

THE LYCAN KING'S SECOND CHANCE MATE

#Chapter 0391 - Read THE LYCAN KING'S SECOND CHANCE MATE Chapter 0391

Chapter 0391

ASHANTI'S POV.

"Come in." I call out when a knock sounds on my room door. Immediately, the door is pushed open, revealing Ryan who pokes his head in and looks around for a while before stepping into the room. I furrow my brows upon seeing the outfit he has on.

A red T-shirt and black jacket over a pair on black jeans. Black pair of converse on his feet and a black cap. He's swinging a bunch of keys in his hand among which is a car key.

He's going out.

"You've been going out a lot these days." I rise from my bed and walk closer to him.

"Yep. I made some friends and today is a special day because my friends from the Blue Diamond Pack are coming over. They'll be spending the night over here."

"Ah... I see."

"Yeah."

"Won't you at least eat dinner before you leave. The table should be set by now."

"Nah. My guys and I will eat out. However, please tell the chef more people will be joining us for breakfast tomorrow morning." "Yes Sir!"

"Thank you." He steps closer and plants a gentle peck on my cheek. "You're the best big sister in the world."

"Drive safely." I call out once he's at the door.

"I will."

"And don't get drunk!" I say, following him out of the bedroom.

"I can't promise you that!" He's already in the hallway, walking towards the staircase.

If our mother finds out about this, she's going to kill me. Now I understand why he insisted on tagging along with me. He wanted some freedom. "Take care!" I shout out and his response is quickened footsteps down the staircase. I chuckle lightly and go back into my bedroom. He has no idea how adorable he could be sometimes. The fixed phone on my nightstand starts ringing and I hurry over to it to take the call. "Hello." I greet after pressing the phone against my ear.

"Miss Ashanti, dinner has been served."

"Thank you Grace. I'll be right there."

"Okay Miss. You also have a guest."

"A guest?" I ask, surprised.

"Yes." Content is property ©

"Who is it?"

"They said not to tell."

"Okay. I'll be right there." I place the phone on the receiver and stare blankly at the wall in front of me, trying to guess who the guest might be.

It can't be Tessa. She'd never ask the maid to keep her identity a Secret. Heck she won't even let them call me to announce her presence. She'll find her way into this bedroom and announce her presence herself.

That leaves me with two people.

Leonard and Alpha Reagan.

Sighing heavily, I walk out of my bedroom and head downstairs to see who it is. I'm not even surprised at all when I see Alpha Reagan waiting for me at the foot of the

el.n

staircase, but something about him

gets me worried.

The sorrowful expression on his face. The pained look in his eyes. His overall fatigued state.

Something is wrong.

"Alpha Reagan." My voice is a low whisper. Like always, my heart beats increase their pace and draw closer to him. He looks so sad, I feel like pulling him into a hug.

"Ashanti."

"What... what are you doing here at this time?"

"It's only eight pm, Ash. Eight pm is not a bad time to pay someone a visit." He says in the most depressing tone I've ever heard him speak in.

I want to tell him he's wrong. That eight pm is in fact, not a good time to pay someone a surprise visit, but his devastated expression stops me. "You don't look okay."

"That's because I'm not okay." He gives me that sorrowful look that makes my bones dissolve in my body.

I shouldn't care.

Whatever hard time he's facing right

now isn't my problem. I should

ignore him and go eat my dinner and then go to bed, but the goddess knows my heart will not let me do that. So, like the stupid, emotional girl am, I inch closer to him, wiping the frown on my face and replacing it with a melancholic expression that matches his mood.

"What happened?"

"Can we talk?" His voice is thick with pain. It makes my heart ache. "Somewhere private."

"Okay." I answer, despite the

revolution going with my intestines

in my stomach. I'm very hungry, but I

guess food can wait. This man looks like he's going to burst into tears if I don't hear what he wants to say.

I lead him up the staircase, into the living room on the second floor. I can only hope and pray that whatever has put him in this mood has got nothing to do with me.

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"So..." I say, closing the door behind me. "Sup?" I ask casually as I take a seat on a nearby sofa. He stays standing on his spot and shoves both hands in trouser pockets. The pained look in his eyes has intensified. He really looks like he's going to cry soon.

"Remember I told you about the ongoing investigation concerning Selena's return."

"Yeah. You did. What about it?"

"Kyle uh..." He clears his throat and makes his way over to the couch I'm sitting on. My breath catches in my chest when he lowers himself closer to

me.

His scent flies into my nostrils and assaults my senses like it always does. God, this man will always have this effect on me.

"There are a few things Kyle found out about Selena. Things that have completely broken my trust in her."

"What are those things?"

A few seconds go by before he narrates to me everything Kyle told him about Selena and her ex-boyfriend before Alpha Reagan. When he's done talking, I have just two words in mind for her.

That bitch!

"If she could tell a lie of that magnitude, I wonder what other lies she told me and I believed. I can't believe the Moon goddess had me mated to someone like her."

"Why can't you be mated to someone like her? It's not like you're perfect yourself. You have flaws too, you know."

"I know... it's just... I'm a Lycan Alpha."

"So what?"

"Ashanti, I came here to seek comfort, not condemnation. I would've stayed with Kyle and Ronald if I wanted that." He says, pouting his lips and giving me a stubborn look that makes me chuckle.

Tss.

He has no idea how cute he can be at times.

"Right. I'm sorry. What she did was wrong."

"Not wrong... it was diabolic! Why would she lie to me about getting raped when she wasn't? Only to cover up the fact that she lost her virginity to her boyfriend before me. It's not like I was going to reject her because of that. I wasn't a virgin either when I met her. As if that was not enough, she kept seeing him after we got together. She kept cheating on me with the same guy whose existence she had denied everytime I asked. She took me for a complete idiot!" Now he looks and sounds angry.

Sighing heavily, I take his big hands in mind and gently caress them while looking at him.

"I cannot say I understand how you feel, but I can see the pain in your eyes. It's devastating to find out that someone you loved with all your heart took you for a fool."

"I'm never going to see her again. Never!"

"You can't say that. She's still your mate."

"Mate my ass! Who knows what other lies she has told me. I never want to see her face again. I was determined to find out why the Moon goddess sent her back to me, but not anymore. I don't have feelings for her anyway. She'll have to keep living without me like she has been doing for the past years."

"Alpha Reagan, I think you might be overreacting."

"Overreacting?" He asks in a firm voice that makes me jump back in fear.

He's so mad.

Just then, he cell phone starts

ringing in his pocket and I expect et

him to take the call, but he doesn't. He ignores the call until it stops ringing.

A few seconds later, the phone starts

shoging again and he

no sign of taking it.

belongs to

"Aren't you going to answer your call?"

"I don't want to." He says in a tired, raspy voice.

"It could be important."

"I don't want to."

"Reagan. Pick up the call."

"Why do you..."

"Now!"

"Fine!" Grumbling, he takes out the phone from his pocket and answers the call.

"Yes. Who is it and what do you want?" He answers rudely and I watch his eyes grow wide in horror and his face grows ashen as he listens to the person speak. "I'll be right there." He ends the call and turns to me.

"What's wrong?" I ask, alarmed.

"It's Selena. She cut her wrist and has been rushed to the hospital."

"Oh my God! Is she alright?" He rises from the couch and I do the same.

"That's what I'm going to check."

"Let me come with you."

"You don't have to."

"I insist. Come on!" I say, leading the way out of the living room.

I don't like Selena, but I don't want her to die either.

I hope nothing bad happens to her!

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ASHANTI'S POV.

"Why on earth will she cut her wrist? Does she want to kill herself?" Alpha Reagan agitates as he paces about the outpatient ward we were ushered into when we arrived at the hospital. Selena is still in the emergency room and the man is nearly losing his mind with worry.

"Did you two fight?" I ask cautiously, making sure to stand at a safe distance away from him. I don't like dealing with this agitated version of Reagan. He stops pacing and turns to me.

"Well... I didn't raise my voice at her, neither did she at me. We just you know..." He shrugs his shoulders. "We just spoke."

"But not in the normal calm tone people use when they are having a normal conversation. You were mad about something she did to you in the past, so you confronted her. Am I right?" He sighs heavily and nods his head.

"Yes, you are."

"Do you have any idea how scary you can get when you confront someone?" I ask, giving him a critical look with my mind taking me back to all the times when I encountered a similar experience with him. The man has no idea how intimidating he can be at times.

"What was I supposed to do, coddle her after I found out the lies she fed me when we were together?"

"No, of course not. I'm just trying to say she probably got scared and felt threatened."

"That's why she decided to attempt suicide? Suicide of all things!" He throws his hands in the air and chuckles in frustration. "Great. Just great!" He stops pacing and supports one hand on his waist, while the other massages his forehead.

He's stressed. Very stressed.

"Hey..." I call warmly and go over to meet him. I don't know if it's the mate-bond, but I absolutely hate the fact that he's stressed up. I can feel his pain and frustration. I stand before his talk statue and look up at his face. Without saying a word, I take the hand off his face and hold it mine, my eyes never leaving his. "I know it's hard, but I need you to be calm. Pacing about and agitating will not do you any good. Come here." Still holding his hand, I lead him to a nearby chair we both sit down.

"I'm just really baffled that she would think of doing such a thing. We didn't have a big fight. I didn't raise my voice at her. I only told her I wasn't going to go see her again until she was ready to tell me everything I needed to hear about her alleged abducted."

"I'm sure that's what got her scared. She thought she would never see you again."

"Well she should have thought of that before lying to me the way she did."

"Reagan." small sigh escapes my lips. "When the time comes for you to go see her and you go in there looking like this, she's going to try to kill herself again." He shoots me a frightened gaze. I nod. "Yes."

"Fine." He finally gives in, exhaling heavily. I'll try to calm down. But that doesn't mean I won't talk some sense into her."

"You can today.

that another day, not

did was totally uncalled for, buget anrstand that what s

give

her a break. She needs it."

"I'll do that only because you've asked me to. I am so mad at her right now."

"And your anger is valid. But just try to stay calm." I urge, gently panting his hand that's wrapped around my left hand.

A few minutes later, a doctor comes into the ward and both rise from our seats and rush over to him in panic.

"Doctor, how's she doing?"

"She's doing okay. She didn't lose much blood so we only had to stop her from losing more blood."

"That means she's okay, right?"

"Yes, Alpha."

I breath in relief and so does Alpha Reagan. Like I said before, don't like Selena, but that doesn't mean kwant her to die. I'm so happy She's fine now.

swn

"Can I see her now?" Reagan asks eagerly and the doctor calmly nods his head.

"Of course. I'll lead the way." He says and starts leading way while Reagan and I follow.

I should probably stay behind and let Reagan go alone, but my curiosity won't let me do that.

I want to see Selena. The girl who was mated to Alpha Reagan before me.

I want to see her.

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ASHANTI'S POV.

"Selena!" Alpha Reagan calls in a tone depicting concern as he steps into the ward. I follow suit. He walks over to the bed to meet her while I stop in my tracks and watch their interaction from afar. Selena is sitting upright on the bed, sobbing quietly as Alpha Reagan perches by her side and turns to face her. The first peculiar thing I notice about her is her blonde hair. It's long and looks a bit dishevelled probably because of everything that has been on in the last few hours. Alpha Reagan's presence seems to have aggravated her condition because right now, her sobs are no longer softs, but violent and tears are streaming down from her eyes like a waterfall.

"Alpha Reagan, I'm so sorry. I don't know what came over me, I swear it wasn't intentional. I didn't mean to hurt myself the way I did." She laments in tears and Reagan turns to look at me. He has an irritated look on and I immediately understand that what he intends to do is scold her for being so irresponsible and dramatic, but I shake my head, disagreeing with his intended move.

"No." I mouth the word to him and he creases his brows which means he insists on doing what he intends to do. "I said no!" I mouth yet again, this time around with a serious expression on my face. His face falls in dismay and he looks back at Selena who's still busy bawling her eyes out.

I don't know why but I hate the fact that she's pretty. Even in her crying state, her beauty is still evident and now that she's in tears, she looks very cute and adorable. Alpha Reagan just needs to look at that face for ten more seconds and all his anger will go away. She looks charming. I hate it! "I'm sorry for causing you so much trouble." She apologises yet again and I groan, rolling my eyes in frustration.

No one can make me believe she didn't do this to get his attention. She felt threatened by his words and decided to play with her life just to gain his pity again.

What exactly is her game?

"Selena." Reagan calls in a low, raspy voice. My head snaps in their direction and I'm suddenly very curious to hear what he wants to say to her. A strange feeling in my gut comes to life when Selena stretches her hand forward and snatches Alpha Reagan's

right hand in her hold. My heart misses a beat and I quickly look away. Bile churns in my stomach when the scene replays in my mind.

She took his hand. She's holding his hand. She's touching my mate. And I don't like it.

"Selena you could have died! I know we all can have very wild thoughts at times, but where did you get the courage to push through with such a plan? Why did you try to kill yourself?"

"Because I lied to you. Because I deceived you in the past when you showed me nothing but love and care. I was so ashamed of myself so I thought..."

"So you thought it best to do this? To attempt suicide?" He sighs and shakes his head. Relief washes through me like a wave across on an ocean shore when he seizes his hand from her hold and rises to his feet.

Yes!

swn

I didn't like that he was sitting so close to her.

"Are you leaving me?" She asks, still in tears and I swear I'm fighting my urge to go over and punch her. She's trying to play the emotional blackmail card so hard, it's irritating.

She's well aware of what she's doing.

"I'm going to have a word with the doctor. I need to make sure everything is fine with you." He says and walks over to me. I don't like the fact that he's so worked up. I feel like pulling him into a warm hug right now. "Hey..." He whispers in a sweet, breathy voice. He stops in front of me, breathing heavily as he massages his forehead with his fingers. "I need to see the doctor, I'll be right back."

"Let me come with you."

"There's no need. I'll be back in five

minutes. Please..." He turns to

me

Selena who's staring at us with red tear-filled eyes before looking at again. "I know I shouldn't ask this of you, but please, can you keep an

eye

on her while I'm away. I don't want her doing anything stupid to herself again. Please."

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"Sure." I reply dryly, with a nod.

"Thank you." He whispers with a smile and my heart jumps in my chest when he leans forward and plants a soft kiss on my forehead before leaving the ward. I stay frozen on the spot for one solid minute with my brain trying to process what just happened.

Did Alpha Regan just give me a forehead kiss in front of his first mate?

What does this mean?

"Ashanti." A soft voice calls my name, snapping me out of my reverie. I turn around and see Selena, smiling at me. "That's the name, right?" She asks calmly with her beaming smile lighting up the entire room and making it impossible for me not to reciprocate the smile even though that's exactly what I want to do.

NOT reciprocate her smile.

"Yes, it is." I say, inching closer to her bed. "How are you feeling now?" I ask nicely, with my fake smile still on, but she doesn't respond. I watch in confusion as she eyes me from head to toe, before settling her gaze on my face once more. She still has that smile going but I can see right through

it.

It's as fake as mine.

She hates me.

"You're not bad at all for my replacement. Even though you would've been perfect if you had blonde hair like mine." She says in a condescending tone and her words jar in my ears like a huge church bell. The fake smile has faded and the look she's giving me is one of pure hatred and disgust.

"Excuse me?"

"I think you heard me right."

I tear my gaze from her face and chuckle in disbelief. I can't believe what I just heard. When I look at her again, there's a no nonsense expression on my face and I'm ready to go bitch mode with her.

"What do you mean when you say I'm your replacement?"

"Tss. Not only are you not pretty, you're dumb."

"Did you just insult me?"

"Yes, I just did. What are you going to do about it?"

Pick you up with my right hand and throw you against the wall on the other side of the room so hard, you break every bone in your body and die for real this time around.

I look back at her.

"And here I was, thinking you were some innocent girl who got caught up in a series of unfortunate events and ended up in this state, but I actually just found out that you're a bitch!"

"You think I'm going to deny it?" She asks with raised brows. I furrow my brows at her. "I'm not. I'm a bitch. A real bad bitch who is back to take her place. So if I were you, I would step aside, except you want to go to war with me and trust me, you do

not want to go to war with me."

I cross my arms over my chest and stare at her, completely bewildered by the words she's spewing. I can't even keep the frown on my face because of how amused I am about her behaviour right now.

She's a fierce one and I commend

her for that, but if she thinks I'm the least intimidated by all what she just said to me, then she has no idea how wrong she is. If I could deal

with Alina, then she'll be an easy cake!

"Is that so?"

UMS

"Don't say I didn't warn you when you get and find out there's no way out."

"Oh..."

et

"Your time as my replacement in Alpha Reagan's life is over. Back your bags and leave, because I'm back and I'm back to take my place in my place in his heart, in his life and in this pack as a whole and no one is going to stop me!"

For some time now I've been asking myself what exactly is Selena's plan. I just found out what it is.

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ASHANTI'S POV.

I am speechless and completely dumbfounded as I engage in a heated eye contact with Selena who's smiling at me as though she just accomplished a mission she thought impossible.

Wow!

Just wow!

She disappeared for five years with no word and now she's back to take her place in not only Alpha Reagan's life, but as the Luna of this pack. Kyle deserves an award for being such an excellent judge of character. One look at her and he immediately knew something was off. Now I completely understand why this investigation is very important.

"Did I shock you to the point of speechlessness?" She asks with a smirk. I chuckle lightly, nodding my head.

"Yeah. You did."

"And I intend to shock you more if you try to give me a hard time."

"What do you take Alpha Reagan for? A fool? A play thing? An idiot who you can just disappear from his life and waltz in back anytime you wish and he'd accept you simply because you used to be his mate?"

"I'm still his mate." She brags.

"And so am I?"

"Did I have water in my mouth when I said you are nothing but my replacement and that you're no longer needed since I'm back?"

"You seem to be forgetting the fact that we are actual people, not items that can be discarded and replaced at will. I have as much claim over him as you do, irrespective of the fact that you were mated to him first. If the Moon goddess was so satisfied with your

bond with Alpha Reagan, she would have left him mateless all these years you were away, but she sent me and that means a lot. So step down from that high horse you're riding on because you're in no way better than I am."

The smile on her face fades. Calmly, she adjust herself on her bed, staring daggers at me with her eyes and do well to do the same to her.

I am not afraid of her.

If I could handle Alina, then she's a piece of cake!

"Are you really sure you want to do this with me?"

"I should be the one asking you that question." I take two steps forward. "Are you sure you want to do this with me?" She chuckles lightly, looking away from me.

I'm loving every bit of this our little verbal altercation. It's been a while since I had some adrenaline rush. It's good for my health.

"Alright then." She says flicking her gaze in my direction again. "Since you want to play this game with me, let's begin."

"When I first heard about your return, I won't lie to you that I wasn't heartbroken. It was the worst news I had heard in a while, but then I thought maybe it's for the best. You have no idea the kind of relationship Alpha Reagan had....."

"And I don't care to know..."

"I'm not done talking, so be quiet!" I warn sternly and she's taken aback by my sudden authoritative tone. Her eyes pop wide open in shock. I nod at her. "My relationship with Reagan was a rocky one. He hurt me in the past and I was willing to overlook my love for him and forget about him for that. I was willing to let you have him since you were here first, but now that I've gotten to know the bitch that you are, I won't be doing that anymore. Reagan has his flaws. He's insufferable sometimes, but he's a good man. He's a good King and he doesn't deserve to end up with a cheap schemer like you. I don't know where you've been all these years or what you've been up to and I don't care to know. What I know is that you won't have a place in Reagan's life ever again. I'll make sure of that. If you want to fight with me for him, go ahead, but I'll win. He's my man now. Your time has passed." Her face is as red as a beetroot by the time I'm done talking and she looks like she's going to explode from anger anytime soon.

She cannot believe what she just heard.

"You are some tough bitch."

"Yeah. I'm happy you understand that fact. You are up against a tough bitch, so buckle up!" I wink an eyebrow at her and turn on my heels. My work here is done.

I'm about to take a step towards the door when it opens up and Reagan walks in. The frown on his face quickly disappears the moment he sees me and that makes my heart skip a beat.

I'm the one this man loves.

"Heyyy." He calls calmly as he comes over to meet me. I nearly melt when he takes my hand in his. "Were you about to leave?"

"Yeah. I just got a call from one of my teammates, there's something I need to..."

"Alpha Reagan." Selena's call cuts

me off. We both turn to look at her and my brows furrow in shock when I see her face completely drenched with tears. My heart falls into the pit of my stomach when Alpha Reagan quickly releases my hands from his hold and rushes over to the bed.

"Selena. Is everything okay? Why are you crying?" He asks, concerned and Selena's sobbing tone gets higher. Soon, she's crying like a child who got smacked and I can't help but chuckle.

I see what she's doing. I see it all.

"I'll leave you two now..."

"No... Asha....." He tries to step forward but Selena holds his hand, stopping his movement. He looks at her, confused. "Please. I feel so weak right now. I want to take a nap but I don't think I will be able to do that unless you cuddle me." "Cuddle you?" Alpha Reagan asks, alarmed.

"Yes. Please."

"I... I..." He gives me a quick glance before turning to Selena again, shaking his head. "I can't do that."

"Please... I'm begging you, cuddle me."

"I can't..."

"Do it." I urge. Reagan gives me an alarmed fook. I nod my head. "If she says she can only fall asleep unless you cuddle her, do it. We don't want her getting any worse."

"Ashanti... I can't."

My eyes go over to Selena who's watching us like we're acting a movie before her. Her eyes meet mine and I lock her gaze as I say...

"I promise I won't get mad at you. Just do it to make her happy."

"Are you sure?"

"Yes." I smile, my gaze still locked in Selena's.

This gaze. My words. My smile.

They are all sending her a message and based on the way the terror in her eyes intensifies as I urge Reagan to cuddle her, I can conclude that she's getting the message.

"I'll take my leave now."

"I'll call you."

I look at Alpha Reagan.

"I expect you to do more than that. Our dinner was ruined. You have to fix that."

Reagan's eyes widen and so does the smile on my lips. I turn on my heels and saunter out of the ward, feeling more accomplished than I did when I launched

my first clothing line.

It makes me feel so good that Selena will not be getting any sleep tonight. My words will haunt her all night.

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REAGAN'S POV.

Several moments go by before I peel my eyes from the door Ashanti just exited. My head is spinning like a wheel in motion as I try to process the last few sentences she said before leaving.

What did she mean when she said she won't get mad at me if I cuddled Selena?

Did she just ask me to reschedule the dinner we were supposed to have tonight?

Those were the last words I expected her to say. If I wasn't in the room with Selena right now, I would be smiling from ear to ear. My heart feels like a bag of sugar has been poured into it. Warmth pools in my belly as I turn to look at Selena. On my way here, I

was so mad and cursed her in my mind for ruining my well planned dinner date with Ashanti, but right now, I'm not.

Not only have I been given another chance to fix what she ruined, but I just found out there's a chance that Ashanti might take me back. I just need to keep pushing.

"Alpha Reagan." Selena calls and I flash her a tight smile. My eyes flick the door once more before I go to meet her on the bed. I can see the dried traces of tears on her face as she stares up at me with expectant eyes.

Drama queen.

If I ask the reason why she was crying, I don't think she'll have a response to give me.

Slowly, I lower myself by her side on the bed and lean against the headboard. Without asking, she draws closer to me and gently places her head on my chest.

Memories.

That act triggers memories from five years ago. When I just met her. She looked even more delicate than she does now. She was younger and frail and juggled two jobs to earn a living. I felt so bad to find her in that state. I made up my mind to give her the best life she could ever imagine. I loved and cared for her. I protected her. I did everything to show her how much I valued her as my soulmate, but I guess that was not enough. She kept seeing her lover being my back. A lover whose existence she denied with all her body and soul back then.

Goodness.

I feel nothing but anger and disgust whenever I look at Selena. I know she has hopes of us getting back together because of how nicely I treat her, but she has no idea I'm only doing so I can find what really happened to her these past years and her true intentions of coming back.

I feel the weight of her head being lifted from my chest and I look to see her staring at me. I flash her another forced smile.

"Are you comfortable?" I ask softly and she nods in response.

"Yes, I am."

"Cool."

"Thank you for accepting to cuddle me."

I did not accept to do this on my own accord. I only did this because Ashanti urged me to.

My smile widens.

"I don't think Ashanti likes me." She calmly reports. My brows crease as my gaze on her face intensifies.

"Why do you say so?"

"When you left, I tried having a

conversation with her but she wouldn't talk to me. When I insisted, she snapped at me and told me to go back to where I came from."

"Ashanti told you that?" I ask with furrowed brows. She nods with an innocent look on her face.

"Yes, she did and she didn't look too happy."

"You should have let her be when she ignored you the first time."

"Huh?" She asks softly, confused.

"You heard me. I thought you said you were sleepy."

"I am."

"Then close your eyes and sleep." I close the statement with a firm look

that makes her lay her head onlook

chest again.

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I'll only believe her words again when hell freezes over.

Besides, Ashanti is petty.

"Did I do something wrong?" Selena's voice comes through again. I let out an exasperated sigh, rolling my eyes.

"Did you?" I ask coldly. She goes mute.

Several minutes go by and she still hasn't said anything.

I have a feeling that the things I'm going to find out about what she has been up to for these past five years is going to shock me to the core. I need to brace myself for it

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ASHANTI'S POV.

This is not how I imagined my first encounter with Selena would look like. I figured her pitiful state would make me feel very sorry for her and give me more reasons to move on from Alpha Reagan, but I was wrong. After the heated altercation I just had with her in there and knowing her true colors, I don't think I can do that anymore.

It's true that Alpha Reagan hurt me in the past. He was awful to me, but it'd be unfair of me to judge him based on his flaws alone. He also had his good moments. Moments when he made me blush and felt love. Moments that live rent free in my head. He's a good man and if there's one thing I'm sure about, it's the fact he loves me and he wants to be with me.

I want to be with him too.

Just like Kyle suspects, Selena is up to something and that needs to be figured out before it's too late. I'll leave Kyle to take care of that. I trust that he will find out what we need to know very soon. For now, I need to keep my mate far away from that Selena's deceitful claws.

"Ashanti... you've been scoffing and shaking your head since you came here. If you don't talk now I'm going to die of anxiety!" Tessa complains and snaps me out of my thoughts. I turn to her and chuckle lightly.

"I'm just really shocked."

"About what exactly?" The impatience dripping from her tone gets me even more amused. She's going to be so mad when I tell her what happened at the hospital.

"I'm just coming from the hospital."

"Hospital?" She asks, alarmed. "Are you sick?" She gives me a look of concern. I shake my head in denial.

"No, I'm not."

"So why were you at the hospital?"

"Alpha Reagan and I were about to have dinner when he got a call from one of the servants at Selena's apartment saying she cut her wrist and was rushed to the hospital. I asked to go with him and he took me there to see her."

"Tss." She tuts and scoffs with the a disinterested look on her face. "She's such a drama queen."

"She looks and sounds like one."

"Why did you even offer to go with him to see her? I don't want you getting involved in her drama." "Actually, I'm already involved."

"What do mean by that?" She asked, perplexed.

"I want to get involved."

"Ashanti." She sounds alarmed. I let out a deep sigh and turn my entire body in her direction on the couch we are both sitting on. "You are getting me worried. Why are you getting yourself involved with Selena's drama."

"Because she's a bitch!" I calmly decipher and suck in a deep breath. Tessa's brows jump to her hairline and the confused look on her face deepens. "We had a little altercation in her ward when Alpha Reagan left to talk with the doctor." She gasps in shock, her eyes widening as though she just saw a ghost.

"No, you didn't!"

"Yes we did!"

"What did you girls fight about? I mean who started it. Please tell me it wasn't you!"

"It's true that I don't like her very much, but you know I'm not petty. I was standing peacefully in the room then she starts throwing punches, I had to fight back."

"What exactly did she say?"

"Something about her being back to take her place in Alpha Reagan's life and that I should leave him alone because my time with him is over."

"That bitch!"

"I said the same thing when she threw those words at me. She's the worst!"

"The nerve! Such an entitled brat! If there's anyone whose time has passed with Alpha Reagan, it's her not you! Who the hell does she think she is? Tessa sounds infuriated and that stirs up the anger I've been trying to suppress in my chest."

"She still has hopes of getting back together with Alpha Reagan. She's so confident that he'll accept her again."

"She's not even ready for the disappointment that's warming up at the corner for her. It's going to hit her hard!"

"Don't be so confident. Alpha Reagan might actually choose her, you know." I mutter in a low voice. Her face darkens with a frown as she shakes her head so hard, I fear it'll dislocate from her neck.

"That will only happen when hell freezes over."

"How are you so sure."

"Ashanti..." She calls in a low, serious tone as she takes my hands in hers. "That man loves you." My heart skips a bit. Warmth pools in my stomach as focus my gaze on her face that has got a soft, serious expression plastered on it.

Does he?

I ask myself and sink my teeth into my lower lips to hide my smile.

"And I can bet my life that right now, he wants to be with no other woman, but you!" She continues. An observable blush spread from my neck up to my cheeks and then my entire face.

I like what I'm hearing.

"So stop talking nonsense."

My lips curve into a smile.

"Right."

No matter what Selena says, Alpha Reagan is still my mate. We have a mate-bond that has not be broken yet and I want to protect that mate bond. While Kyle works on exposing back, I will stay focused on making sure her relationship with my mate doesn't get an inch beyond what it is now.

her true intentions for com

He's mine!

The sound of hasty footsteps jabs me out of my thoughts and my head neck swings in the direction of the staircase where I see Delta Kyle rushing down the staircase, looking absolutely terrified like something terrible has gone wrong.

"Babe." Tessa calls shooting up from the couch and I do the same. "Why do you look so alarmed? Did something happened?"

"Someone has spread news about

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Selena's return. The subjects know she's here. The entire pack is on fire right now have to the meet the others so we can decide on how to curb the situation." He's already rushing out of the door by the times he's finishing the last statement. The next thing we hear is the sound of the door closing behind him, then silence.

Tessa and I exchange confused looks.

My heart starts hammering in my chest when Kyle's words replay in my mind.

That's not a good thing.

That's not a good thing at all!

The pack will be turned up-side-down now that the subjects know that Alpha Reagan has to chose one between his two mates.

"I can bet my life that Selena has something to do with this." Tessa accused after several moments of total silence in the living room.

I firmly agree with her.

Selena leaked the news of her return.

Chapter 0399

REAGAN'S POV.

"Kyle." I call with great urgency the moment Kyle steps into my office. He's panting and looks alarmed.

"Who could have done such a thing?" He agitates as he walks over to Ronald and I. Ronald, as usual, is silent and he has a distant look in his eyes. He's thinking deep.

"I have no idea. I was shocked when I heard people talking about it at the hospital."

"The guards and the servants will never go against any of your commands. Never!" Ronald finally speaks and we both turn to him. He looks very serious. "They fear you and they know better than to go against your word and spread such news."

"What are you trying to say?" I ask with furrowed brows. I feel like he's heading somewhere.

"What I'm trying to say is that Selena might have a hand in this. The first indicator that she has the mind to instigate something is the fact that she attempted to end her life just to get your attention. That girl is dangerous."

A heavy sigh escapes my chest. I look away from both of them and plaster my gaze on the wall at the other end of the room.

Is this the Moon goddess' way of punishing me for all my shortcomings? By sending back a mate whom I thought I had lost to death five years ago to come and torment me?

This is too much.

"Alpha Reagan." Ronald's call interrupts my thoughts. I turn to them again. "On my way here I instructed a few experts to takedown the posts and claim it's false information. You can also address the subjects and tell them she's not here."

I shake my head in denial. Doing something of that sort will be adding fuel to a burning fire. Things will get out of hand if I dare to do that. "Denying the fact that she's here will only make things worse, Kyle. The news is already out there. Also, if Selena truly let this out herself, she has prepared backup information to spread again if we try to silence her or deny her presence. We are not playing that game with her."

"If this goes on, there will be public unrest." That's Ronald. "The subjects will figure out that you have two mates and they will demand that you choose one from the two."

"This means I have to hasten up with the ongoing investigation. We need to find out Selena's motive before she does something even more drastic." I nod in agreement.

It's true that I don't love Selena

I don't

anymore. Even the Moon goddess knows the only woman I want to spend the rest of my life with, is

Ashanti. However, I cannot act

impulse. The Moon goddess always has a reason for doing things.

Whether she resurrected Selena from the dead or kept her alive and away from me all these years, there must be a reason why she brought her to me again and I have to find out that reason before making any decision.

"Please do that. I need to find out Selena's motive and decide what to do with her before she does

something more chaotic." A tired et

sigh follows that statement. "No wonder she begged me to move her to my chambers. She already set the plan in motion."

"She asked you to do what?"

"Let her stay with me in my chambers since we are still mates."

"Does she know about Ashanti?" Ronald asks with a calculative look on. I nod.

"Yes. I went to the hospital with Ashanti and introduced them to each other."

"So, she knows you have another mate who you've been with for the past two years, yet she acts like she still has every right to be with you?" "Yes." I nod, looking at Kyle who asked the question.

"And what was your response?"

"No, of course. There's no way I'm letting her come live with me at my chambers. What will Ashanti think."

Chapter 0400

"I suggest you give in to her request."

"You've got to be kidding me!"

"I'm not." He takes two steps closer. "It's obvious that she's back to take her place in your life. She knows she is still your mate and you are obliged to treat her as one since you already accepted her before. She doesn't care about Ashanti or the fact that your heart beats for her. All she wants is a place in your life and she will stop at nothing to accomplish that. Now, that leads us to the questions; "what changed her mind?", "why is she just coming back now?". We all know she had a lover and they both disappeared on the same day. She claimed she was kidnapped, but she has refused to say anything that could prove that fact or make us start an investigation. She has been silent and vague about it. I have a theory that she eloped with her boyfriend. It's just a theory. A speculation. It might be true. It might be false. But what I know is that I'm starting to see

where this is going and I think that if you let her stay with you, you will start to see it as well."

"I..." Start to object but he cuts me off.

"If you move her into your chambers to live with you, she will think she's slowly accomplishing her mission of getting back into your life and that little victory will get her overwhelmed and as a result, her guard will be let down. All you need to do is play her little game and you will find out what you need to know about what she's been up to these past five years."

"Kyle." I breathe. "All of that makes sense and I really want to do anything to help this investigation but..."

"I will talk to Ashanti." My pupils dilate in surprise. How did he know that was my main worry? "Yes. I know that's what's bothering you right now. You think Ashanti will be mad that you have your ex-mate living with you."

"I don't think! I know. She will misjudge the situation and warn me never to show my face to her again."

"I will explain all of this to her and she will understand. You know she will."

"Yes. She'll understand especially if it comes from you, but the idea of living with Selena irks me."

"Why does it irk you? Do you still have feelings for her?" Ronald drops a bomb. My neck nearly breaks with how fast I turn to look in his direction. "No!" I refuse with all my might.

"Are you still attracted to her? As in, would you consider having sex with her if you two were close?"

"Of course not!"

"Then that shouldn't be a problem."

"Exactly!" Kyle confirms and I glare at them as though they've lost their minds.

I hate it when they gang up against me.

"Take her to your chambers. Monitor

her. Like Kyle said, it's just a matter of time before she lets her guard down and starts letting things slip out of giving you hints about what she has been up to."

"Right." I agree even though every atom in my body is against the idea.

I always dream of bringing Ashanti back to my chambers, not Selena.

This is a nightmare.

"I have to go to Ashanti. The news must have gotten to her by now and she must be worried. I need to

assure her that everything is going to be alright."

"Don't worry about Ashanti. She's at my place with Tessa and Tessa will give her all the assurance you intend to bathe her with and even more. Just go home and prepare for Selena's move."

I tut and roll my eyes.

I absolutely hate this situation I currently find myself stuck in!