with dilated pupils, flushed cheeks, and shallow breathing. "Will you shut up?" I warn tightly. "Or at least keep your voice down?" My eyes keep flicking around to see if anyone is looking at us weirdly. "You and I know what happened to my virginity. That was a joke."

"I don't like the joke." He fires yet again, not attempting to keep his voice low even after the warning I just gave. The others can hear us. The only reason why they aren't giving us weird stares is because they don't have the heart to look in the Lycan King's way. "I don't like that you were entertaining another man in a club!"

"Oh please! If you're here to nag me about irrelevant things, I'm going to leave." I set my glass down and just then, Ryan returns. His eyes nearly fall off their sockets when he sees Alpha Reagan in his seat.

"Ashanti. I leave you for five minutes and you invite the Lycan King to a club?"

"Shut up, Ryan."

"Who's this?" Alpha Reagan asks, giving Ryan a very stern look.

"None of your business." I step down from the stool and look at Ryan. "Take me home."

My sweet younger brother ignores me and bows to the Lycan King seated before us.

"My Lord, my name is Ryan Smith. Ashanti's stepbrother. It's an honor to finally meet you in person." He introduces himself. Alpha Reagan looks at me and I roll my eyes, so hard they nearly get stuck at the back of my head.

Why are all the men in my life so difficult to deal with?

"It's nice to meet you, Ryan." He says and Ryan bows to him again before turning to me.

"I'll wait for you in the car."

"You don't have to." That's Alpha Reagan. "You can go. I'll bring her home myself."

"No, you will not!" I turn to Ryan. "Take me home."

"You want me to go against the Lycan King's orders?" He asks with creased brows. I pause. "Besides, you're safe with him. See youat home." And with that, he leaves.

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Traitor!

"Sit down, love. You're stuck with me."

I heave out an exasperated sigh and climb back on the bar stool I just stepped down from while he orders his drink.

"What are you drinking?" He asks, looking at me.

"I don't want another drink. You still haven't answered my question." I retaliate.

"Neither have you!" He says calmly.

I hate the fact that he's so calm and

I'm not. I'm boiling with rage within but he looks so unbothered by what's going on. So calm and collected, it's annoying!

Something slams into my consciousness and I furrow my brows, giving him a critical look as he takes his drink from the bartender.

"What?"

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"Why do I feel like you've been following me?" His answer is a smile. He then takes a sip of his drink and trains his eyes on me, but still doesn't say anything. "Have you?" I try to follow up.

"What does it matter?"

That's his way of saying yes, he has been following me.

"That's just wrong and weird and ... creepy. Who does that?"

"l do!"

"Since when?"

"You don't wanna know." Another small sip of his drink. "I'm just trying to make sure you are safe." His voice is noticeably gentler. "I am safe!"

"You don't know that." He argues, still keeping a very fluid tone. I close my eyes, suck in a deep breath, exhale heavily before snapping them open again. My brain cells are dividing in my head. This conversation is draining the energy from my bones and I hate the fluttering sensation I feel in my stomach.

He has done nothing but annoy me since he showed up here, but a part of me likes the fact that he's here with me. It even dares to feel excited. Those stupid butterflies in my stomach won't stay calm and no matter how much I pluck the flower petals that keep blooming in my chest, they keep growing out.

I hate that I like this time we are spending together.

I hate that I still enjoy his company.

"What are you thinking about?"

"It's none of your business. I came here to drink, not to talk or argue with you. You are ruining my evening!"

"I offered to buy you another drink."

"This one's enough!"

"You're more feisty than you were two years ago." That statement makes me laugh. "What's funny?" He asks, confused. "Feisty?" I raise my brows at him. "I was feisty two years ago. I was weak and naive and stupid and you trampled over me." He chokes on his drink.

He's coughing as he sets the glass on the counter, his eyes trained on me.

"I trampled over you?" He asks when he's calm again.

"Didn't you?"

"I don't like where this conversation is heading."

"Good. Then let it end already." I pick up my purse and step down from the stool again, this time looking more determined to leave than before. "Take me home."

"We need to talk. There's something important you have to know."

"I don't want to hear it." I demur, shaking my head.

"Ashanti, please. It's important. You have to listen. I'm begging you. Please." His fervent beseeching shocks me to the core.

Alpha Reagan doesn't insist on something unless it's very important.

He has ruined my evening and left me in a very sour mood, but I know I won't get any sleep tonight or get

any work done tomorrow or hel...

I

live my life as I should if I don't listen

to what he wants to say to me.

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"Fine." I finally agree, praying in my heart that I don't look as excited as I feel. "But we're not talking here. I'm sick of this place." "My car it is, then."

"That sounds better. I'm exhausted."

"And I'm sick of seeing men stealing glances at you."

I shoot him a stern look.

"Why are you glaring at me like that?" He asks, feigning an innocent look. "I thought we were both expressing our frustrations.

"Let's just go," I say in a tired tone and turn to leave, but he holds me back. Before can ask why he just did that, four guards join us. Three of them lead the way out of the club while one stays behind to probably settle the bill. My heart nearly crashes out of my chest when I notice that all eyes are on us as we are being led out.

By tomorrow, this event will be all over the media.

I'll worry about that tomorrow. For now, I have to focus on the talk he wants us to have.

He says he has something important to discuss with me.

I hope it isn't something bad.

Chapter 0345

ASHANTI'S POV.

"Back at the club you said there's something important you wanted to discuss with me, but you've done nothing but stared at me throughout our ride here. Do you have any idea how creepy that is?" I ask once the car comes to halt in the driveway of the building premises. He simply chuckles while the driver and the guard seated in the passenger seat in front get out of the car, leaving us alone. That's when Alpha Reagan gives me a serious look. "I wanted us to have some privacy first." His low tune sends a low vibration through my ears that spreads to every corner of my body.

I love the way he sounds when he's in a chill mood. So soft, so calm, so loving.

I bite my lips to stop myself from smiling.

This is not the time for me to open my teeth. We are about to discuss something serious and my heart is beating so fast in my chest, I feel like I'll pass out soon. holds text © rights.

"I see." Is all I manage after coming to terms with the fact that I'm such a drama queen. Because I'm too embarrassed to maintain eye contact with him, I tear my gaze from his and look out through my side of the window. The illuminated premises of the mansion I'll be staying in comes into view. I can see a few guards stationed at various corners of the building and that confuses me.

"Guards?" I ask, turning to face him. His right brow rises as he gives some sort of a confused look.

"What about them?"

"I can see guards around the premises. Why's that?"

"Oh..." He exclaims lightly, adjusting on his seat. "They are here to makes sure nothing goes wrong around here." He explains. I scoff. Shake my head. Give him the "Are-you-fucking-kidding-me" look and shockingly he nods. "Yes."

"No." I contradict, frowning like an angry bear. "It's already enough that you had to make me move in here instead of the regular apartment prepared for the contestants. I cannot let you keep guards around the premises like my life was in danger. I cannot allow that. I do not need guards."

"But you..."

"Alpha Reagan..." I start to raise my voice but réalisation slaps me in the face like a glass of ice cold water, making me freeze for a moment. I purse my lips, take in slow, deep breaths to steady to my raging heart beats and calm my temper.

I've been here with him before.

No matter how much I scream, he's only going to do what wants to do He Always gets his way. This is one of the reasons why I never want to back with him again.

"Fine." His gentle voice interrupts my thoughts. I shoot his a confused look.

"What?"

I

"I said fine. Since you do not like the idea of having guards around the premises, will instruct them to retreat. Your wish has been granted." He brings his face closer to mine and tilts his head slightly to the side as he asks; "Happy now?"

I slightly back away from him, staring deep into eyes with my mine spinning as I try to understand what just happened.

Did Alpha Reagan just accept to do something I asked him to do? Or am I hearing things.

"Aren't you going to say something?" He asks after a long moment of silence. I snap out of my reverie and clear my throat.

"Oh... that. Yeah. I'm just..." I stutter. Swallow dryly. Breathe hard. "I'm just happy... I mean thank you for understanding. Thank you very much."

"You are welcome." He flashes me

that sweet, dimpled smile of his that never fails to make my heart skip multiple beats. I look back out of the window and see that the guards are indeed retreating from the premises. I whip my head back in his direction and stare at him as though he has grown two heads.

This is odd.

This is different.

This is amazing.

"What? You didn't think I was going to do it?" His brows are furrowed and he's giving me a lopsided smile.

"It still doesn't change the fact that this all of this was uncalled for. I was okay with the apartments they prepared for us."

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"I wasn't. You are my mate. You're special to me and there's no way I won't give you special treatment while you're here." Her argues and I want argue some more, but I decide against it.

I'm never going to win against him. I never do.

"Thank you." I whisper, looking up at him.

"Why are you thinking me?"

"For the house. It's uh... it's good. Ryan and I love it. Thank you.'

"You don't have to thank me, Ashanti. It's my responsibility to make sure you are comfortable any where you are. To make sure you are doing okay and I do not intend to slack off. Not anymore." Those words charge my brain like electric current, sending shivers down my spine that makes goosebumps appears all over my body. The tension in my chest rises and the intensity with which hes staring at me makes me melt under his gaze like I was butter.

My eyes leave his and drop down to his lips.

Those lips.

Oh those lips... I've kissed them over a hundred times but I've never gotten enough of them. Naughty thoughts file into my brain and my entire body grows hot. Right now, I feel the same way I felt two years ago when he first saved me from the lounge. I want

him to kiss me. I want him to touch me like he used to do when we were still together. I want him to...

Oh fuck it!

Come back to earth, Ashanti!

I tear my gaze from his and clear my throat.

"What's the important thing you want us to discuss?" I ask, daring to meet his gaze again and all the sparkles in his eyes fade. Five seconds later, melancholy is the only emotion I see swimming in his deep brown eyes. Tension makes my chest tighten.

I don't feel good about this.

"Ashanti......" He calls. He voice has lost its charm and fervor. He sounds so depressed. "In the past, I hid things from you which let to you finding out about them from other sources and that was very bad. I don't want to do that anymore."

"O...Kay."

"You remember I used to talk about my first mate, Selena, right?"

"Yes."

"I said I lost her in an ambush and that left me depressed for many years."

"I'm familiar with that story."

"Well..... it happens that Selena isn't dead. She's back."

My heart sinks into my stomach and all the hair on my head stand erect. My nerve endings catch fire.

What?

"Yes. I... the call I got during our conversation this afternoon had to do with it. She's back."

He doesn't sound happy at all and neither am I.

His first mate is back. What does this mean? Where does that leave me standing?

"So... why are you telling me?" I ask, feigning a nonchalant tone. My heart has been ripped apart by that revelation, but I have to stay strong. I can't let my feelings weigh me down.

"Huh?" His brows are raised in confusion.

"It's not like we're together anymore.

It's over between us. And if you former mate is back, I take it as aThis content © 2024 .

sign that we are not meant to be together. You can get back together with her."

"No." He denies firmly. My chest tightens with pain. "No! I don't want to."

"Why not?"

"Because... because... because..."

"Because?"

"Ashanti please ... "

"There's no need to beg me, Alpha Reagan. The Moon goddess has clearly seen that she made a huge mistake by pairing us together that's why she has brought back your first mate. You should forget about me, accept Selena and move on with your life. Like I have."

"Asha..."

"Please "I cut him off with a handshow. "Ve had a very long night. I'd love to go in and have some rest. Please." I start some rest.

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unbuckling my seat belt with my fingers trembling like an active voleano.

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His first mate is back.

How is this possible?

Why is this possible?

"Ashanti. We're not done talking about this. I'll come see you again."

I don't reply him. I simply open the door and step out. My legs nearly fail to keep me upright.

I'm going to die tonight.

I swear I won't make it till tomorrow.

I will die!

Chapter 0347

REAGAN'S POV.

I knew she was going to take this badly. The old me would have kept this information from her, but I know better than to do that. It's true that I've ordered everyone who's set eyes on Selena to keep their mouths shut, but that doesn't mean they will. They'll tell someone, who'll tell someone else who's going to tell another person and it's just a matter of time before the entire pack is buzzing with the news of Selena's return. Things would get even worse between Ashanti and me if she had to find out that way.

"She's going to come around." King chimes in my mind.

"You think so?" I ask, unsure. I saw the bitterness in Ashanti's eyes when I broke the news to her. It only made her more angry than she already is at

me.

I'm not sure she's ever going to come around. Text content  $\ensuremath{\mathbb{C}}$  .

"Yes. If you decide to be with her, which I know is what you want, and stand your ground. If you prove to her that she's the one you really want to be with and that Selena's return has got nothing on you, she will get over it and we will be with her again."

"But that's not true. Selena's return has got something on me! She is my first mate." I argue. He lets out an annoyed growl.

"Like I said before, if Selena is the one the Moon goddess wanted you to be with, she would not have sent Ashanti. Ashanti is your true mate. You have to be with her."

"You're only saying this because you can't sense Selena's wolf. If you could, this would be complicated for you as it is for me!"

"I'm done arguing with you. You can go ahead and do whatever you wish, but I need to remind you that if we lose Ashanti to another man, it's all on you!"

"Were not going to lose her to another man!"

"Do you honestly think she doesn't have suitors lined up for her hand?"

"Hand in what?" A frown forms on my face.

"What comes to your mind after the words "asking for her hand"?"

"Impossible!"

"Keep dreaming. If you don't make up your mind right now and choose Ashanti, someone will take her from you. She's not going to wait for you forever and just because you're the Lycan King doesn't mean she cannot decide to be with another man who is sure about what he wants in life."

"King, do you always have to be so mean to me?"

"If I don't use this tone on you, you won't make the right decisions. So now, get your mind thinking!" Hee sighs and shuts me out so I cannot reach out to him anymore. The car comes to a halt. I rest lay back on the chair and exhale heavily.

My exasperation is at its peak right now.

Just yesterday I was all excited about Ashanti's return, but now, I don't even know how I feel.

Why must things always get so sour between us?

That's a question I've never gotten and answer to.

The passenger seat door is pulled open by a guard. I calmly unstrap my seatbelt and step out of the car. I have no strength left so I reply to the greetings thrown at me with a simple nod as I make my way towards the main entrance.

My mind travels back to Selena. I

didn't go back to her like I promised when I was about to leave this afternoon. She must be very worried about what's going on. I need to b be far away from her for now. If keep seeing her face, I'm going to keep getting confused and frustrated. I need to be alone so I can...

"Alpha Reagan!" A familiar, worried-filled voice calls my name and I stare up to see Kyle approaching me with a troubled look on his face. I stop in my tracks and stare at him as he approaches me, shocked to the last fibre in my body.

What is he doing here?

At this late hour?

Kyle never comes to my chambers unannounced.

"Kyle." I call back. "Is anything the matter?" I ask, aghast and he stops in front of me.

"I've been waiting for you for hours!"

"Did something go wrong?"

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"I should be asking you that. You suddenly disappeared. I've been trying to get to you all day and throughout the evening to no avail."

"And that's why you came over and waited for me?"

"Yes."

"You didn't have to do that! I'm not a child!"

"I know. But I did and I will do it again the next time you decide to act like a rebellious teenager!"

"You are impossible!" I walk past him and head into the house. He doesn't leave me be, he follows me all the way in and now we are in the living room, staring at each other and sighing at intervals.

"You look downcast. Tell me what happened." I start shaking my head in denial. Just thinking about what happened a while ago makes my heart hurt. If I start talking about it, I might cry.

"Nothing happened. I just needed some fresh air." I lie.

A wasted effort because Kyle doesn't look convinced. It is impossible for me to lie to him.

"You know I know that's a lie. You are also well aware of the fact I won't stop asking and I won't leave until you tell me what I need to hear. So let's not waste each other's time. Start talking." He bullies me like always. I let out a heavy breath and place one hand on my waist while the other tiredly massages my forehead. My head thoughts are bouncing like a toddler on trampoline.Content © 2024.

"I told Ashanti." I finally talk after a long moment of excruciating silence between us. His mouth falls open as he stares at me, totally stupified. "No. You didn't!"

"Yes, I did. I had to. The last thing I want is for her to find out from someone else. She's going to hate me more than she already does." "How did she react?"

"She's completely heartbroken." I say in the most melancholic tone. "She.. she tried to hide it by acting tough and nonchalant about the whole issue, but I saw it in her eyes, I

heard in her voice. She's hurt. She's angry. She's dissapointed. And do you know what makes me even sadder?" "No."

"She told me it's a sign that we are not meant to be with each other."

"She didn't mean those words." He tries to assure me but I shake my head.

"She did. She even left afterwards

"Because you let her go."

"What was I supposed to do? Lock her up in the car and bring her here by force?" "So, are you going to give up on her?" He asks, totally ignoring my own question.

His question makes my brain tick

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like a time bomb. Just the thought of letting go of Ashanti makes my heartbleed like it has been cut open in two halves.

I will die before I let go of Ashanti.

"No!" I deny quietly. Firmly. "No. Of course not. I'm not going to let her go. I could never do that!"

"Good." He points to the staircase. "I know this is going to be hard, but go up there, take a shower, warm, cold, however you want it, eat something and then rest. We'll tackle this problem tomorrow, together, like we always do when there's a serious problem at hand. You are not alone in this. If you lose Ashanti as a mate, we, the subjects of this pack, will lose a great Luna and I'm not going to sit back and let that happen."

"I don't think I'm going to sleep tonight."

"Do the first two at least. I swear I'm going to tell Charlotte to monitor you and get back to me. If she calls and tells me you're being stubborn, I'l return and just so you know, I won't mind giving you a bath and feeding you myself."

My face turns dark.

What the fuck!

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"Kyle you have over stayed your welcome. Leave my house." I order with a stern voice. His entire frame shakes with laughter. "Be a good boy and do what I've asked." He gives a gentle smack on my shoulder. "Good night." Then he leaves.

I shake my head and start heading towards the staircase. Thoughts of Selena and Ashanti creep back into my consciousness as I ascend the flight of stairs.

My life is so complicated!

Chapter 0349

KYLE'S POV.

"Welcome home, Delta Kyle." The guards around the premises greet the moment I step out of my car. I return their greetings with a simple nod and

start heading towards the main entrance of the house. Having guards around my compound has never been something I fancied or found necessary, but that perspective changed when Tessa moved in. I'm very protective of her. I would lose my mind if anything were to happen to her while I was away. She's the reason why I have these guards stationed around the premises.

At the main door, I ring the doorbell and it's opened almost immediately by my butler whoshoweres me with more warm greetings as he takes my coat and my bag. It's just a matter of seconds before Tessa appears at the staircase landing above, grinning from molar to molar as she looks down at me.

"Baby!" She calls enthusiastically as she starts rushing down the staircase. My heart is my throat as I watch her take those fast steps down each stairs. She knows I don't like it when she does that. All it takes is one missed step and there'll be a dangerous accident. This girl will be the end of me. She crashes into my arms, engulfing me in a warm hug and I wrap my arms around her waist, picking her up and swirling her around with her legs hooked around my waist. Her melodious laughter fills the entire atmosphere, making smile like an idiot.

She makes me do this every evening.

"Welcome home baby." She jumps down and plants a soft kiss on my lips.

"Thank you, love."

"What's with the grim look on your face? Is everything alright?" she asks, giving me a concerned look that melts my heart like butter. I shake my head in denial. "What's wrong?" She sounds alarmed.

"There's a big, fat, complicated situation at hand right now."

"Oh my God." She exclaims in fear. "Baby what happened?"

"You remember Selena right?"

"Selena?" Her eyes brows creased as puts on her thinking expression.

"I... I don't think so. That name rings no bells in my head?"

"Alpha Reagan's first mate." A ridge forms between her brows.

"Oh... yeah. Her. Selena Morgan. Alpha Reagan's... yeah. What about her?"

"You're not gonna believe this." I say, shaking my head.

"Tell me, baby. What's wrong?"

"Selena is not dead as we thought." I announce in the calmest tone. She titles her head to the side as she tries to process my words.

"I... I don't understand. What do you mean Selena is not dead?"

"She showed up at Alpha Reagan's chambers today. She... she looked a bit haggard, but very much alive. She's back."

"I... I don't believe this... did you guys check well? To know if she's not just some random girl claiming to be Selena? How's this possible?"

"Alpha Reagan checked. He told me he could smell her pheromone. She's the one."

"Oh my God this is messed up... Ashanti. Oh my God, Ashanti! She's going to be distraught when she hears this."

"She already knows. Alpha Reagan told her "

"Why would he do that?"

"He doesn't want her to hear from someone else. She's gonna get more upset with him if that happens."

"Ah yeah. That's true." She lets out a

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heavy sigh and starts pacing. "I have to see Ashanti. She must be bawling her eyes out by now. I can on imagine how devastated she is.".

"You want to meet her?"

"Yes."

"I thought you were mad at her."

"I was... lean I still am... but she needs a friend right now. She needs me."

"You're the best shewolf in the world, love."

"Take me to where she lives tomorrow morning will you?"

"Yes Ma'am. I will."

"What about Alpha Reagan? How's he holding up?"

"His mind is tangled in a web of confusion right now. He's going through a hard time."

"Aww..." She pouts. "My poor Alpha It's

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Trouble strikes, you look while I look after Ashanti." belongs to

like the old times again.

"It's history repeating itself all over again!"

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"The Moon goddess has a lot in store for those two."

"Tell me about it."

"You I at oook tired."

"I am. And I'm famished as well."

"ComeText content ©.

starts

She holds my hand and the way to the

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staircase. "Let's get you freshened up, fed and entertained."

"Entertained? I like the sounds of that." She giggles as we both take the stairs.

We'll deal with the problems at hand tomorrow, for now, I need to take good care of myself.p

Chapter 0350

ASHANTI'S POV.

"Ashanti." Ryan's voice comes through for the one millionth time and I ignore him yet again. I'm not in the right mind to speak to anyone right now. I just got the most heart wrenching news ever and I need time to process my thoughts.

Alpha Reagan's first mate has returned.

How the hell is that even possible? Why is something like this happening in the first place?

Never. Never have I ever heard that a werewolf has two mates. I know I told him this was a sign that we weren't meant to be with each other and a bunch other things but I didn't mean any of that. Alpha Reagan is my fated mate. I feel a mate bond with him, our souls are connected. I know I shouldn't, but I want to be with him. The fact that his former mate is back doesn't make any sense to me.

"Ashanti." Another call from Ryan. "You've been crying in there for more than an hour now and it's making me anxious. You need to tell me what happened."

"I don't want to talk about it. God away."

"Sorry, but I won't and if you don't open this door by the time I count to three, I'm going to break it down." He threatens. "One..."

I scrunch my nostrils and mop the tears off my face with the back of my hands

"Two!"

I quickly rise to my feet and hurry to the door.

Ryan might be just eighteen years old, but he never gives his word for nothing and he's damn strong. If he says he's going to break that door when he counts to three, he will.

The moment I swing the door open, the tears in my eyes break loose and I burst into tears again.

"Hey... hey..." He pulls me into a warm embrace and I lay my head on his chest and bawl my eyes out.

We had such a great evening and he just had to ruin it by telling me about the return of his stupid first mate. Since when did the dead start refusing to stay dead.

"It's okay... everything is going to be fine." Says Ryan in a soothing voice that he calmly caresses my back. I shake my head.

"No it's not." I withdraw from his arms and look up at him with his drenched face.

Did I ever tell you how tall this boy is?

I have to crane my neck up just to look at his face. Little brothers have no respect for their elders.

"Why do you say so?"

"Selena is back."

"Selena?" His face twists with confusion. "Who is Selena?"

"She's Alpha Reagan's first mate."

He takes a step back, staring at me as he tries to recollect his thoughts.

"The one who died during the ambush?"

"Yes that one. Apparently she's not dead. She showed up at his chambers earlier today. She's back."

"But.... but that's impossible. She... no. When did werewolves start resurrecting from the dead? When did werewolves start having two alive mates? That's pretty messed up."

"It is."

"And what did he say? Did he tell you he was going to take her back?"

"No. He didn't say that but I think he will."

"Why would you think that?"

"She was his first mate. He loved her first. I was just a replacement, but now she's back. He doesn't need me anymore." "Oh Ash..." He takes me into his

arms again. More tears stream

down my chest when he presses a gentle kiss on my hair. "That's not true. Alpha Reagan loves you. It doesn't matter if he loved her first. What's important is who he lives now. Who he wants you to be with now! The past is in the past."

"The past is back to bite me in the ass. Maybe did something to anger

the Moon goddess, that's why she t

brought Sélene back. Maybe... Maybe it's because I left him two years ago. What if I ruined my chance with my own hands."

"I highly doubt that's the case. You're overthinking this issue. You should go to bed. Want me to tuck you in?" I look up at him again and nod fry head, pouting like a naughty five-year old.

"Yea. I would love for you to do that."

"Come on then." He holds me by my shoulders and guides me to the bed where we both lie on and he takes me in his arms.

I know I won't be getting any sleep tonight, but I'm glad I have someone to comfort me.