## **Chapter 40**

Everyone was silent. Many of them were not sophomore-year students, so they did not know Luisa much. They were just aware of the fact that she had won the competition and received the first prize.

As soon as they found out that she had cheated on it, they started giving her a look that was filled with disdain.

"You are lying," Luisa said with an angry tone.

"But I didn't say anything today. You are the one who dragged me." I replied.

"You bitch!"

She rushed to me as if she were attacking me. Her behavior astounded me. She looked like a mad woman.

Before she could get to me, a hand grabbed my wrist and pulled me.

Bruce pulled me behind him and gave Luisa a stern look.

Luisa was startled by his action.

"Bruce,"

"If you dare to touch her or even think to harm her, no one will be worse than me."

I glanced at Bruce, who looked infuriated, then shifted my gaze to Luisa, who looked in disbelief.

"Why do you still care for her? She broke up with you."

Bruce released my hand, went to grab her jaw, then muttered,

"It's all because of you. I was a fool; that's why it all happened."

Sara approached me and whispered,

"Perfect. She has just spilled up everything with her own mouth."

I noticed the crowd around me; it was getting more prominent than before. Students started to capture whatever was happening there on their cameras as they recorded video on their phones.

Looking at how Bruce grabbed Luisa's jaw, it reminded me of his big brother.

Bryan also grabbed my jaw and hurt me the day we realized our mate bond.

I pushed my thoughts aside and grabbed Bruce's hand.

"Bruce, leave her."

"No, I will break her jaw today."

I pulled him away from her. "What's wrong with you? You can't charge at a girl like that."

Bruce looked at me and asked,

"You are still thinking about her after what she did with you? But you have problems with only me, right?"

I realized that he carried the matter in the same direction. I shook my head and replied,

"She is no one to me. I would do the same if someone else were here in both of your places."

Bruce nodded his head while looking at me, then left the place with a furious face.

I glanced around me and saw people start to discuss me. Luisa looked broken, but more than that, she felt insulted in front of others.

That time, I realized that I was wrong. She was not in love with Bruce, but only after his reputation.

"Let's go," Sara mumbled.

She held my hand and pulled me out of the crowd.

Suddenly, I felt light-hearted. People would now believe that Luisa lied about the project.

At least people around me were aware of the truth, even though it would not restore the status that I had lost or the opportunity that she was getting.

After attending his classes, Nolan made his way over to meet with us.

"This weekend, I planned a hangout. You have to join us," he said to me.

"You know how I am passing the days. I don't have time."

"He said this 'this weekend.' You can't deny us." Sara tugged on my sleeves and wiggled her brows to persuade me.

I thought for a moment and gave them a nod.

"Okay."

"Yes! Then I am going to tell my other friends." Nolan said it cheerfully.

"Wait, what? Other friends?"

"Yeah. We should hang out in a group," Nolan replied.

Sara looked at my almost denied look and said, "You can call your new friend Troy, too."

"But..."

"No, but. He is in the same company as you. It would help if you had a good friendship with him. Otherwise, you will feel bored all alone at work."

I thought about Troy. I accepted his hand for friendship last night.

"Should I invite him?"

Nolan cleared his throat and replied, "If you want, you can. We should see if he is a good boy or not."

"Bro, he is my friend, not my boyfriend that you have to see."

"Oh, come on. We can't trust any guy. Friends are part of our daily lives," Nolan replied.

"Okay, okay. I will tell him about it."

Sara and Nolan both looked happy that I would join them this weekend. I also felt that I needed a hangout.

I left the university and headed to the company.

When I arrived at the company, I saw that the atmosphere was not so relaxed. Everyone was rushing here and there, as if something had happened.

I walked toward my cabin while glancing around at others.

"Who are you?" A man's voice could be heard coming from behind me.

Upon turning my head, I noticed a man who was not familiar to me standing behind me.

I turned around to face him and asked,

"I am the CEO's assistant secretary. May I know you?"

The man smirked as if I said something very interesting. By looking at his expensive suit, I had the impression that he was not an employee of this company.

He reached out his hand to me and greeted me with the name,

"Alpha Oliver."

At the time when he introduced himself, I extended my hand to shake his.

"Sophia Berge," I replied, withdrawing my hand after shaking it with his.

"Your look gave me the feeling that you don't know me," he said, chuckling.

I stared at him. Who was he? Why was he even there? Should I know him?

He was a young man in his late twenties. Was he an official of Bryan? No, he could not. He was an Alpha in rank.

I saw another man approach him and bow his head to him.

"Alpha."

My eyes widened. 'Alpha? Okay, he can be Alpha in rank. But why did that man bow to him?' I thought.

"He is my beta, Jasper." The man named Oliver said this to me while directing his head toward the new man.

I was taken aback.

Beta? Was he the Alpha of another pack?

I slowly turned my head and saw other employees looking at me, whispering about something. They might be talking about this Alpha.

"Are you an Alpha of any pack?" I asked Oliver.

His beta frowned at me and replied,

"He is the head Alpha of the Mountain Howl Pack."