

Chapter 0028

And I can do nothing but stand and walk out, because why would he confide in someone like me? Someone who he doesn't know and literally pushed him away the night before?

Three hours later, I'm laying on my couch eating pizza and sipping on wine while watching a rom-com, only for my front door to slam open. I leap from the couch and rush to the landing with my heart in my throat, praying to the fucking Goddess that Lucan hasn't found me.

But nothing could have prepared me for what I would see.

Alpha Niklaus is laying on the floor, face down and laughing to himself. I'd be laughing as well if I wasn't so damn confused at what I'm seeing right now.

"Alpha?" I ask, tentatively approaching him. "Alpha Niklaus?"

He turns on his back, still laughing, then he sighs. "Ah, there she is," he slurs. "My kitten."

Blood rises to my cheeks as I walk, then I close the door he's left open and lock it. "Is there a reason you're here? Your apartment is at least five floors up, Alpha," I say, crossing my arms.

I watch him sit up and rest his arm on his knee before he sighs and looks up at me. "Yes, I suppose you're right. I shouldn't be here..." he trails off. "But I can't stop thinking about you, and it's driving me fucking insane."

With my heart pounding, I feel brave enough to sit down next to him with my legs crossed. "Why are you thinking about me, Alp— Niklaus?" I ask, feeling a flush on my cheeks. "I'm not an Omega anymore—"

"I told you I didn't give a shit about your designation, Verena," he says with a slight slur, as if he's sobering up. "If I did, do you honestly think I'd be here making a fool of myself?"

I breathe out a sigh and get to my feet, then I hold out my hand. "Come, let's get you sobered up, Alpha Niklaus, then you can tell me why you're here."

He chuckles and stands up while ignoring my hand, and follows me to my kitchen. It feels weird as hell having him here in my apartment, and I honestly don't feel like fighting off his affections again.

"Do you drink coffee?" I ask when I hear the scrape of the barstool at the counter and look over my shoulder. "I don't have the good stuff, though."

He chuckles at this. "Just water with some ice, please. I don't think coffee will help right now," he says, then he leans forward and hangs his head in his hands, sighing.

I feel a tug at my heart as the realisation sets in... he's just lost his brother, his Beta, and the one person he trusted above all. Something tells me he's been keeping a calm and collected face around his brothers when I know he must be hurting.

Dropping my hand from reaching for a glass, I walk around the counter and he turns on the barstool before I slip my arms around his waist and give him a hug. From the way he stiffens up, I can tell he didn't expect it. That, and I'm sure no one's ever hugged him before.

He slowly exhales and slips from the seat before returning the hug. His body moulds to mine and I can literally feel the tension leaving his shoulders.

"Didn't take you for a hugger, kitten," he says with a chuckle to his tone. "Does this mean I'm special?"

I scoff and pull away, hitting his arm lightly. "Way to ruin a moment, Alpha; and I only hug people when I think they deserve it," I say and a smirk forms on his face.

"Oh? What did I do to deserve that?"

"You're in mourning," I answer immediately, and his smile slightly drops. "I know you're the Alpha and you have to show everyone you're strong and coping, but even the strongest person needs a shoulder to lean on sometimes."

He looks at me with a thoughtful expression on his face, and it almost looks like he's about to close himself off. Then he crosses his arms and sighs; one long, painful sigh that I can feel right in my bones.

"Dimitrios was that for me," he says as he leans his forehead against his closed fist. "He was my confidante and ..."

Alpha Niklaus shakes his head before offering me a smile. "

★ +20 BONUS

I'm sorry to have barged in here uninvited, Verena. I lost my manners for a moment; it won't happen again," he says, then he's walking toward the door.

It takes me a few seconds to realise he's backpedalling, so I run after him.

"Wait, Alpha—"

"Rest assured, you don't have to worry about me or my state of mind. It's unbecoming of an Alpha to do what I have been doing with you, I apologise," he says without even turning around. "Have a good evening further, Verena. Again, I'm sorry to have barged in."

Then, with that, he walks out my door and I stare at it, confused once again.



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"*Hello, everyone! I apologise for the slow updates lately. I haven't been able to sit down and write due to my personal life suddenly being upended (I can't go into details, I'm sorry), but I will try to update every second day from this week. Things should be better from April. Again, I apologise for not updating sooner.*"

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