

Chapter 23 Keeping the secret from them

*****Erika's POV*****

"When will you guys be done?" I groaned in annoyance.

They had been at this seduction lecture for the past twenty minutes and it was getting tiring.

"You should be learning, instead of seating there whining" Kat snapped.

She hated the fact that I kept asking them every minute if they were done.

But I had to ask, I was feeling left out of the whole charade. Moreover, it was not what I wanted to see at this moment in my life.

I merely shrugged. "Learn what? As if I have a mate to practice on"

"Do not lose hope. Alexander is not the only man you'll ever be mated to. The Moon Goddess will give you another mate, a much nicer one" Paula encouraged.

I sighed again, knowing I was hiding something from them.

"I don't think I'm ready, I don't know" The thought just came to me.

I know that during this time, my mind would be all over the place. I'd be having different thoughts; this minute I might want one thing, another minute I'd be yearning for another thing.

Well, there was no one who would go through what I had just gone through and not feel somewhat insane.

"Don't ever say that. Don't think of whatever Alex had done to you, I kind of have a feeling he'll come back to beg!" Paula came to join me on the bed, snuggling me tight.

Kat occupied the other side. "And even if he doesn't, there are many wonderful guys out there."

"The only wonderful guys I think are out there right now are my father and Jace" I responded.

"There are guys like Jace, Gage and my future father-in-law." Kat uttered, wriggling her body on the bed in a playful gesture.

I turned to give her an amusing stare. "What are you doing?"

She grinned, then shrugged. "Nothing, just having fun. Playing" She raised her upper frame a bit to peer at Paula. "Still interested in the lecture?"

"I thought we were having a break!" Paula yelled. It was more of a statement than an actual question, and she looked like she was ready to spread herself on the bed and drift off to la-la land.

"You lazy wolffess" Kat eyed her, making a face that was supposed to show annoyance but ended up making Paula and I burst into laughter.

"What?" She looked quizzically at the both of us.

"Nothing" Paula replied.

There was a rap on the door, then another. "Your Highness, I'm coming in with the food Ms. Greywood requested"

"Come in" It was Kat who answered, growing impatient.

The door opened to reveal two maids carrying two big trays of food.

I didn't think I could eat much, father had just ordered for food to be brought before he left. I hadn't even been able to finish the food, I doubt I would eat much from these two trays that was enough to comfortably feed four men.

Paula had a normal appetite, but as for Kat, she had the spirit of gluttony possessing her. She ate like she would never have access to food anymore.

It never seemed to amuse Paula and I how much she ate.

"Food is here!" Kat squealed in excitement.

"You know, I wonder if you squeal this way when you see Jace" I said,

watching my two best friends dig into the big trays of food.

She cast a miffed gaze at me. "What are you saying? That I love food more than I love my mate?"

I shrugged. "I would not be surprised"

"You're not eating" Paula observed, chewing on vegetables, she loved them. She was not a strict vegetarian though, she also ate meat and other kind of food.

"I'm quite full. Father ordered a tray for few minutes before Paula came in and I could not eat it all" I explained to them.

"Does this have to do with Alexander?" Paula frowned a bit.

"Why would you think so?" I was trying to avoid answering the question.

"This is unlike you Rika" Paula spoke.

"How? You mean I love to eat like Kat?" I pointed towards Kat, studying her as she stuffed her face with everything she could find on both trays.

Picking and chewing whatever she found interest in on both trays.

She didn't even pay any mind to me, just as she paid none to Paula. She kept her attention focused on both trays, of which one was placed before Paula and the other before her.

"Hey!" Paula swatted her hand away as Kat tried to take another piece of her drumstick.

"What?" Kat whined with a mouth full.

"That's your tray, focus on it!" She instructed Kat, then faced me. "Come let's eat, darling. These trays are too much for just Kat and I"

"Speak for yourself" Kat tore at the last drumstick on her own tray.

"I'm good, Paula. You both eat up" I told her.

She nodded, then continued her food. "The food is nice"

"Mhm" Came my absentminded response.

My mind was already straying towards the incident of earlier, wondering

what Alexander had done to ruin us and what he was doing at this moment.

I thought of the altar of the Moon Goddess where everything had happened, I swallowed the lump that had stubbornly formed in my throat.

I blinked my eyes and tried to take my mind off of that scenario. The pain that signified the end of what should have been a very beautiful phase of one's life.

It took a while before Kat and Paula completed their meal.

Kat laid back on the bed, patting her stomach.

I gave her the look, she understood immediately and sat up. "Such a mother hen"

"I'm a wolf, not a hen" I responded. "Why would you lay down when you just completed a meal?"

"Anything wrong in that?" She asked, sulking a bit.

"Yes, many things are wrong in that"

Paula on the other hand took the trays and dropped them on the table, close to the bottles of alcohol, for the maids to collect when they came in.

"It's time for a drink" Kat took one of the bottles.

"But you just finished having a meal!" Paula crooked a brow. She wasn't really surprised, none of us were.

"So?" She gave a mindless shrug.

"What about glasses? You want to take a swing from the bottle?" I asked. I was in the mood for a drink, it would make me forget.

"Take a swing from the bottle for me" Kat said.

"Get glasses, don't act like a cave woman" Paula admonished.

Kat rolled her eyes, then walked to the door.

"Where are you going to?" Paula inquired.

"To get glasses of course"

"The maids can bring it" I told her.

"I'm missing my mate" She grinned.


I groaned and Paula face palmed. I truly felt pity for Jace Blackwood.



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