

Chapter 21 - The Destiny of a Heart-broken Luna

-Tamia-

I woke up still tangled in the sheets with Sylvester.

I did not want to get up. Watching him sleep peacefully melted my heart. He looked so much at peace, and I kissed him on his lips.

In response, he wrapped his arms around me and tickled me. I felt like a teenager again.

I laughed and then stopped. Then he pulled me close to him and kissed me hungrily.

“I am a man with a large appetite, green eyes,” he said, and I giggled.

“We need to head for dinner first. We have been in this room all day,” I complained because all the orgasms I got had made me hungry.

“I thought Kaira could take it; she said all night and some more; we haven’t gotten to the all-night part yet,” He said, and I got off the bed in an attempt to get away.

He was fast and pulled me back; I giggled at his playfulness. He kissed my neck and sucked gently.

“Sylvester,” I moaned, and he laughed.

“Come on, let’s shower and get dressed,” he said, and I smiled at him.

We showered, and he took liberties, touching me in places that got me all worked up, but he never went all the way with me.

“What do you think you are doing?” I said when he was dressing up.

“Going for dinner, green eyes, just like you said,” He said, and I knew what he was doing. I went to pick up his shirt, and he stopped

“Feed my eyes tonight,” He said to me, and I grinned.

I reached for a black lace lingerie with a short silk robe. I wore pantyhose, and he watched me put them on.

I made sure to do it as slowly as possible to get him worked up. By the time I was finished, he was spotting a hard-on. 1

“Shall we?” I said with a low drawl, and he growled at me.

I saw his eyes flashing and felt the pressure that came with his presence. Knight was seeking to dominate me.

“We do not want the food to get cold,” I said and walked out of our room.

He followed me and caught up with me.

Then slid his hands around my waist.

I noticed he had found a way to tuck his very erect member.

He did not button his shirt, so his chest was visible.

People were looking at us in awe, and I heard some people whispering.

“How did she do it?” I heard someone say, and I realised that Sylvester seemed impenetrable to them, but he was adorable with me.

“They look so good together,” someone said, admiring us.

“You know she was a luna in the east. Not a virgin. He will dump her pretty soon,” some hater said, and I wanted to laugh.

I felt Sylvester vibrate. He must have heard that last statement. I placed my hands on his chest to calm him down.

“Words don’t get to me, Alpha,” I assured him, and he relaxed, but he made sure he took note of the person that said it.

The woman was unsuspecting, but I was sure Sylvester was definitely going to deal with her.

We entered the dining room, and everyone. was silent.

It was clear they were talking about us. Linda eyed my get-up and winked at me.

“Someone is finally getting some,” she linked me, and I felt shy.

“You should too,” I told her, and she looked away.

I looked at Avery, and she and Marcel seemed to have patched things up.

They were moving faster than any of us. Sylvester and I went to sit so the food could be served.

I looked at my friends. We were never really close, until circumstances brought us together.

Having the same problems made us create a bond, and it seemed to be strong. I looked at the men we were with and realised we were making the right decisions that might lead to true happiness.

It wasn't supposed to be this way. We were supposed to be prisoners serving the Alphas. That was why they split us amongst themselves, but here we were, being treated like queens.

Avery and Linda were treated better than they were treated at home.

As for me, my broken heart was healed and learning to open again.

The meal was served, and Sylvester took my hand and kissed it. He was gentle about it too. His eyes said it all.

"Eat," he said, and I smiled at him because I knew why. We ate, and while we did, we talked about the attack. Avery and Linda were yet to get off the 'high' of the fight.

"Those men were from Max's pack," Avery told us, and I was in shock.

"That was why I enjoyed it. I remembered some of the bastards. They always took Michelle's side against me." She said, going down memory lane, and Marcel pulled her close.

"At least your husband didn't make his men fuck you for his entertainment," Linda said, and I still could not believe Kyle would do that to her. I doubted Linda would ever recover from it.

"You can't relate because Leo was awesome; even Amanda could not turn him against you, other than sharing your bed," Avery said. We laughed to make light the situation.

Those scars would never heal, and I was grateful that the men allowed us to discuss it freely. It was helping the healing process for Avery and Linda. I believed I was healed.

"Honestly, I am glad. If not, I wouldn't be here." I said. Avery shook her head.

"We would have ended up here regardless. Kyle would have still gone ahead and done shit. Those men aren't worthy of leading. I suggest you take over the east before they waste innocent lives for personal gains."

Avery told Sylvester, and he smiled at her. He was being tolerant, and I admired that about him.

He understood that she was angry and she had the right to be.

No one deserved to be treated like that. Mia had some silver scars, and I knew they were from the beatings because we rarely fought battles in the east. The white wolf had suffered.

"I do not like taking over other regions. My father was the one that took over the west. As long as no one looks for my trouble, there is no need. I am sure the Alphas know what is best for their

people. I am also sure Leonardo Albert will put them in check,” Sylvester said and looked at me. He was searching my eyes for something, but there was nothing. Somehow, he was still afraid that my heart still belonged to Leo.

It made him look cute.

We finished dinner, and Sylvester decided

we should go to the club in town. I was surprised because I knew newcomers were not allowed to leave the property.

We returned to his room, and I realised I couldn't wear lingerie, see-through tunics or gowns to the club.

“I have nothing to wear,” I told him, and he smiled at me.

“I sent for clothes this morning. They will soon be here,” He said and backed me up against the wall.

I wrapped my legs around him, and he tore the lace panties and buried himself inside me in a rush. He had been anticipating it.

Sylvester growled with satisfaction. I saw his teeth elongate, which was a serious turn-on for me.

His claws grew out, and I held on tight while he pumped like the beast he was.

Someone knocked, but we did not care. We were in our world. I came quickly, and he followed.

He let me down gently, and I laughed.

“I have a big appetite,” he said, nibbling on my ears.

“Eager to please,” I said, and he laughed.

He adjusted himself, and I covered my torn lace lingerie with my robe.

The door clicked, and two hangers of clothes were rolled in.

Two boxes were placed on the vanity table, and the workers quietly exited the room.

I checked out the clothes, and they were beautiful. One of the boxes had jewellery, and the other had makeup in it.

Sylvester had gone all out.

I showered to clean up, and Sylvester helped me go through the clothes to select which one I should wear.

He took great care in choosing, and it was adorable.

We both settled on a short deep blue velvet club dress that was backless with a halter neck. It had some sequence on it, but they were tastefully placed.

I chose silver heels to go with it and let my hair down. I wore simple makeup.

Sylvester wore a black shirt and blue jeans and packed his long hair in a ponytail. He looked breathtakingly handsome.

“You look beautiful, Tamia,” He said, and I beamed at him.

“You look good, yourself,” I told him. He smiled, pulled me close, and breathed in my scent.

“Promise you will always be with me, Tamia, He breathed into my ear.

“I promise,” I said, and he moved to look into my eyes. He searched them for deception, and I looked at him.

“Unless you end it, I am not going anywhere. My story with Leonardo has ended. You do not need to be guarded with me.” I told him my truth, and he rested his forehead against mine and sighed. Then pulled me in for a tight hug.

“I won’t end this,” He said with a promise, and I slowly wrapped my arms around him. We were moving fast.

There were three Jeeps at the castle entrance, and I noticed everyone was riding in their Jeep.

Linda sat in one with Theodore; I could only see her top, which was red. I believed red was her favourite colour.

Avery was wearing something purple with Marcel, and we entered the last Jeep. The ride was bumpy, coming down the hilly road that led to the property.

We rode through a forest for a while.

“We’re heading to the centre of a town called Lucland.

“My mother and brother live there,”

Sylvester told me, and I was stunned he had a family.

“I did not know you had family,” I confessed, and he laughed.

“After my father was murdered, my brother and I decided to hide my mother, so we moved her out of the Volkov Estate and brought her here. Although I was the youngest, I was the one that inherited the Alpha genes, so I took over. My brother visits from time to time, but we do not see eye to eye on several things,” he said, and I got curious.

“Like what?” I asked him.

“I changed a lot of rules when I took over. I found some of my father’s practices inhumane and decided to change some things. He did not like it, and we have argued about it ever since,” he replied, and I knew it kind of hurt him.

“What is your mother’s take in all of it?” I asked him, and he sighed.

“She agrees with him about some, but not all. You see, my mother is mad at me because I am yet to bring my father’s killer to justice, and because of that, she sees me as weak,” He confessed, and I wondered what kind of people they were.

If they were calling Sylvester weak, I wonder what their idea of ‘strong’ was.

“Do you know who did it?” I asked, and he wrapped his hands tightly around the steering wheel and squeezed it.

“Bane,” He said, stepping on the gas.

“That bastard claimed my father trespassed, but he was lying. My brother went to war with him, but he wasn’t ready, so Bane won. My mother and brother hate me for not joining and leading the battle. I couldn’t. As much as I wanted to, I couldn’t because I knew the truth. My father was an evil man, so I could not blame Bane entirely for what he did.

According to him, my father took his mother as tribute, and she never returned to them, driving his father mad and forcing him to take up the alpha position at a young age.

My father wrecked his life, and honestly, my father was in the wrong because the south did not do anything wrong. He wanted to enforce that they all come under him and pay him taxes. They revolted, and he went after them.

The east and west agreed to pay, but the south pushed back, and he attacked. So I could understand Bane’s anger towards my father and why he will go after the man and kill him. Though what Bane did was cowardly, I could understand. I deliberately did not join that battle against the south because we couldn’t go on killing in the name of vengeance. I had to break the chain at a point,” he sighed.

“Anyway, that was how the asshole got the name Bane, because he killed the former wolf lord and won the war against my brother. My mother and brother are not happy that he is living and

breathing, and because of that, my older brother, Dominic, feels he should be the Wolf Lord and not me," he said, and I frowned.

"But he isn't Alpha," I argued.

"Well, you do not need the Alpha genes to be lord. He tried to get the council of elders to dethrone me, but he was unsuccessful. It is really messed up, Tamia," He said, looked at me and smiled, then looked back at the road.

"I do not want you stressing over my family issues tonight. I want us to have fun," He said and continued to drive.

We talked and laughed about trivial things and soon arrived at Lucland, a beautiful city.

Living in the 'castle' made me forget that we lived in a developed world. It was a bit more developed than Mountain.

We arrived at a club called Grundle. It looked high-class, and I held on to Sylvester and leaned on him

~Tamia-

There was a long line at the entrance, but we were ushered in, skipping the queue.

I noticed some people started complaining, but when they realised who we were, they were quiet and very respectful.

We were ushered to the VIP. The VIP was upstairs and had a dedicated bar.

The sofas were comfortable, and it wasn't crowded.

We had a table and also a great view of the rest of the club on the ground floor.

A DJ was on the stage, and people were getting wild.

There were poles available for people to dance with, and the light was colourful and dim.

I loved the electronic dance music they were playing.

Leo never let me have this kind of fun.

Instead, we attended serious functions and white-collar parties, nothing wild and carefree like this. I liked this.

Sylvester ordered champagne; they brought it with sparklers, which was beautiful.

“Do you want to dance?” Sylvester asked.

“Later, we just got here,” I said, and he nodded.

He ran his finger up my upper arms gently and kissed my shoulder. A moan escaped my lips, and I leaned against him.

He placed his hand around my waist, and we watched the people on the ground floor. Some girls were dancing at the poles, and they were good too.

Avery and Marcel were the first to hit the dancefloor.

Soon, I decided to dance, leaving Linda and Theodore behind.

I hoped she eventually lets up. I knew it was because of fear.

The music was upbeat, and Sylvester and I were in our world on the floor.

He wasn't the Wolf lord; he was simply Sylvester, my boyfriend and I was his naughty girl. 1

When we got tired, we returned to our seats and found that Linda and Theodore were on the floor too. She loosened up a bit, and

Theodore took liberties with her.

Sylvester moved close to me and leaned close to my ear.

“Are you having fun?” he asked, and I turned to look at him.

“Yes,” I said, and he smiled.

“I will try and bring you out more often,” He said, and I nodded. I felt slightly pressed, so I stood up to use the toilet.

I rushed to the toilet and stood in the mirror to fix my make-up.

I was about to close my purse and leave when a red-haired woman walked in.

She was wearing a short white lacy dress. She had hazel eyes and full plump lips. She fixed herself in the mirror and looked at

“You are in the new batch?” She asked me, and I frowned at her.

“I beg your pardon?” I asked, and she turned to face me.

“You came with the wolf Lord. I noticed you might be one of the eastern Lunas they brought here,” she said, and I was silent.

“I do not know you or this Susan Sullivan, and I do not care. The fact that you took the trouble to accost me in the ladies says whatever I have with Sylvester is solid.

Waste your breath elsewhere,” I said and closed my purse.

“Excuse me,” I said, leaving her dumbfounded.

The woman was probably jealous that I had landed the big one. Well, boohoo.

I got to the seat and saw Sylvester in a heated argument with a man. They looked a bit alike, but the guy was older than Sylvester, and he did not wear his hair long. I figured he might be Dominic Volkov, Sylvester’s brother.

I did not know if approaching them was safe, so I stood still.

“You should be ashamed of yourself. Fooling around with eastern whores. They are supposed to be your prisoners. You are supposed to learn about the east and conquer them. Why are you killing father’s dream? The four regions should serve our bloodline. That was how things were before the democracy nonsense. Father was working towards it, which was why he kept prisoners. I have nothing

against you fucking them, but this is going a bit too far,” The man said, and I hid so I could listen to them.

“Mother is highly disappointed in you,

Sylvester. You do not visit her, but you can bring women to the club and fool around. How irresponsible,” Dominic said, and Sylvester was controlling his anger.

“I will have you dethroned. You are too stupid to rule. I watched you for thirty minutes acting a fool on the floor with your whore,” He said, and Sylvester grabbed him by the collar. People moved away immediately.

“Don’t you ever call her that again,” He said through gritted teeth, and his brother laughed.

“You have lost your senses. What happened to finding Susan and bringing her back to be Luna, like Mother and father expected? Instead, you are fooling with a war prisoner. You are a joke.” Dominic said, as I could feel the pressure of Sylvester’s anger. I knew he could do damage.

“Let’s go to him,” Kaira said, and I did not know if it was wise since I was part of the cause. But I went to him regardless and touched his hand.

“Let him go, please,” I linked Sylvester, and his hand shook with rage and pulled his brother close.

“You might be my older brother, but I am your Lord, and I bow to no one. Watch how you address me, Dominic; I won’t take it easy on you next time.” Sylvester said and released him.

The red-haired in the bathroom approached and held Dominic’s hand, and I figured they had planned this.

She had come to get me upset in the bathroom, but she failed woefully at it because I wasn’t an amateur, while Dominic approached Sylvester.

“Mother wants to see you, and do not bring your things close to the house or I won’t be so gentle,” Dominic said and adjusted.

Sylvester laughed and looked at Dominic.

“You can’t do shit. I can be with whoever I want, and as for Bane, I will attend to him when the time comes,” He told his brother calmly, sat down and relaxed on the chair.

The brother looked at me and smiled.

“Do not let him deceive you. You won’t be the first, and neither will you be the last,” He said, and I smiled at him.

“Thank you, sir. I look forward to a wonderful time. It is better than languishing in a cell,” I told him, and he was more shocked than mad.

I did not react the way he wanted me to. Honestly, I did not care. I was having fun, and Sylvester seemed genuine. I was willing to see where it leads to.

I sat down on the chair and leaned against Sylvester.

Dominic tried to approach again, but Marcel and Theodore held him. Sylvester remained calm, but I knew what his brother said bothered him because he knew I heard everything.

Dominic walked away, and Sylvester stood up, ending the night. I could not talk to him because I could sense he was pissed off.

The pressure of his rage was also much, so I remained silent.

We left the club and started heading back to the Volkov Estate.

We drove all the way back in silence and headed straight to the bedroom. I undressed and showered, then wore his t- shirt with nothing under. I could tell he was worried.

He sat at the edge of the bed, and I knelt behind him, wrapped my arms around him, and then kissed his cheeks.

“I trust you, Sylvester. Nothing he said bothered me. I know you, and I wanted this too. Do not let him get to you. He is just jealous, that is all.” I said, and he held my hand and kissed it.

He turned to look at me.

“There won’t be anymore. This is it for me, Tamia. I can feel it down in my soul that you are the one. Please do not let all these people get into your head. I haven’t kept a harem in over three years, and I am not searching for Susan,” He said, and I cupped his face in my palm and kissed his lips.

“I know, Sylvester, I believe you,” I said, and he was silent.

“Let us sleep,” I said, and he obliged.

I woke up in the morning and noticed Sylvester wasn’t in the room. I tried to link him and noticed he wasn’t on the property.

I showered and headed for breakfast.

Everyone was there except for Sylvester. I greeted everyone and went to sit.

“Sylvester had to go and see his mother this morning, because of what happened at the club. It was sudden, and he told me to apologise on his behalf. He will be back tomorrow,” Marcel said, and I frowned.

“Lucland isn’t that far. Why tomorrow?” I asked Marcel.

“Because he always spends the night when he visits her,” Marcel said, and I nodded. It was his mother; I could understand why he would spend time with her.

“By the way, Tamia, I do not know if Sylvester told you anything, but can you tell me about the nature of your relationship with Bane?” Marcel asked, and that was the second time they would ask me a weird question about Bane. First, it was Sylvester, and now Marcel.

“I only met the guy once. We danced at the party, and he asked his beta to take me home,” I said, summing it up.

“Then why will he send an army to retrieve you from here?” He asked, and I was stunned.

“What!” I exclaimed, and even Avery exclaimed too.

“Yes, that attack was because he wanted to rescue you from here. We could understand

Avery's ex-husband wanting Avery back, but we can't understand Bane and you," he said, and I was confused.

"Anyway, I am telling you this because there is a long war between the north and the south. I do not think Sylvester has told you about it, but you can't be affiliated with Bane and Sylvester at the same time. It will be catastrophic. My Alpha cares about you a lot. I wouldn't want him to get hurt emotionally. "He said, looking out for Sylvester.

"Is it because Sylvester did not attack him for murdering his father?" I asked Marcel, and he shook his head.

"No, Tamia. Bane believes he should be the Wolf Lord because he killed the former Lord.

The fight between Bane and Sylvester and the main reason why Bane is trying to gather an army is to take over the North, East and West; I am only telling you this because anyone affiliated with Bane is an enemy of the north," He said, and my hands began to shake because Leo had made an alliance with him. There was no way Marcel was lying.

I was worried for Leo and the entire east.

Avery and Linda did not care, but I cared; Leo was there, and his mate was expecting.

-Sylvester-

The altercation at the club got to me.

I was worried that Tamia would believe Dominic.

She had just come out of a serious heartbreak, so it was normal that she would be guarded.

I wanted the evening to be fun and an experience for Tamia, but they ruined it.

I respected how Tamia took it, but Dominic was wrong, and I was determined to put him in his place.

When Tamia wrapped her arms around me and told me she trusted me, I was relieved and determined never to break that trust.

I might not have confessed my feelings, but I wasn't confused about them.

I was sure, and I could see it in her eyes too. Loving her will be easy.

I woke up very early to go and see my mother in Lucland. I could not disregard the summon.

Although I was not enthusiastic about it because I would see Dominic, I had to see my mother.

I got out of bed, and looked at Tamia sleeping peacefully in my t-shirt.

I was tempted to wake her up and make love to her before leaving, but I decided against it last minute.

I knew she might be tired and needed her energy. So I kissed her gently and went to get ready to leave.

I needed to arrive at Lucland for breakfast. I hoped I wouldn't have to spend the night there so I could come home to Tamia.

Our relationship was new and young; distance and time apart won't help it blossom.

I dressed quietly and headed out of the house. I linked Marcel on my way out.

"Hey, I am on my way to visit my mother. I didn't tell Tamia I was going out; please apologise on my behalf and tell her where I went," I linked him.

"Alright, she is in good hands," he assured me, and I thanked him.

I left the estate feeling giddy.

I haven't been in a serious relationship since Susan, but what I had with Tamia, however short, was mature and real.

She understood me. Knew when to act, how to act and speak. She was strong and determined. She was resilient and wise. She was perfect.

I drove with a smile, remembering all we did yesterday. Her moans, her response, her grinding against me in the club, and even her responses to Dominic.

I arrived at our house in Lucland, and I was in time for breakfast.

I entered the room and greeted my mother. She did not respond, and I knew Dominic must have told her shit because she was mad.

Dominic wasn't with her.

"Mother?" I said and went to sit next to her.

I served myself a glass of juice, and she looked at me.

"I thought you wouldn't come," She said, and I kissed the top of her head, but her countenance made me sense she was angry.

I sat beside her and served my food, bracing myself for the coming argument.

“Look at where I live.” She finally spoke, and I frowned at her.

“I was Luna of the north, wife of the wolf lord, and now I live in a duplex because of Bane. Instead of you hunting him down, you are busy fooling around with the whores you took from the east,” She said, and I balled my fist.

“When did you lose your way, Sylvester? Did I not raise you right? What happened to your sense of duty and leadership? What happened to your morales?” She asked, and I was silent.

“Mother, why do you always take his side?” I asked her, and tears welled up in her eyes.

“Because Dominic is responsible. Because he knows and understands my pain. I am alone, Sylvester, because of Bane,” She said, and I shook my head.

“Don’t speak like this; you have Dominic and me,” I said, and she shook her head.

“I have no one,” She said, and I sighed.

“Mother, father did this, and you know it. You say you feel alone? What about all the Alphas he stripped of their lunas for no reason? Children that grew up without their mothers? What about all the Alphas he killed and left their Lunas without companions because he felt he deserved to rule the world? What about them? Does their happiness not matter? Who got justice for them? Father got what he deserved,” I said, and she slapped me.

“How dare you? If I didn’t give birth to you, I would have called you a bastard,” she said, and I stood up.

“Where do you think you are going?” She asked me, and I controlled my temper.

“Home. I can’t do this,” I said, and she held me, digging her claws into my skin.

“You dare not walk out on me,” She said through gritted teeth.

“What have you achieved for the north since you became lord?” She asked me.

“You have not expanded our land or increased our wealth. The north depends on old glory, and you are proud of yourself?” She said, and I balled my fist.

“Why haven’t you taken over the east? Instead, you and your officers are bedding their whores and taking them to nightclubs. Where is your head? No one is saying you shouldn’t screw your prisoners, but getting emotionally involved is out of the question. Your father screwed a lot of prisoners, and he did it to further his cause.” She said, and I started laughing.

“He didn’t have to screw them to further his cause. He was just a sick man,” I said, and she tried to slap me again, but I caught her hand this time around.

“Don’t do that again,” I told her, and she dropped her hand.

“I want you to step down as lord for your brother. You can be Alpha but not the wolf lord,” She said calmly, and I started to laugh.

“You have no power or right to ask that of Do not push my patience, mother,” I told her, and just then, Dominic walked in.

“Or else what, Sylvester?” he said, picking up an apple from the kitchen Island and biting into it. He was dressed to go out.

“You have turned the family name into a joke. Bane sent his soldiers to get his bitch. from you, yet you haven’t retaliated,” he said and wondered how he got that information.

“You are weak,” he said, and I laughed.

“Says the man that went to war and lost,” I said, and he became mad.

“You can never be me, Dominic. I will go after Bane when I see fit,” I said, and my mother looked at me.

“Bane’s woman is in your care?” She said with a wicked smile.

“I do not have Bane’s woman in my care,” I told her.

“Whatever you say, but it seems this person was important enough for him to send kappas to attack and retrieve her. Tamia

Albert, they say,” He said, and my eyes widened.

“We can use her,” My mother said, and I pulled away from her.

I was getting to my limits.

“I almost died, and she saved my life. She fought and killed her own people to save my life. She could have gone with them, and I wouldn’t have been able to stop her, but she fought on my side. Risking her life,” I told my mother, and she looked at me for a while, studying me.

“I have never cared about anyone the way I care about her, and the feeling is mutual. Do not make me choose because I will choose her, mother,” I said, and her eyes widened.

“An alpha’s left over. Used goods. Trash that was given up as a tribute,” Dominic said, and I smiled.

“Well, your information is wrong. Her husband did not give her up. She gave herself up to save his life. He would have died trying to protect her. It took a lot for him to release her. She has that effect,” I said, and Dominic laughed.

“Of course she does, she is hot, and her slut meter is high,” he said, biting his apple. I looked at my mother, getting impatient.

“Was this why you asked me to come?” I asked her, getting ready to leave.

“I have told you why I called you. I am asking you to step down as lord, and save this family from any more embarrassment,” she said, and I laughed.

“If it ever comes to that, know that my officers and I won’t be fighting for Dominic.

He will have to get his team and lead his war, “I warned her. I wasn’t planning on stepping down, but I wanted her to know what would happen if I had to.

“Dominic, Leave us,” My mother said sternly, and my brother fiddled with his car keys and left the house.

My mother led me to the living and asked me to sit down.

“Bane cannot be trusted; he will come after you,” She said, looking more worried than the brave face she tried to front.

“I can’t lose you like I lost Marius,” She said.

“That bastard wants to take over the world; we have to beat him to it, Sylvester, or he will be worse than your father. Your father will be an angel compared to that sick bastard,” She said, and I understood her fear.

“This woman, are you sure she isn’t his spy?” “She asked me with fear and concern.

“I am sure. She said they met at a party and danced, and that was all,” I said, and she shook her head.

“You need to dig deeper, Sylvester. You don’t meet someone once and risk a war for them. She is not being totally honest with you. You need to be careful and investigate. her. She might be lying to you out of fear or something else. I do not want anyone to cause your downfall,” She said and gently touched my cheeks.

“Please, investigate. This woman isn’t telling the truth. Just think about it,” She pleaded with me.

Even though my mother was right, I believed Tamia. I doubt she would lie about something like that. I knew it was odd that he would risk a war for someone he had only met once. I planned on questioning her gently about it, just so I would know what to do and how to approach the matter.

“I will dig into it,” I told my mother, and she smiled.

“That is good enough for me,” She said, relaxing and smiling at me.

“Soon, you won’t fool around with your prisoners anymore. I am trying to get you at suitable Luna from the north. A virgin, to be precise,” She said, smiling.

“I am not interested,” I told her, and she frowned.

“You can’t remain single all your life. Your father had Dominic at your age. You need an heir and a luna.” She said, and I nodded.

“I am working on it,” I said, and she became angry, understanding what I had just said.

“You cannot make a prisoner Luna. She is tainted and old. You need someone young..” She said, and I interrupted her.

“I am tainted and old too. I am not a virgin, and I am twenty-nine, mother, so we are a perfect fit,” I said, and she shook her head but held her peace because she knew she couldn’t win.

“I will wait for you to get her out of your system,” She said, leaning back in her chair.

“Then you will be waiting a long time,” I said and stood up.

“What are you doing?” She asked me, and I sighed.

“Leaving,” I said.

“Why?” She asked, and I sighed.

“I left a woman I am crazy about in bed and came to spend time with you. Since I got here, the reception hasn’t been warm. You have done nothing but berate me and insult my intelligence and choice. You insulted the very woman that made my heart start beating again, and tried to make her look like shit. If I stay any longer, you might end up saying things that will ruin our relationship, mother. Since you can’t be grateful that I am happy and have a reason to be hopeful and smile again, I have no reason to remain here,” I said, and she became sad.

“Please stay; I promise I won’t repeat anything bad about your girlfriend. I really missed you. We do not have to fight about it,” she said, and I looked at her critically.

“In fact, you know what, I want to meet her,” She said, and I shook my head immediately, knowing how it would end.

Although Tamia was strong, I wouldn't want anyone getting into her head or pushing her.

"No funny business, I promise. I will love to meet her. All I know of her is what your brother told me. I would like to make my observation unbiased," She said, and I knew she wouldn't drop it, so I nodded and sat down.

"I will think about it," I said, and she shook her head.

"No, do it," She said, and I did not respond.

"Does she have children?" She asked, and I shook my head.

"Never been pregnant, and before you judge her, there is nothing wrong with her. She married at nineteen, and her husband wanted them to take precautions because he wasn't ready." I quickly explained.

"So you mean they have been careful for five years?" She asked, and I nodded.

"That is really stupid of the Alpha," She said, and we both agreed and laughed at that.

"I see you care about her. I will try to like her, my mother said.

All her anger dissipated. I knew Dominic got into her head and made her say all that nonsense. She was lucky that even though I am the Wolf lord, I was patient and loved her dearly. I had no choice but to let it go. She was my mother, after all.

Chapter 22 - The Destiny of a Heart-broken Luna

~Tamia-

There was a long line at the entrance, but we were ushered in, skipping the queue.

I noticed some people started complaining, but when they realised who we were, they were quiet and very respectful.

We were ushered to the VIP. The VIP was upstairs and had a dedicated bar.

The sofas were comfortable, and it wasn't crowded.

We had a table and also a great view of the rest of the club on the ground floor.

A DJ was on the stage, and people were getting wild.

There were poles available for people to dance with, and the light was colourful and dim.

I loved the electronic dance music they were playing.

Leo never let me have this kind of fun.

Instead, we attended serious functions and white-collar parties, nothing wild and carefree like this. I liked this.

Sylvester ordered champagne; they brought it with sparklers, which was beautiful.

“Do you want to dance?” Sylvester asked.

“Later, we just got here,” I said, and he nodded.

He ran his finger up my upper arms gently and kissed my shoulder. A moan escaped my lips, and I leaned against him.

He placed his hand around my waist, and we watched the people on the ground floor. Some girls were dancing at the poles, and they were good too.

Avery and Marcel were the first to hit the dancefloor.

Soon, I decided to dance, leaving Linda and Theodore behind.

I hoped she eventually lets up. I knew it was because of fear.

The music was upbeat, and Sylvester and I were in our world on the floor.

He wasn't the Wolf lord; he was simply Sylvester, my boyfriend and I was his naughty girl. 1

When we got tired, we returned to our seats and found that Linda and Theodore were on the floor too. She loosened up a bit, and

Theodore took liberties with her.

Sylvester moved close to me and leaned close to my ear.

“Are you having fun?” he asked, and I turned to look at him.

“Yes,” I said, and he smiled.

“I will try and bring you out more often,” He said, and I nodded. I felt slightly pressed, so I stood up to use the toilet.

I rushed to the toilet and stood in the mirror to fix my make-up.

I was about to close my purse and leave when a red-haired woman walked in.

She was wearing a short white lacy dress. She had hazel eyes and full plump lips. She fixed herself in the mirror and looked at

“You are in the new batch?” She asked me, and I frowned at her.

“I beg your pardon?” I asked, and she turned to face me.

“You came with the wolf Lord. I noticed you might be one of the eastern Lunas they brought here,” she said, and I was silent.

“I do not know you or this Susan Sullivan, and I do not care. The fact that you took the trouble to accost me in the ladies says whatever I have with Sylvester is solid.

Waste your breath elsewhere,” I said and closed my purse.

“Excuse me,” I said, leaving her dumbfounded.

The woman was probably jealous that I had landed the big one. Well, boohoo.

I got to the seat and saw Sylvester in a heated argument with a man. They looked a bit alike, but the guy was older than Sylvester, and he did not wear his hair long. I figured he might be Dominic Volkov, Sylvester’s brother.

I did not know if approaching them was safe, so I stood still.

“You should be ashamed of yourself. Fooling around with eastern whores. They are supposed to be your prisoners. You are supposed to learn about the east and conquer them. Why are you killing father’s dream? The four regions should serve our bloodline. That was how things were before the democracy nonsense. Father was working towards it, which was why he kept prisoners. I have nothing

against you fucking them, but this is going a bit too far,” The man said, and I hid so I could listen to them.

“Mother is highly disappointed in you,

Sylvester. You do not visit her, but you can bring women to the club and fool around. How irresponsible,” Dominic said, and Sylvester was controlling his anger.

“I will have you dethroned. You are too stupid to rule. I watched you for thirty minutes acting a fool on the floor with your whore,” He said, and Sylvester grabbed him by the collar. People moved away immediately.

“Don’t you ever call her that again,” He said through gritted teeth, and his brother laughed.

“You have lost your senses. What happened to finding Susan and bringing her back to be Luna, like Mother and father expected? Instead, you are fooling with a war prisoner. You are a joke.” Dominic said, as I could feel the pressure of Sylvester’s anger. I knew he could do damage.

“Let’s go to him,” Kaira said, and I did not know if it was wise since I was part of the cause. But I went to him regardless and touched his hand.

“Let him go, please,” I linked Sylvester, and his hand shook with rage and pulled his brother close.

“You might be my older brother, but I am your Lord, and I bow to no one. Watch how you address me, Dominic; I won’t take it easy on you next time.” Sylvester said and released him.

The red-haired in the bathroom approached and held Dominic’s hand, and I figured they had planned this.

She had come to get me upset in the bathroom, but she failed woefully at it because I wasn’t an amateur, while Dominic approached Sylvester.

“Mother wants to see you, and do not bring your things close to the house or I won’t be so gentle,” Dominic said and adjusted.

Sylvester laughed and looked at Dominic.

“You can’t do shit. I can be with whoever I want, and as for Bane, I will attend to him when the time comes,” He told his brother calmly, sat down and relaxed on the chair.

The brother looked at me and smiled.

“Do not let him deceive you. You won’t be the first, and neither will you be the last,” He said, and I smiled at him.

“Thank you, sir. I look forward to a wonderful time. It is better than languishing in a cell,” I told him, and he was more shocked than mad.

I did not react the way he wanted me to. Honestly, I did not care. I was having fun, and Sylvester seemed genuine. I was willing to see where it leads to.

I sat down on the chair and leaned against Sylvester.

Dominic tried to approach again, but Marcel and Theodore held him. Sylvester remained calm, but I knew what his brother said bothered him because he knew I heard everything.

Dominic walked away, and Sylvester stood up, ending the night. I could not talk to him because I could sense he was pissed off.

The pressure of his rage was also much, so I remained silent.

We left the club and started heading back to the Volkov Estate.

We drove all the way back in silence and headed straight to the bedroom. I undressed and showered, then wore his t-shirt with nothing under. I could tell he was worried.

He sat at the edge of the bed, and I knelt behind him, wrapped my arms around him, and then kissed his cheeks.

“I trust you, Sylvester. Nothing he said bothered me. I know you, and I wanted this too. Do not let him get to you. He is just jealous, that is all.” I said, and he held my hand and kissed it.

He turned to look at me.

“There won’t be anymore. This is it for me, Tamia. I can feel it down in my soul that you are the one. Please do not let all these people get into your head. I haven’t kept a harem in over three years, and I am not searching for Susan,” He said, and I cupped his face in my palm and kissed his lips.

“I know, Sylvester, I believe you,” I said, and he was silent.

“Let us sleep,” I said, and he obliged.

I woke up in the morning and noticed Sylvester wasn’t in the room. I tried to link him and noticed he wasn’t on the property.

I showered and headed for breakfast.

Everyone was there except for Sylvester. I greeted everyone and went to sit.

“Sylvester had to go and see his mother this morning, because of what happened at the club. It was sudden, and he told me to apologise on his behalf. He will be back tomorrow,” Marcel said, and I frowned.

“Lucland isn’t that far. Why tomorrow?” I asked Marcel.

“Because he always spends the night when he visits her,” Marcel said, and I nodded. It was his mother; I could understand why he would spend time with her.

“By the way, Tamia, I do not know if Sylvester told you anything, but can you tell me about the nature of your relationship with Bane?” Marcel asked, and that was the second time they would ask me a weird question about Bane. First, it was Sylvester, and now Marcel.

“I only met the guy once. We danced at the party, and he asked his beta to take me home,” I said, summing it up.

“Then why will he send an army to retrieve you from here?” He asked, and I was stunned.

“What!” I exclaimed, and even Avery exclaimed too.

“Yes, that attack was because he wanted to rescue you from here. We could understand

Avery’s ex-husband wanting Avery back, but we can’t understand Bane and you,” he said, and I was confused.

“Anyway, I am telling you this because there is a long war between the north and the south. I do not think Sylvester has told you about it, but you can’t be affiliated with Bane and Sylvester at the same time. It will be catastrophic. My Alpha cares about you a lot. I wouldn’t want him to get hurt emotionally. “He said, looking out for Sylvester.

“Is it because Sylvester did not attack him for murdering his father?” I asked Marcel, and he shook his head.

“No, Tamia. Bane believes he should be the Wolf Lord because he killed the former Lord.

The fight between Bane and Sylvester and the main reason why Bane is trying to gather an army is to take over the North, East and West; I am only telling you this because anyone affiliated with Bane is an enemy of the north,” He said, and my hands began to shake because Leo had made an alliance with him. There was no way Marcel was lying.

I was worried for Leo and the entire east.

Avery and Linda did not care, but I cared; Leo was there, and his mate was expecting.

-Sylvester-

The altercation at the club got to me.

I was worried that Tamia would believe Dominic.

She had just come out of a serious heartbreak, so it was normal that she would be guarded.

I wanted the evening to be fun and an experience for Tamia, but they ruined it.

I respected how Tamia took it, but Dominic was wrong, and I was determined to put him in his place.

When Tamia wrapped her arms around me and told me she trusted me, I was relieved and determined never to break that trust.

I might not have confessed my feelings, but I wasn’t confused about them.

I was sure, and I could see it in her eyes too. Loving her will be easy.

I woke up very early to go and see my mother in Lucland. I could not disregard the summon.

Although I was not enthusiastic about it because I would see Dominic, I had to see my mother.

I got out of bed, and looked at Tamia sleeping peacefully in my t-shirt.

I was tempted to wake her up and make love to her before leaving, but I decided against it last minute.

I knew she might be tired and needed her energy. So I kissed her gently and went to get ready to leave.

I needed to arrive at Lucland for breakfast. I hoped I wouldn't have to spend the night there so I could come home to Tamia.

Our relationship was new and young; distance and time apart won't help it blossom.

I dressed quietly and headed out of the house. I linked Marcel on my way out.

"Hey, I am on my way to visit my mother. I didn't tell Tamia I was going out; please apologise on my behalf and tell her where I went," I linked him.

"Alright, she is in good hands," he assured me, and I thanked him.

I left the estate feeling giddy.

I haven't been in a serious relationship since Susan, but what I had with Tamia, however short, was mature and real.

She understood me. Knew when to act, how to act and speak. She was strong and determined. She was resilient and wise. She was perfect.

I drove with a smile, remembering all we did yesterday. Her moans, her response, her grinding against me in the club, and even her responses to Dominic.

I arrived at our house in Lucland, and I was in time for breakfast.

I entered the room and greeted my mother. She did not respond, and I knew Dominic must have told her shit because she was mad.

Dominic wasn't with her.

"Mother?" I said and went to sit next to her.

I served myself a glass of juice, and she looked at me.

“I thought you wouldn’t come,” She said, and I kissed the top of her head, but her countenance made me sense she was angry.

I sat beside her and served my food, bracing myself for the coming argument.

“Look at where I live.” She finally spoke, and I frowned at her.

“I was Luna of the north, wife of the wolf lord, and now I live in a duplex because of Bane. Instead of you hunting him down, you are busy fooling around with the whores you took from the east,” She said, and I balled my fist.

“When did you lose your way, Sylvester? Did I not raise you right? What happened to your sense of duty and leadership? What happened to your morales?” She asked, and I was silent.

“Mother, why do you always take his side?” I asked her, and tears welled up in her eyes.

“Because Dominic is responsible. Because he knows and understands my pain. I am alone, Sylvester, because of Bane,” She said, and I shook my head.

“Don’t speak like this; you have Dominic and me,” I said, and she shook her head.

“I have no one,” She said, and I sighed.

“Mother, father did this, and you know it. You say you feel alone? What about all the Alphas he stripped of their lunas for no reason? Children that grew up without their mothers? What about all the Alphas he killed and left their Lunas without companions because he felt he deserved to rule the world? What about them? Does their happiness not matter? Who got justice for them? Father got what he deserved,” I said, and she slapped me.

“How dare you? If I didn’t give birth to you, I would have called you a bastard,” she said, and I stood up.

“Where do you think you are going?” She asked me, and I controlled my temper.

“Home. I can’t do this,” I said, and she held me, digging her claws into my skin.

“You dare not walk out on me,” She said through gritted teeth.

“What have you achieved for the north since you became lord?” She asked me.

“You have not expanded our land or increased our wealth. The north depends on old glory, and you are proud of yourself?” She said, and I balled my fist.

“Why haven’t you taken over the east? Instead, you and your officers are bedding their whores and taking them to nightclubs. Where is your head? No one is saying you shouldn’t screw your prisoners, but getting emotionally involved is out of the question. Your father screwed a lot of prisoners, and he did it to further his cause.” She said, and I started laughing.

“He didn’t have to screw them to further his cause. He was just a sick man,” I said, and she tried to slap me again, but I caught her hand this time around.

“Don’t do that again,” I told her, and she dropped her hand.

“I want you to step down as lord for your brother. You can be Alpha but not the wolf lord,” She said calmly, and I started to laugh.

“You have no power or right to ask that of Do not push my patience, mother,” I told her, and just then, Dominic walked in.

“Or else what, Sylvester?” he said, picking up an apple from the kitchen Island and biting into it. He was dressed to go out.

“You have turned the family name into a joke. Bane sent his soldiers to get his bitch. from you, yet you haven’t retaliated,” he said and wondered how he got that information.

“You are weak,” he said, and I laughed.

“Says the man that went to war and lost,” I said, and he became mad.

“You can never be me, Dominic. I will go after Bane when I see fit,” I said, and my mother looked at me.

“Bane’s woman is in your care?” She said with a wicked smile.

“I do not have Bane’s woman in my care,” I told her.

“Whatever you say, but it seems this person was important enough for him to send kappas to attack and retrieve her. Tamia

Albert, they say,” He said, and my eyes widened.

“We can use her,” My mother said, and I pulled away from her.

I was getting to my limits.

“I almost died, and she saved my life. She fought and killed her own people to save my life. She could have gone with them, and I wouldn’t have been able to stop her, but she fought on my side. Risking her life,” I told my mother, and she looked at me for a while, studying me.

“I have never cared about anyone the way I care about her, and the feeling is mutual. Do not make me choose because I will choose her, mother,” I said, and her eyes widened.

“An alpha’s left over. Used goods. Trash that was given up as a tribute,” Dominic said, and I smiled.

“Well, your information is wrong. Her husband did not give her up. She gave herself up to save his life. He would have died trying to protect her. It took a lot for him to release her. She has that effect,” I said, and Dominic laughed.

“Of course she does, she is hot, and her slut meter is high,” he said, biting his apple. I looked at my mother, getting impatient.

“Was this why you asked me to come?” I asked her, getting ready to leave.

“I have told you why I called you. I am asking you to step down as lord, and save this family from any more embarrassment,” she said, and I laughed.

“If it ever comes to that, know that my officers and I won’t be fighting for Dominic.

He will have to get his team and lead his war, “I warned her. I wasn’t planning on stepping down, but I wanted her to know what would happen if I had to.

“Dominic, Leave us,” My mother said sternly, and my brother fiddled with his car keys and left the house.

My mother led me to the living and asked me to sit down.

“Bane cannot be trusted; he will come after you,” She said, looking more worried than the brave face she tried to front.

“I can’t lose you like I lost Marius,” She said.

“That bastard wants to take over the world; we have to beat him to it, Sylvester, or he will be worse than your father. Your father will be an angel compared to that sick bastard,” She said, and I understood her fear.

“This woman, are you sure she isn’t his spy?” “She asked me with fear and concern.

“I am sure. She said they met at a party and danced, and that was all,” I said, and she shook her head.

“You need to dig deeper, Sylvester. You don’t meet someone once and risk a war for them. She is not being totally honest with you. You need to be careful and investigate. her. She might be

lying to you out of fear or something else. I do not want anyone to cause your downfall,” She said and gently touched my cheeks.

“Please, investigate. This woman isn’t telling the truth. Just think about it,” She pleaded with me.

Even though my mother was right, I believed Tamia. I doubt she would lie about something like that. I knew it was odd that he would risk a war for someone he had only met once. I planned on questioning her gently about it, just so I would know what to do and how to approach the matter.

“I will dig into it,” I told my mother, and she smiled.

“That is good enough for me,” She said, relaxing and smiling at me.

“Soon, you won’t fool around with your prisoners anymore. I am trying to get you at suitable Luna from the north. A virgin, to be precise,” She said, smiling.

“I am not interested,” I told her, and she frowned.

“You can’t remain single all your life. Your father had Dominic at your age. You need an heir and a luna.” She said, and I nodded.

“I am working on it,” I said, and she became angry, understanding what I had just said.

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“I will wait for you to get her out of your system,” She said, leaning back in her chair.

“Then you will be waiting a long time,” I said and stood up.

“What are you doing?” She asked me, and I sighed.

“Leaving,” I said.

“Why?” She asked, and I sighed.

“I left a woman I am crazy about in bed and came to spend time with you. Since I got here, the reception hasn’t been warm. You have done nothing but berate me and insult my intelligence and choice. You insulted the very woman that made my heart start beating again, and tried to make her look like shit. If I stay any longer, you might end up saying things that will ruin our relationship, mother. Since you can’t be grateful that I am happy and have a reason to be hopeful and smile again, I have no reason to remain here,” I said, and she became sad.

“Please stay; I promise I won’t repeat anything bad about your girlfriend. I really missed you. We do not have to fight about it,” she said, and I looked at her critically.

“In fact, you know what, I want to meet her,” She said, and I shook my head immediately, knowing how it would end.

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“I will think about it,” I said, and she shook her head.

“No, do it,” She said, and I did not respond.

“Does she have children?” She asked, and I shook my head.

“Never been pregnant, and before you judge her, there is nothing wrong with her. She married at nineteen, and her husband wanted them to take precautions because he wasn’t ready.” I quickly explained.

“So you mean they have been careful for five years?” She asked, and I nodded.

“That is really stupid of the Alpha,” She said, and we both agreed and laughed at that.

“I see you care about her. I will try to like her, my mother said.

All her anger dissipated. I knew Dominic got into her head and made her say all that nonsense. She was lucky that even though I am the Wolf lord, I was patient and loved her dearly. I had no choice but to let it go. She was my mother, after all.

~Tamia~

After breakfast, I felt lost and bored.

Since they brought us to the estate, Sylvester had been around, and I had his attention, so the place felt new and lonely.

Avery and Marcel had things planned, and Linda and Theodore were getting to know each other; I could not inconvenience them.

I returned to our bedroom to think of all that Marcel had told me about Bane, the silent war, and the east.

I was worried for the east. The last thing I wanted was for the east to get caught up in a mess.

I didn't want to stress about it too much, so I decided I would hang out with Katya in the garden.

I knew some of the women in the harem liked to hang out in the garden, so I wore jeans from the new collection of clothes

Sylvester got me, and his t-shirt to surround myself with his scent.

I held the t-shirt to my nose before wearing I headed to the garden in high spirits.

When I got there, most of the women in the harem came to greet me. Katya approached, and we hugged.

"You look stunning in his t-shirt, Tamia," She said, and I smiled at her. I found a place to sit, and some women came to sit around me.

I noticed Lilly from a distance, and she was looking at me with scorn, but I couldn't be bothered.

"Is it official? Are you the new woman in his life?" Katya asked me, and I frowned at her, wondering why she would ask me such a question.

"What do you mean by the new woman?" I asked her, accepting a cup of tea from one of the women.

I made sure I stylishly sniffed it before placing the cup against my tongue to pretend to take a sip, and then I put the cup down. I wasn't stupid to drink something served by women in Sylvester's Harem whom he wasn't screwing.

"I mean, since he kicked Lilly to the curb and all," Katya said, explaining her question, and I laughed. It was clear Lilly did not tell them the truth. I was about to speak when I saw her approaching us.

"See who decided to grace us," She said politely, and I smiled at her.

"I see you did not tell them the truth," I told her, and she shrugged.

"Alpha only said those things to make you happy, Tamia. Who am I to say he is lying? I am just a prisoner of war. If he said he wasn't screwing me so you would feel better, so be it," She said, trying to save face.

"Whatever makes you happy, Lilly," I said, and I noticed that the women had figured out what we were saying.

"So, you mean you have been lying to us all this while?" one woman asked, and Lilly shook her head.

“How can I be lying when we spent long hours in his office and his room?” She said, and I decided to change the topic.

Lilly was clearly ashamed and too embarrassed to own up to the truth. Since we had the same alpha, I could now link her.

“You need to be careful with your lies so he doesn’t find out, Lilly,” I said, and she frowned at me.

“Let us change the topic,” I said to the women and stood up without drinking the tea.

It was my most innovative way of refusing to drink it. I have read a book about back palace politics. I wouldn’t want to be a victim.

“What do you ladies do for fun?” I asked, and Katya stood up.

“Painting, quilting, sewing, embroidery,” She said, and I rolled my eyes.

“I want something that is fun and consumes energy. Don’t get me wrong, those things are relaxing, but I do not want to relax.” I said, and some of the women laughed.

“Croquet, Volleyball,” Katya said, and I beamed at her.

“Now that will be fun. I say we play Volleyball and then wind down with Croquet. I said, and we headed to a field meant for Volleyball. We immediately formed our teams.

The women took off their tunics and gowns, leaving them wearing sexy lacey lingerie. I did the same, and the game was on.

Most of the guards came to watch. It was my team against Lilly’s team, and Katya was on my team. Lilly seemed a bit relaxed because I did not embarrass her as she had thought I would.

I served the ball, and the rest was history.

We had a lot of fun, and the women were genuinely overjoyed.

Soon, makeshift courts were created so that others wouldn’t have to wait too long for their turn.

It was so much fun that Avery joined us, and I looked and saw Marcel standing by.

It was supposed to be their day together since the Beta was always busy. I guess this was part of the fun they were having.

“Alpha won’t be pleased seeing you playing in your underwear outside,” Marcel warned, laughing, and I placed my index finger against my lips.

“Then this will be our secret,” I said.

We had so much fun, and it turned into a party.

When we were tired of playing Volleyball, the guards came to set the place for Croquet.

It took time to set it up, allowing us time to catch our breaths.

While the guards set it up, we relaxed with wine and bite-size treats.

It somehow turned into a party, and I noticed some women were getting comfortable with the officers.

“Is that allowed?” I asked Katya, and she smiled.

“Of course. The Alpha, Beta and Gamma don’t touch us, but we are allowed to date. There are some women who are currently married with children to top officers and ordinary people. I do not know why alpha calls it a harem,” She said, and I hoped she was telling me the truth because I did not want anyone setting me up where Sylvester was concerned.

While they played Croquet, I went to meet Marcel where he was, to ask him if it was okay that the women flirt with the officers, and he nodded. Apparently, everyone was allowed to mingle except for my friends and

Soon it was evening, and we returned to freshen up and eat dinner. I did not want to enter the room because I would miss Sylvester.

The moment I stepped into the room, I felt alone again.

Sylvester had spoiled me with attention and care. I did not know how much until now. I went to the shower and showered in a hurry, then headed for dinner.

Everyone was waiting for me.

The moment I got there, we all started eating.

I felt it was odd that Marcel would wait for me to arrive before eating. Whenever Sylvester wasn’t around, he was the one in command. I took it as a kind gesture, and I was grateful.

After dinner, Linda and Theodore left in a hurry, and I somehow figured they had gone all the way.

Linda didn’t seem uptight with him anymore, and I was happy for her. Kyle was a bastard. I was glad she was moving on.

I hoped Marcel would let Avery hang out with me, but it seemed Avery wanted to be around Marcel instead. I understood, so I let it alone.

I walked back to the room slowly.

Lilly came to me on my way, and I rolled my eyes, bracing myself for her smart mouth. Instead, she hugged me.

“Thank you, Tamia, for not embarrassing me out there,” She said and broke the hug,

“You and alpha look good together; I hope it lasts. Since he disposed of his Harem three years ago, he has been single. You are lucky, She said; I frowned at her.

“Were you here three years ago?” I asked, and she nodded.

“I came a few months before he sent the women he was screwing away. They were five altogether,” she said smiling, and I felt a tinge of jealousy, but it was normal for me to feel that way with how I felt for Sylvester.

“Well, good for them; they are free,” I said, and she shook her head.

“They didn’t want to leave. It was horrible.

He treated them as if they were nothing. It was heart-wrenching to see. Especially Arya, who was crazy about him. We all thought she would be luna with the way he showered her with attention, and the fact that she was from a small pack in the north, but he threw her out as if she was nothing,” She said, and I didn’t want to hear anymore.

“Well, it is none of my business,” I said, and she nodded and placed her hand on my shoulder.

“I am not trying to antagonise you or hurt you. Please do not take this wrongly, but be guarded and be ready to say goodbye. I am only telling you this because you were kind to me today. When he set those women free, he told them they were wasting their time. because he does not plan on ever settling down with anyone,” She said, and I smiled at her and thanked her.

“Well, as for the settling-down part, I have been there, done that, and there is nothing to it. Let us see where this leads. But I am grateful for the heads up.” I said, and she smiled.

I couldn’t tell if she told me those things to hurt or make me feel bad. I was grateful if she was genuinely looking out for me by warning and preparing me. Otherwise, she was wasting her time. I returned to the room, showered and wore Sylvester’s shirt to bed.

It was clear I was sharing his wardrobe.

Who would have thought I would be with the dreaded Wolf Lord? It was an unbelievable turn of events, and the fact that he ended up being sweet, loving and sensitive towards me was amazing. I didn't miss that he wasn't kind to others, and I liked it that way.

"What do you think he is doing?" Kaira asked me, missing Sylvester, and I sighed.

"I do not know, Kaira," I said, and I felt the loneliness down to my soul because Kaira was feeling it too.

"I think I am falling for him," Kaira said, and I smiled.

"We both are," I assured my wolf, and I felt warmth.

"Do you think we have a fated out there?" She asked, using the word I had come to hate.

"Honestly, at this point, I do not care. If Sylvester is true and we ever end up together before he comes, I will reject him," I told my wolf.

"Leo couldn't do it, and he loved us," She pointed out.

"Not enough, apparently. He did not want to be weak. He was being an asshole and selfish," I told her.

"Do you think Sylvester will be different?" She asked, and I could not answer the question. She knew it but asked anyway because it troubled both of us.

"Our emotions are one and the same," She said, and I laughed.

"Do you think he will fall in love with us?" I asked her, and she was silent.

"I wonder if he will ever tell us he loves us, or this is all we will get," I told her.

"It will be nice to hear the rumoured heartless Wolf Lord tell us he loves us. You

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“I wonder if he will ever tell us he loves us, or this is all we will get,” I told her.

“It will be nice to hear the rumoured heartless Wolf Lord tell us he loves us. You know he is a complete contrast to the stories we heard,” She said, and I adjusted in bed and laid on my side, hugging his pillow.

“Let us not be too hopeful, Kaira. We are still war prisoners, and he is the wolf lord. We should take what we get.” I said, smiled and hugged the pillow with his scent tighter. Thanks to our activities, sleep came. Sweet pleasure erupted inside me, and I thought I was dreaming.

I opened my eyes and saw Sylvester between my legs. I was a bit disoriented, and the pleasure he was giving me did not allow my mind to settle.

I began to moan. Losing control of my body and I came. Waking me up completely with a burning desire for him. He moved up to look at my face, and my juices glistened on his lips. He kissed me, and I could taste myself.

“I couldn’t stay away, Tamia,” He said with a breathy voice, and I grabbed onto him and kissed him.

“Good morning, darling,” He said to me, undressing me.

He buried himself in me, and I hoped I wasn’t dreaming. I flipped our positions and decided to show him how well I could ride. He held my hips and guided me.

I was in my world, and soon we both came. simultaneously.

I lay next to him, and he pulled me close and kissed my neck.

“I couldn’t stay away, green eyes. You are becoming an addiction,” He said, and I giggled. I looked at the clock and saw it was two in the morning.

He must have snuck out of his mother’s house. It made me feel important.

“Did you miss me much?” He asked, and I turned to look at him.

“No,” I lied.

He kissed the tip of my nose, and I laughed. He stared at me seriously and intensely.

“Don’t break my heart, Tamia,” He said, and I stopped laughing.

Patting my hair gently, he continued to look at me.

“I am never letting you go,” He said with a firm promise and pulled me close holding me in his arms, and we both fell asleep.

Tamia-

Things got intense between Sylvester and me, and I found myself completely in love. with him.

I was afraid that I would repeat history, but my heart was beyond my control. He knew how to act, what to say and what to He made me feel like the most important person in his world, and I slowly found myself saying, ‘this is it’ but I had said that before, not so long ago, and I came out burnt and broken.

I wasn’t willing to make that jump again. It was a scary situation to be in. I tried to fight my feelings and kept telling myself it was casual.

I tried to think through the situation to guard my heart. The fact that Sylvester and I weren’t fated scared the shit out of me.

Questions of the future plagued my mind. What if she shows up one day just like Amanda? Where will that leave me? He had never told me he loved me. This could be a fun and exciting thing for him.

I scolded myself for catching feelings.

Every day we would wake up, eat, and train together. I let him go and handle his duties, and then we met in the evening and did whatever we liked.

It was fun and scary because I had fallen in love with him.

When I decided to speak to Sylvester about my fears, we were lying on the grass in the western garden, a part of the estate people rarely visited.

“Sylvester,” I said gently; we were lying side by side and looking at the stars that graced the night sky. It was a beautiful sight and a lovely moment. I was afraid that I might ruin it.

“Yes,” he replied, and I exhaled.

“Do you ever let your prisoners go?” I asked him, and he chuckled.

“Which of the prisoner’s, green eyes? The ones in the cell or the trophies?” he asked, making light the question.

“Your trophies,” I asked, and he exhaled too.

“They have nowhere to go back to, I am their Alpha, and they are connected to me; I am not keeping them here as prisoners; they are here because this is their only home for now. They are free to leave, but they only leave if they find love or want to move to Lucland or another part of the north. They are all here of their own volition. I am a lord, not a monster. I expect the women to fall in love eventually and move on. I also know they have needs.” He said.

“Would you ever settle down?” I asked him immediately, and he was silent.

“I am sorry to ask, but I overheard some ladies talking about how you threw out the five women in your harem. They said you told a woman called Arya that you do not plan on settling down. I just want to know if it is true,” I said.

“I am not worried about it. I understand. Coming out of a failed marriage, I can understand, and I am okay where we are; that way, if you find your fated, it would not be an issue,” I said, trying to convince myself more that falling for him was stupid.

He turned to his side to look at me.

“Look at me,” He said, and I did what he asked and made sure my face bore no emotions.

“I indeed said those things, and I meant them, Tamia. As the lord of the north with a pending war, I doubt I would want to tie any woman down. It was my way of setting them free and making them forget about me,” He said, and his words hurt because it seemed as if his mindset had not changed.

“As for my fated, I do not care about that shit, Tamia. I make my destiny. I do not care what the stars say. I won’t lose my shit or betray a woman that has been there for me. through thick and thin, because fate said so. I will reject her in a heartbeat and risk being weak,” He said, and I smiled at him. Having been there, I knew it was easier said than done.

He touched my face gently and smiled.

“I am not Leo, Tamia,” he said, and I nodded, but my eyes were already welling up with tears because I was a fool all over again. I had fallen completely in love with someone that did not plan on having anything serious with me.

“I am nothing like my father. My trophies are not prisoners: they are free, but I won’t let you go, Tamia. You aren’t a prisoner here, and you aren’t a trophy; you are my woman,” he said, and I smiled at him, but tears were threatening to fall at that moment.

He sat up and asked me to do the same. Then he pulled me close and crashed his lips on mine,

“I want to make love to the woman I love under the stars,” he said, tugging on my clothes gently, and I could not believe he had used the word ‘love’ with me. He moved from my lips to my neck.

“I can’t wait to claim you as mine, Tamia,” he linked me, sucking on the spot on my neck, and my body came apart; he moved to the crook of my neck and opened my blouse. to expose my breasts.

“You aren’t my trophy, Tamia. Never compare yourself to them,” He linked me and sucked my nipples one at a time. He sucked while he rubbed the other between his thumb and index finger.

I had started moaning, and he growled with approval.

He rolled down my panties and spread my legs wide. I laid back down on the grass, looking at the stars while he ate me.

“Sylvester,” I moaned, my vision blurry and my heart racing fast.

Please let this be it; I prayed while I writhed, moaning in pleasure, running my fingers through his hair and anticipating the release.

All my senses were alive, and I felt the release coming through. I let go, and it erupted inside me.

He did not stop until I came down.

Then he leaned over me and stared into my eyes.

“I wasn’t joking when I said this is it, Tamia, I love you,” He said, knowing what had troubled my heart all along and drove himself into me before I could say anything, making love to me under the stars.

“This is it for me, Tamia,” He said, pumping gently but hitting the right spot.

Soon he sat up and pulled me up. I came on top, hugging him and riding. He held me and my body responded to him.

My speed became faster because an orgasm was coming, and soon it erupted again. He stilled and released into me. He held me, his head against my chest.

“I am never letting go. I love you,” He said and looked at me.

I had tears of fear in my eyes, fear that fate might take him from me, so I held on to my confession of love, never speaking the words that might doom me again, and my lips quivered.

“You have nothing to worry about with me, Tamia. You won’t lose me to anyone, not even a fated. I won’t do what Leo did to you. I promise. Your heart and love are too precious for me to throw away because fate says so. I am begging you to trust me and love me without reserve,” he said. I searched his eyes, and they were sincere, but so were Leo’s until, the day he saw Amanda.

“Don’t make promises you can’t keep,” I said to him, my hands and knees shaking.

“I don’t. I know I will keep this one,” he breathed in my scent.

“Until you, I did not think my heart would ever beat for anyone or I would ever feel this way, but you have made what seemed impossible possible. I want you to trust me and take this leap with me, please. Open up one more time. I know it is a lot to ask for, but I am asking you to give me a chance,” he said to me, and in those moments, I threw caution to the wind because who was I fooling? My heart was already invested deep in what we had; I might as well go all in. I

“I love you too, Sylvester,” I said to him, “please do not damage what is left of my heart. I doubt I will survive another rejection. I will always be with you and never leave, even if there is an opportunity to do so, I am with you by choice, and I am giving you my heart by choice. If ever fate interferes with what we have, I will let him go in a heartbeat because I choose you, but please, Sylvester, do not let me down. Do not make me share, and do not make me regret this,” I pleaded with him, and he held me.

“I am ready to go all the way with you, Tamia; settle down and have children. I want to build a life with you, and I hope you will let me.” He said, pleading with me, and I nodded.

I wanted those things, too; although fate had robbed me greatly, I still wanted those things.

“Don’t ever listen to rumours and equate yourself to the people of my past. What we have is different. It is unique and new,” he said, and I nodded.

He kissed me and made love to me under the stars. My heart was lifted that night, and my worries dissipated, but fate still scared me. because I feared what it might have in store for me.

~Tamia-

Sylvester finally asked me to follow him to Lucland to meet his mother. After meeting Dominic at the club, I wasn’t looking forward to the meeting.

I learned the woman was strict and had her sons on a tight leash.

Even though Sylvester had confessed his feelings for me, what if she did not approve of me?

I was scared, but since Sylvester insisted and told me I had nothing to worry about, I decided to take him up on it.

We ate breakfast in our room and prepared to leave.

Linda was the most worried for me because there were only two things that could happen; she could either be unreasonable and ask her son to choose between her and me, or give me a chance. I hoped she would give me a chance.

Leo did not have parents when we got together, so this was new for me. We got dressed to visit his mother.

On our way out, Silvester stopped.

“Marcel needs me for a minute. Do you think you can wait for me? The matter seems urgent; it is about Bane and the East,” he said, and I was a bit worried because of Leo.

“Link me when you are ready to leave,” I told him, and he nodded. I decided to go to Avery’s room. I found Avery in her room, embroidering a piece of fabric. It looked horrible, but it seemed to be her new

pastime. I had not seen her that morning because we didn’t eat in the dining room.

“Hey, you guys haven’t left yet?” She said, putting down the hoop that held the scarf she was marring with her needlework.

I noticed a diamond ring on her finger, and she smiled at me.

“He proposed an hour ago. I did not think about it; I just said yes,” She said, smiling with tears in her eyes.

“I can’t get it wrong twice now, can I?” She said, and I could hear the nervousness in her voice. She was afraid.

“Why did you say yes?” I asked her, picking up on her fear.

“Because I love him, and it will be great to have a life with him, but deep down, I am scared fated will show up and mess me up again,” She said, and I went to hug her. She pulled away and nodded, wiping away her tears.

I now understood why she was in her room working on an embroidery hoop instead of socialising in the eastern garden as usual.

“I have to take this leap of faith, or I might keep guessing and live with regrets. Marcel is a great guy and a great catch. He is a step up from that arsehole, Max. This is a good thing,” she said, wiping her tears.

“Feeling afraid and being happy at the same time is a weird mix of emotions,” She confessed, and I smiled.

“Has Sylvester told you what is happening in the east?” She asked, changing the topic, and I shook my head.

“We were heading out when Marcel called him for a meeting about Bane and the east, I told her, and she nodded.

“That bastard,” She said, and I wondered why she was pissed.

“Bane has successfully divided the east. Leo isn’t in full control of the East anymore. A part of the East has joined the south. I also learned he might go to war against Leo to take over the East completely. I just picked bits of Marcel’s conversation. I am sure Sylvester will tell you what is going on in case I heard wrong,” She said, and I was in shock.

How could the Eastern Alphas allow Bane to use them like this? I was worried. I hoped Leo was getting all the help he needed to push back. It was one thing to willingly join up; it was another to be forced into it.

I sat nervously in Avery’s room for almost two hours and decided to return to my room. I wasn’t in the mood to hang out in the garden. “Where are you?” I linked Sylvester.

“Still in the meeting,” he said, and I felt bored. I sat and prayed for Leo’s safety. Eventually, I got tired of waiting and fell asleep.

LATER THAT DAY.

I woke up to a commotion in the corridor.

I looked out the window, and it was evening.

I wondered what was happening. Sylvester did not return.

The meeting had taken all day. What was happening?

Some guards entered my room, and I sat up in bed, worried because they were northern guards. No one had ever barged into Sylvester’s room like this before.

“Sylvester”, I linked Sylvester but met silence which meant he was not around. To my surprise, Dominic walked in, looking angry.

“Bind the bitch; she has questions to answer, ” he said, and Kaira began to growl.

“It will be in your best interest to comply, or your actions might be seen as treason”, he warned me, and I looked at him angrily.

“Does Sylvester know about this?” I asked him, and he did not care.

“I do not need his permission to question a prisoner. Fucking him does not change what you are here. A crime has been committed, and we require your full cooperation to solve it,” he said, then the guards clamped the silver cuffs around my wrist.

“What happened? At least I deserve to know what happened.” I said while the guards dragged me out of the room.

“You will find out during questioning,” Dominic said, and I tried to link Marcel and Theodore, but they were not around too.

“What has happened to Sylvester?” I asked, afraid something had happened to him, and Dominic stopped and slapped me on the face.

“You should not speak his name. He is lord of the north, whore!” he growled. What had happened to make him like this?

“He trusted you. I warned him. Our mother was attacked today and is currently fighting for her life. She was attacked in the afternoon, and she was in the company of one of a council elder. Unfortunately, the

elder did not make it. The surviving warriors identified the men as a mix of eastern and southern mercenaries. I know you are affiliated with Bane, so the council wants us to question the newcomers, especially you. Bane had dared to attack twice now since you got here. It must mean something,” He said to me, and I felt it was ridiculous.

“We have all sworn to serve the Alpha,” I said, avoiding mentioning Sylvester’s name.

“How can we work against him? Why should we pay for Bane’s crimes?” I asked, and he looked at me with rage in his eyes.

“I will tell you why. I warned my brother to be careful with you, but he wouldn’t listen. Too bad I am here to help him think when he is carried away. Since our father was murdered, our mother has hidden in Lucland successfully without event. You are the first outsider to know she lives in Lucland, and then this happened. I also won’t forget that Bane had tried to take you from the north. You were supposed to visit her today; they might have as well come to get you and decided to do some damage when they did not find you there,” he said, and my eyes widened at his wicked angle. Putting things that way made me seem suspicious.

“I won’t say anything until I see my alpha,” I said, and he turned to look at me and slapped me again.

“You will afford me the same respect. I have permission from the council to use force if necessary. I would not want to damage my brother’s toy. Do not push me,” he said, and I remained silent, knowing this was a difficult situation. As much as I hated Dominic, I could not dispute the fact that he had a point. I was carried to a cell and locked up.

Soon Avery and Linda were thrown into the same cell with me. Linda had a bleeding nose, so I figured she resisted. We were too many for them to afford private cells.

Other women that were brought from the East were locked up, too; some were bound in silver chains and made to sit on the floor because the cells were full.

“This is highly unfair. After swearing to serve the north, they still treat us as prisoners,” Avery retorted, and I nodded.

“Let us wait for Sylvester to return. I am sure he will put Dominic in his place,” I told

Avery, and she shook her head.

“I doubt it is that simple. If the council is backing Dominic on this, then Sylvester would have to allow the investigation to run its course,” she said, telling me something I already knew.

“Why did Bane attack their mother and kill a council member?” I asked Avery, and she frowned at me.

“There is a war, remember?” She said, and I shook my head.

“There is nothing substantial to gain from that,” I said, and Linda shook her head.

“He could destabilise the lord and the north. If she dies, Sylvester might act irrationally, giving Bane the opportunity he wants,” Linda said, and I shook my head.

“It still doesn’t sound Like Bane’s mode of operation. I think someone did this to make it seem like Bane,” I said.

“It doesn’t matter; we will still have to answer questions. I wished we had something useful to give,” Avery said, knowing what happened to prisoners that were useless, and we sat there.

No one attended to us. We spent the night there.

“Who gave you the right to barge in here and do this!” I heard Sylvester’s voice. He was livid. I had woken up from sleep in the cell they kept us

“So what if Bane attacked mother? Does that mean you should take it out on Tamia, Avery and Linda and the innocent women from the East? What crime did they commit here?” He asked, and I heard Dominic’s voice.

“The Council gave the order. I am just carrying it out,” Dominic said, trying to justify his actions. I could hear a tinge of fear in his voice too. Sylvester was outraged. We all felt it.

“You are just being malicious. You could have as well asked them whatever question you wanted to ask without degrading them like this. You wanted to hurt them, and I do not know why,” Sylvester said.

“Degrade them? They are prisoners. They should be in a cell and not in your bed,” and I heard a punch, and then there was an uproar. Sylvester was beating his brother up.

“Please stop; I am fine,” I linked him quickly. I did not know if it worked, but the unrest stopped. I heard footsteps, and then I saw Sylvester in front of our cell.

“Open it!” he yelled at the guard, and the guard was so afraid that he dropped the key twice before opening the cell.

“They will have to answer the council’s questions,” I heard Dominic say.

“When that time comes, it will be done with respect,” Sylvester said, and as soon as the cell was opened, he rushed towards me and carried me out of the cell.

I honestly wanted to walk, so I made him put me down. He was afraid and worried.

“I am not mad at you,” I said so he could relax.

Avery and Linda were ushered out.

“I am sorry I did not return on time,” Sylvester pleaded with me, and I told him it was okay.

He asked me if they had hit me, and I lied that they didn’t. The last thing I wanted was for Sylvester to go berserk and beat his brother.

“What happened?” I finally asked him while we walked towards the room.

“My mother’s home was attacked. She was injured while a council member was killed. Bane soldiers left a message demanding I send you to him,” He said, and I was stunned.

Dominic’s anger made sense.

Why will Bane do something like this? What was his deal?

“So he knew where your mother lived all along?” I asked, and Sylvester looked at me and searched my eyes.

“That is the second issue. No one knows where my mother lives except the council members, my brother, and me. It was a surprise that Bane knew to attack there and also knew we would be visiting,” Sylvester said. I realised the situation was a puzzle.

It was either Bane had an informant and knew more than Sylvester thought he knew, or the attack wasn’t Bane but was made to seem like it. I dared not say these things but hoped they would solve it soon.

“How is your mother?” I asked.

“She is out of the woods and healing nicely,” he said.

He stopped to open the door, and I walked in.

“Do not worry about the council or my brother, Tamia. He is just an arsehole. You have nothing to prove to anyone. Marcel and Theodore are already investigating the incident,” He told me, and I nodded.

This development also meant I won’t see his mother anytime soon.

Chapter 23 - The Destiny of a Heart-broken Luna

-Sylvester-

The altercation at the club got to me.

I was worried that Tamia would believe Dominic.

She had just come out of a serious heartbreak, so it was normal that she would be guarded.

I wanted the evening to be fun and an experience for Tamia, but they ruined it.

I respected how Tamia took it, but Dominic was wrong, and I was determined to put him in his place.

When Tamia wrapped her arms around me and told me she trusted me, I was relieved and determined never to break that trust.

I might not have confessed my feelings, but I wasn’t confused about them.

I was sure, and I could see it in her eyes too. Loving her will be easy.

I woke up very early to go and see my mother in Lucland. I could not disregard the summon.

Although I was not enthusiastic about it because I would see Dominic, I had to see my mother.

I got out of bed, and looked at Tamia sleeping peacefully in my t-shirt.

I was tempted to wake her up and make love to her before leaving, but I decided against it last minute.

I knew she might be tired and needed her energy. So I kissed her gently and went to get ready to leave.

I needed to arrive at Lucland for breakfast. I hoped I wouldn't have to spend the night there so I could come home to Tamia.

Our relationship was new and young; distance and time apart won't help it blossom.

I dressed quietly and headed out of the house. I linked Marcel on my way out.

"Hey, I am on my way to visit my mother. I didn't tell Tamia I was going out; please apologise on my behalf and tell her where I went," I linked him.

"Alright, she is in good hands," he assured me, and I thanked him.

I left the estate feeling giddy.

I haven't been in a serious relationship since Susan, but what I had with Tamia, however short, was mature and real.

She understood me. Knew when to act, how to act and speak. She was strong and determined. She was resilient and wise. She was perfect.

I drove with a smile, remembering all we did yesterday. Her moans, her response, her grinding against me in the club, and even her responses to Dominic.

I arrived at our house in Lucland, and I was in time for breakfast.

I entered the room and greeted my mother. She did not respond, and I knew Dominic must have told her shit because she was mad.

Dominic wasn't with her.

"Mother?" I said and went to sit next to her.

I served myself a glass of juice, and she looked at me.

"I thought you wouldn't come," She said, and I kissed the top of her head, but her countenance made me sense she was angry.

I sat beside her and served my food, bracing myself for the coming argument.

"Look at where I live." She finally spoke, and I frowned at her.

"I was Luna of the north, wife of the wolf lord, and now I live in a duplex because of Bane. Instead of you hunting him down, you are busy fooling around with the whores you took from the east," She said, and I balled my fist.

"When did you lose your way, Sylvester? Did I not raise you right? What happened to your sense of duty and leadership? What happened to your morales?" She asked, and I was silent.

"Mother, why do you always take his side?" I asked her, and tears welled up in her eyes.

"Because Dominic is responsible. Because he knows and understands my pain. I am alone, Sylvester, because of Bane," She said, and I shook my head.

"Don't speak like this; you have Dominic and me," I said, and she shook her head.

"I have no one," She said, and I sighed.

"Mother, father did this, and you know it. You say you feel alone? What about all the Alphas he stripped of their lunas for no reason? Children that grew up without their mothers? What about all the Alphas he killed and left their Lunas without companions because he felt he deserved to rule the world? What about them? Does their happiness not matter? Who got justice for them? Father got what he deserved," I said, and she slapped me.

"How dare you? If I didn't give birth to you, I would have called you a bastard," she said, and I stood up.

"Where do you think you are going?" She asked me, and I controlled my temper.

“Home. I can’t do this,” I said, and she held me, digging her claws into my skin.

“You dare not walk out on me,” She said through gritted teeth.

“What have you achieved for the north since you became lord?” She asked me.

“You have not expanded our land or increased our wealth. The north depends on old glory, and you are proud of yourself?” She said, and I balled my fist.

“Why haven’t you taken over the east? Instead, you and your officers are bedding their whores and taking them to nightclubs. Where is your head? No one is saying you shouldn’t screw your prisoners, but getting emotionally involved is out of the question. Your father screwed a lot of prisoners, and he did it to further his cause.” She said, and I started laughing.

“He didn’t have to screw them to further his cause. He was just a sick man,” I said, and she tried to slap me again, but I caught her hand this time around.

“Don’t do that again,” I told her, and she dropped her hand.

“I want you to step down as lord for your brother. You can be Alpha but not the wolf lord,” She said calmly, and I started to laugh.

“You have no power or right to ask that of Do not push my patience, mother,” I told her, and just then, Dominic walked in.

“Or else what, Sylvester?” he said, picking up an apple from the kitchen Island and biting into it. He was dressed to go out.

“You have turned the family name into a joke. Bane sent his soldiers to get his bitch. from you, yet you haven’t retaliated,” he said and wondered how he got that information.

“You are weak,” he said, and I laughed.

“Says the man that went to war and lost,” I said, and he became mad.

“You can never be me, Dominic. I will go after Bane when I see fit,” I said, and my mother looked at me.

“Bane’s woman is in your care?” She said with a wicked smile.

“I do not have Bane’s woman in my care,” I told her.

“Whatever you say, but it seems this person was important enough for him to send kappas to attack and retrieve her. Tamia

Albert, they say,” He said, and my eyes widened.

“We can use her,” My mother said, and I pulled away from her.

I was getting to my limits.

“I almost died, and she saved my life. She fought and killed her own people to save my life. She could have gone with them, and I wouldn’t have been able to stop her, but she fought on my side. Risking her life,” I told my mother, and she looked at me for a while, studying me.

“I have never cared about anyone the way I care about her, and the feeling is mutual. Do not make me choose because I will choose her, mother,” I said, and her eyes widened.

“An alpha’s left over. Used goods. Trash that was given up as a tribute,” Dominic said, and I smiled.

“Well, your information is wrong. Her husband did not give her up. She gave herself up to save his life. He would have died trying to protect her. It took a lot for him to release her. She has that effect,” I said, and Dominic laughed.

“Of course she does, she is hot, and her slut meter is high,” he said, biting his apple. I looked at my mother, getting impatient.

“Was this why you asked me to come?” I asked her, getting ready to leave.

“I have told you why I called you. I am asking you to step down as lord, and save this family from any more embarrassment,” she said, and I laughed.

“If it ever comes to that, know that my officers and I won’t be fighting for Dominic.

He will have to get his team and lead his war, “I warned her. I wasn’t planning on stepping down, but I wanted her to know what would happen if I had to.

“Dominic, Leave us,” My mother said sternly, and my brother fiddled with his car keys and left the house.

My mother led me to the living and asked me to sit down.

“Bane cannot be trusted; he will come after you,” She said, looking more worried than the brave face she tried to front.

“I can’t lose you like I lost Marius,” She said.

“That bastard wants to take over the world; we have to beat him to it, Sylvester, or he will be worse than your father. Your father will be an angel compared to that sick bastard,” She said, and I understood her fear.

“This woman, are you sure she isn’t his spy?” She asked me with fear and concern.

“I am sure. She said they met at a party and danced, and that was all,” I said, and she shook her head.

“You need to dig deeper, Sylvester. You don’t meet someone once and risk a war for them. She is not being totally honest with you. You need to be careful and investigate. her. She might be lying to you out of fear or something else. I do not want anyone to cause your downfall,” She said and gently touched my cheeks.

“Please, investigate. This woman isn’t telling the truth. Just think about it,” She pleaded with me.

Even though my mother was right, I believed Tamia. I doubt she would lie about something like that. I knew it was odd that he would risk a war for someone he had only met once. I planned on questioning her gently about it, just so I would know what to do and how to approach the matter.

“I will dig into it,” I told my mother, and she smiled.

“That is good enough for me,” She said, relaxing and smiling at me.

“Soon, you won’t fool around with your prisoners anymore. I am trying to get you at suitable Luna from the north. A virgin, to be precise,” She said, smiling.

“I am not interested,” I told her, and she frowned.

“You can’t remain single all your life. Your father had Dominic at your age. You need an heir and a luna.” She said, and I nodded.

“I am working on it,” I said, and she became angry, understanding what I had just said.

“You cannot make a prisoner Luna. She is tainted and old. You need someone young..” She said, and I interrupted her.

“I am tainted and old too. I am not a virgin, and I am twenty-nine, mother, so we are a perfect fit,” I said, and she shook her head but held her peace because she knew she couldn’t win.

“I will wait for you to get her out of your system,” She said, leaning back in her chair.

“Then you will be waiting a long time,” I said and stood up.

“What are you doing?” She asked me, and I sighed.

“Leaving,” I said.

“Why?” She asked, and I sighed.

“I left a woman I am crazy about in bed and came to spend time with you. Since I got here, the reception hasn’t been warm. You have done nothing but berate me and insult my intelligence and choice. You insulted the very woman that made my heart start beating again, and tried to make her look like shit. If I stay any longer, you might end up saying things that will ruin our relationship, mother. Since you can’t be grateful that I am happy and have a reason to be hopeful and smile again, I have no reason to remain here,” I said, and she became sad.

“Please stay; I promise I won’t repeat anything bad about your girlfriend. I really missed you. We do not have to fight about it, ” she said, and I looked at her critically.

“In fact, you know what, I want to meet her, “She said, and I shook my head immediately, knowing how it would end.

Although Tamia was strong, I wouldn’t want anyone getting into her head or pushing her.

“No funny business, I promise. I will love to meet her. All I know of her is what your brother told me. I would like to make my observation unbiased,” She said, and I knew she wouldn’t drop it, so I nodded and sat down.

“I will think about it,” I said, and she shook her head.

“No, do it,” She said, and I did not respond.

“Does she have children?” She asked, and I shook my head.

“Never been pregnant, and before you judge her, there is nothing wrong with her. She married at nineteen, and her husband wanted them to take precautions because he wasn’t ready.” I quickly explained.

“So you mean they have been careful for five years?” She asked, and I nodded.

“That is really stupid of the Alpha,” She said, and we both agreed and laughed at that.

“I see you care about her. I will try to like her, my mother said.

All her anger dissipated. I knew Dominic got into her head and made her say all that nonsense. She was lucky that even though I am the Wolf lord, I was patient and loved her dearly. I had no choice but to let it go. She was my mother, after all.

~Tamia~

After breakfast, I felt lost and bored.

Since they brought us to the estate, Sylvester had been around, and I had his attention, so the place felt new and lonely.

Avery and Marcel had things planned, and Linda and Theodore were getting to know each other; I could not inconvenience them.

I returned to our bedroom to think of all that Marcel had told me about Bane, the silent war, and the east.

I was worried for the east. The last thing I wanted was for the east to get caught up in a mess.

I didn't want to stress about it too much, so I decided I would hang out with Katya in the garden.

I knew some of the women in the harem liked to hang out in the garden, so I wore jeans from the new collection of clothes

Sylvester got me, and his t-shirt to surround myself with his scent.

I held the t-shirt to my nose before wearing I headed to the garden in high spirits.

When I got there, most of the women in the harem came to greet me. Katya approached, and we hugged.

"You look stunning in his t-shirt, Tamia," She said, and I smiled at her. I found a place to sit, and some women came to sit around me.

I noticed Lilly from a distance, and she was looking at me with scorn, but I couldn't be bothered.

"Is it official? Are you the new woman in his life?" Katya asked me, and I frowned at her, wondering why she would ask me such a question.

"What do you mean by the new woman?" I asked her, accepting a cup of tea from one of the women.

I made sure I stylishly sniffed it before placing the cup against my tongue to pretend to take a sip, and then I put the cup down. I wasn't stupid to drink something served by women in Sylvester's Harem whom he wasn't screwing.

"I mean, since he kicked Lilly to the curb and all," Katya said, explaining her question, and I laughed. It was clear Lilly did not tell them the truth. I was about to speak when I saw her approaching us.

"See who decided to grace us," She said politely, and I smiled at her.

"I see you did not tell them the truth," I told her, and she shrugged.

"Alpha only said those things to make you happy, Tamia. Who am I to say he is lying? I am just a prisoner of war. If he said he wasn't screwing me so you would feel better, so be it," She said, trying to save face.

“Whatever makes you happy, Lilly,” I said, and I noticed that the women had figured out what we were saying.

“So, you mean you have been lying to us all this while?” one woman asked, and Lilly shook her head.

“How can I be lying when we spent long hours in his office and his room?” She said, and I decided to change the topic.

Lilly was clearly ashamed and too embarrassed to own up to the truth. Since we had the same alpha, I could now link her.

“You need to be careful with your lies so he doesn’t find out, Lilly,” I said, and she frowned at me.

“Let us change the topic,” I said to the women and stood up without drinking the tea.

It was my most innovative way of refusing to drink it. I have read a book about back palace politics. I wouldn’t want to be a victim.

“What do you ladies do for fun?” I asked, and Katya stood up.

“Painting, quilting, sewing, embroidery,” She said, and I rolled my eyes.

“I want something that is fun and consumes energy. Don’t get me wrong, those things are relaxing, but I do not want to relax.” I said, and some of the women laughed.

“Croquet, Volleyball,” Katya said, and I beamed at her.

“Now that will be fun. I say we play Volleyball and then wind down with Croquet. I said, and we headed to a field meant for Volleyball. We immediately formed our teams.

The women took off their tunics and gowns, leaving them wearing sexy lacey lingerie. I did the same, and the game was on.

Most of the guards came to watch. It was my team against Lilly’s team, and Katya was on my team. Lilly seemed a bit relaxed because I did not embarrass her as she had thought I would.

I served the ball, and the rest was history.

We had a lot of fun, and the women were genuinely overjoyed.

Soon, makeshift courts were created so that others wouldn't have to wait too long for their turn.

It was so much fun that Avery joined us, and I looked and saw Marcel standing by.

It was supposed to be their day together since the Beta was always busy. I guess this was part of the fun they were having.

"Alpha won't be pleased seeing you playing in your underwear outside," Marcel warned, laughing, and I placed my index finger against my lips.

"Then this will be our secret," I said.

We had so much fun, and it turned into a party.

When we were tired of playing Volleyball, the guards came to set the place for Croquet.

It took time to set it up, allowing us time to catch our breaths.

While the guards set it up, we relaxed with wine and bite-size treats.

It somehow turned into a party, and I noticed some women were getting comfortable with the officers.

"Is that allowed?" I asked Katya, and she smiled.

"Of course. The Alpha, Beta and Gamma don't touch us, but we are allowed to date. There are some women who are currently married with children to top officers and ordinary people. I do not know why alpha calls it a harem," She said, and I hoped she was telling me the truth because I did not want anyone setting me up where Sylvester was concerned.

While they played Croquet, I went to meet Marcel where he was, to ask him if it was okay that the women flirt with the officers, and he nodded. Apparently, everyone was allowed to mingle except for my friends and

Soon it was evening, and we returned to freshen up and eat dinner. I did not want to enter the room because I would miss Sylvester.

The moment I stepped into the room, I felt alone again.

Sylvester had spoiled me with attention and care. I did not know how much until now. I went to the shower and showered in a hurry, then headed for dinner.

Everyone was waiting for me.

The moment I got there, we all started eating.

I felt it was odd that Marcel would wait for me to arrive before eating. Whenever Sylvester wasn't around, he was the one in command. I took it as a kind gesture, and I was grateful.

After dinner, Linda and Theodore left in a hurry, and I somehow figured they had gone all the way.

Linda didn't seem uptight with him anymore, and I was happy for her. Kyle was a bastard. I was glad she was moving on.

I hoped Marcel would let Avery hang out with me, but it seemed Avery wanted to be around Marcel instead. I understood, so I let it alone.

I walked back to the room slowly.

Lilly came to me on my way, and I rolled my eyes, bracing myself for her smart mouth. Instead, she hugged me.

"Thank you, Tamia, for not embarrassing me out there," She said and broke the hug,

"You and alpha look good together; I hope it lasts. Since he disposed of his Harem three years ago, he has been single. You are lucky, She said; I frowned at her.

"Were you here three years ago?" I asked, and she nodded.

"I came a few months before he sent the women he was screwing away. They were five altogether," she said smiling, and I felt a tinge of jealousy, but it was normal for me to feel that way with how I felt for Sylvester.

"Well, good for them; they are free," I said, and she shook her head.

“They didn’t want to leave. It was horrible.

He treated them as if they were nothing. It was heart-wrenching to see. Especially Arya, who was crazy about him. We all thought she would be luna with the way he showered her with attention, and the fact that she was from a small pack in the north, but he threw her out as if she was nothing,” She said, and I didn’t want to hear anymore.

“Well, it is none of my business,” I said, and she nodded and placed her hand on my shoulder.

“I am not trying to antagonise you or hurt you. Please do not take this wrongly, but be guarded and be ready to say goodbye. I am only telling you this because you were kind to me today. When he set those women free, he told them they were wasting their time. because he does not plan on ever settling down with anyone,” She said, and I smiled at her and thanked her.

“Well, as for the settling-down part, I have been there, done that, and there is nothing to it. Let us see where this leads. But I am grateful for the heads up.” I said, and she smiled.

I couldn’t tell if she told me those things to hurt or make me feel bad. I was grateful if she was genuinely looking out for me by warning and preparing me. Otherwise, she was wasting her time. I returned to the room, showered and wore Sylvester’s shirt to bed.

It was clear I was sharing his wardrobe.

Who would have thought I would be with the dreaded Wolf Lord? It was an unbelievable turn of events, and the fact that he ended up being sweet, loving and sensitive towards me was amazing. I didn’t miss that he wasn’t kind to others, and I liked it that way.

“What do you think he is doing?” Kaira asked me, missing Sylvester, and I sighed.

“I do not know, Kaira,” I said, and I felt the loneliness down to my soul because Kaira was feeling it too.

“I think I am falling for him,” Kaira said, and I smiled.

“We both are,” I assured my wolf, and I felt warmth.

“Do you think we have a fated out there?” She asked, using the word I had come to hate.

“Honestly, at this point, I do not care. If Sylvester is true and we ever end up together before he comes, I will reject him,” I told my wolf.

“Leo couldn’t do it, and he loved us,” She pointed out.

“Not enough, apparently. He did not want to be weak. He was being an asshole and selfish,” I told her.

“Do you think Sylvester will be different?” She asked, and I could not answer the question. She knew it but asked anyway because it troubled both of us.

“Our emotions are one and the same,” She said, and I laughed.

“Do you think he will fall in love with us?” I asked her, and she was silent.

“I wonder if he will ever tell us he loves us, or this is all we will get,” I told her.

“It will be nice to hear the rumoured heartless Wolf Lord tell us he loves us.
You

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"It will be nice to hear the rumoured heartless Wolf Lord tell us he loves us. You know he is a complete contrast to the stories we heard," She said, and I adjusted in bed and laid on my side, hugging his pillow.

"Let us not be too hopeful, Kaira. We are still war prisoners, and he is the wolf lord. We should take what we get." I said, smiled and hugged the pillow with his scent tighter. Thanks to our activities, sleep came. Sweet pleasure erupted inside me, and I thought I was dreaming.

I opened my eyes and saw Sylvester between my legs. I was a bit disoriented, and the pleasure he was giving me did not allow my mind to settle.

I began to moan. Losing control of my body and I came. Waking me up completely with a burning desire for him. He moved up to look at my face, and my juices glistened on his lips. He kissed me, and I could taste myself.

"I couldn't stay away, Tamia," He said with a breathy voice, and I grabbed onto him and kissed him.

"Good morning, darling," He said to me, undressing me.

He buried himself in me, and I hoped I wasn't dreaming. I flipped our positions and decided to show him how well I could ride. He held my hips and guided me.

I was in my world, and soon we both came. simultaneously.

I lay next to him, and he pulled me close and kissed my neck.

"I couldn't stay away, green eyes. You are becoming an addiction," He said, and I giggled. I looked at the clock and saw it was two in the morning.

He must have snuck out of his mother's house. It made me feel important.

"Did you miss me much?" He asked, and I turned to look at him.

"No," I lied.

He kissed the tip of my nose, and I laughed. He stared at me seriously and intensely.

"Don't break my heart, Tamia," He said, and I stopped laughing.

Patting my hair gently, he continued to look at me.

“I am never letting you go,” He said with a firm promise and pulled me close holding me in his arms, and we both fell asleep.

Tamia-

Things got intense between Sylvester and me, and I found myself completely in love. with him.

I was afraid that I would repeat history, but my heart was beyond my control. He knew how to act, what to say and what to He made me feel like the most important person in his world, and I slowly found myself saying, ‘this is it’ but I had said that before, not so long ago, and I came out burnt and broken.

I wasn’t willing to make that jump again. It was a scary situation to be in. I tried to fight my feelings and kept telling myself it was casual.

I tried to think through the situation to guard my heart. The fact that Sylvester and I weren’t fated scared the shit out of me.

Questions of the future plagued my mind. What if she shows up one day just like Amanda? Where will that leave me? He had never told me he loved me. This could be a fun and exciting thing for him.

I scolded myself for catching feelings.

Every day we would wake up, eat, and train together. I let him go and handle his duties, and then we met in the evening and did whatever we liked.

It was fun and scary because I had fallen in love with him.

When I decided to speak to Sylvester about my fears, we were lying on the grass in the western garden, a part of the estate people rarely visited.

“Sylvester,” I said gently; we were lying side by side and looking at the stars that graced the night sky. It was a beautiful sight and a lovely moment. I was afraid that I might ruin it.

“Yes,” he replied, and I exhaled.

“Do you ever let your prisoners go?” I asked him, and he chuckled.

“Which of the prisoner’s, green eyes? The ones in the cell or the trophies?” he asked, making light the question.

“Your trophies,” I asked, and he exhaled too.

“They have nowhere to go back to, I am their Alpha, and they are connected to me; I am not keeping them here as prisoners; they are here because this is their only home for now. They are free to leave, but they only leave if they find love or want to move to Lucland or another part of the north. They are all here of their own volition. I am a lord, not a monster. I expect the women to fall in love eventually and move on. I also know they have needs.” He said.

“Would you ever settle down?” I asked him immediately, and he was silent.

“I am sorry to ask, but I overheard some ladies talking about how you threw out the five women in your harem. They said you told a woman called Arya that you do not plan on settling down. I just want to know if it is true,” I said.

“I am not worried about it. I understand. Coming out of a failed marriage, I can understand, and I am okay where we are; that way, if you find your fated, it would not be an issue,” I said, trying to convince myself more that falling for him was stupid.

He turned to his side to look at me.

“Look at me,” He said, and I did what he asked and made sure my face bore no emotions.

“I indeed said those things, and I meant them, Tamia. As the lord of the north with a pending war, I doubt I would want to tie any woman down. It was my way of setting them free and making them forget about me,” He said, and his words hurt because it seemed as if his mindset had not changed.

“As for my fated, I do not care about that shit, Tamia. I make my destiny. I do not care what the stars say. I won’t lose my shit or betray a woman that has been there for me. through thick and thin, because fate said so. I will reject her in a heartbeat and risk being weak,” He said, and I smiled at him. Having been there, I knew it was easier said than done.

He touched my face gently and smiled.

“I am not Leo, Tamia,” he said, and I nodded, but my eyes were already welling up with tears because I was a fool all over again. I had fallen completely in love with someone that did not plan on having anything serious with me.

“I am nothing like my father. My trophies are not prisoners: they are free, but I won’t let you go, Tamia. You aren’t a prisoner here, and you aren’t a trophy; you are my woman,” he said, and I smiled at him, but tears were threatening to fall at that moment.

He sat up and asked me to do the same. Then he pulled me close and crashed his lips on mine,

“I want to make love to the woman I love under the stars,” he said, tugging on my clothes gently, and I could not believe he had used the word ‘love’ with me. He moved from my lips to my neck.

“I can’t wait to claim you as mine, Tamia,” he linked me, sucking on the spot on my neck, and my body came apart; he moved to the crook of my neck and opened my blouse. to expose my breasts.

“You aren’t my trophy, Tamia. Never compare yourself to them,” He linked me and sucked my nipples one at a time. He sucked while he rubbed the other between his thumb and index finger.

I had started moaning, and he growled with approval.

He rolled down my panties and spread my legs wide. I laid back down on the grass, looking at the stars while he ate me.

“Sylvester,” I moaned, my vision blurry and my heart racing fast.

Please let this be it; I prayed while I writhed, moaning in pleasure, running my fingers through his hair and anticipating the release.

All my senses were alive, and I felt the release coming through. I let go, and it erupted inside me.

He did not stop until I came down.

Then he leaned over me and stared into my eyes.

“I wasn’t joking when I said this is it, Tamia, I love you,” He said, knowing what had troubled my heart all along and drove himself into me before I could say anything, making love to me under the stars.

“This is it for me, Tamia,” He said, pumping gently but hitting the right spot.

Soon he sat up and pulled me up. I came on top, hugging him and riding. He held me and my body responded to him.

My speed became faster because an orgasm was coming, and soon it erupted again. He stilled and released into me. He held me, his head against my chest.

“I am never letting go. I love you,” He said and looked at me.

I had tears of fear in my eyes, fear that fate might take him from me, so I held on to my confession of love, never speaking the words that might doom me again, and my lips quivered.

“You have nothing to worry about with me, Tamia. You won’t lose me to anyone, not even a fated. I won’t do what Leo did to you. I promise. Your heart and love are too precious for me to throw away because fate says so. I am begging you to trust me and love me without reserve,” he said. I searched his eyes, and they were sincere, but so were Leo’s until, the day he saw Amanda.

“Don’t make promises you can’t keep,” I said to him, my hands and knees shaking.

“I don’t. I know I will keep this one,” he breathed in my scent.

“Until you, I did not think my heart would ever beat for anyone or I would ever feel this way, but you have made what seemed impossible possible. I want you to trust me and take this leap with me, please. Open up one more time. I know it is a lot to ask for, but I am asking you to give me a chance,” he said to me, and in those moments, I threw caution to the wind because who was I fooling? My heart was already invested deep in what we had; I might as well go all in. 1

“I love you too, Sylvester,” I said to him,” please do not damage what is left of my heart. I doubt I will survive another rejection. I will always be with you and never leave, even if there is an opportunity to do so, I am with you by choice,

and I am giving you my heart by choice. If ever fate interferes with what we have, I will let him go in a heartbeat because I choose you, but please, Sylvester, do not let me down. Do not make me share, and do not make me regret this," I pleaded with him, and he held me.

"I am ready to go all the way with you, Tamia; settle down and have children. I want to build a life with you, and I hope you will let me." He said, pleading with me, and I nodded.

I wanted those things, too; although fate had robbed me greatly, I still wanted those things.

"Don't ever listen to rumours and equate yourself to the people of my past. What we have is different. It is unique and new," he said, and I nodded.

He kissed me and made love to me under the stars. My heart was lifted that night, and my worries dissipated, but fate still scared me. because I feared what it might have in store for me.

~Tamia-

Sylvester finally asked me to follow him to Lucland to meet his mother. After meeting Dominic at the club, I wasn't looking forward to the meeting.

I learned the woman was strict and had her sons on a tight leash.

Even though Sylvester had confessed his feelings for me, what if she did not approve of me?

I was scared, but since Sylvester insisted and told me I had nothing to worry about, I decided to take him up on it.

We ate breakfast in our room and prepared to leave.

Linda was the most worried for me because there were only two things that could happen; she could either be unreasonable and ask her son to choose between her and me, or give me a chance. I hoped she would give me a chance.

Leo did not have parents when we got together, so this was new for me. We got dressed to visit his mother.

On our way out, Silvester stopped.

“Marcel needs me for a minute. Do you think you can wait for me? The matter seems urgent; it is about Bane and the East,” he said, and I was a bit worried because of Leo.

“Link me when you are ready to leave,” I told him, and he nodded. I decided to go to Avery’s room. I found Avery in her room, embroidering a piece of fabric. It looked horrible, but it seemed to be her new

pastime. I had not seen her that morning because we didn’t eat in the dining room.

“Hey, you guys haven’t left yet?” She said, putting down the hoop that held the scarf she was marring with her needlework.

I noticed a diamond ring on her finger, and she smiled at me.

“He proposed an hour ago. I did not think about it; I just said yes,” She said, smiling with tears in her eyes.

“I can’t get it wrong twice now, can I?” She said, and I could hear the nervousness in her voice. She was afraid.

“Why did you say yes?” I asked her, picking up on her fear.

“Because I love him, and it will be great to have a life with him, but deep down, I am scared fated will show up and mess me up again,” She said, and I went to hug her. She pulled away and nodded, wiping away her tears.

I now understood why she was in her room working on an embroidery hoop instead of socialising in the eastern garden as usual.

“I have to take this leap of faith, or I might keep guessing and live with regrets. Marcel is a great guy and a great catch. He is a step up from that arsehole, Max. This is a good thing,” she said, wiping her tears.

“Feeling afraid and being happy at the same time is a weird mix of emotions,” She confessed, and I smiled.

“Has Sylvester told you what is happening in the east?” She asked, changing the topic, and I shook my head.

“We were heading out when Marcel called him for a meeting about Bane and the east, I told her, and she nodded.

“That bastard,” She said, and I wondered why she was pissed.

“Bane has successfully divided the east. Leo isn’t in full control of the East anymore. A part of the East has joined the south. I also learned he might go to war against Leo to take over the East completely. I just picked bits of Marcel’s conversation. I am sure Sylvester will tell you what is going on in case I heard wrong,” She said, and I was in shock.

How could the Eastern Alphas allow Bane to use them like this? I was worried. I hoped Leo was getting all the help he needed to push back. It was one thing to willingly join up; it was another to be forced into it.

I sat nervously in Avery’s room for almost two hours and decided to return to my room. I wasn’t in the mood to hang out in the garden. “Where are you?” I linked Sylvester.

“Still in the meeting,” he said, and I felt bored. I sat and prayed for Leo’s safety. Eventually, I got tired of waiting and fell asleep.

LATER THAT DAY.

I woke up to a commotion in the corridor.

I looked out the window, and it was evening.

I wondered what was happening. Sylvester did not return.

The meeting had taken all day. What was happening?

Some guards entered my room, and I sat up in bed, worried because they were northern guards. No one had ever barged into Sylvester’s room like this before.

“Sylvester”, I linked Sylvester but met silence which meant he was not around. To my surprise, Dominic walked in, looking angry.

“Bind the bitch; she has questions to answer, ” he said, and Kaira began to growl.

“It will be in your best interest to comply, or your actions might be seen as treason”, he warned me, and I looked at him angrily.

“Does Sylvester know about this?” I asked him, and he did not care.

“I do not need his permission to question a prisoner. Fucking him does not change what you are here. A crime has been committed, and we require your full cooperation to solve it,” he said, then the guards clamped the silver cuffs around my wrist.

“What happened? At least I deserve to know what happened.” I said while the guards dragged me out of the room.

“You will find out during questioning,” Dominic said, and I tried to link Marcel and Theodore, but they were not around too.

“What has happened to Sylvester?” I asked, afraid something had happened to him, and Dominic stopped and slapped me on the face.

“You should not speak his name. He is lord of the north, whore!” he growled. What had happened to make him like this?

“He trusted you. I warned him. Our mother was attacked today and is currently fighting for her life. She was attacked in the afternoon, and she was in the company of one of a council elder. Unfortunately, the

elder did not make it. The surviving warriors identified the men as a mix of eastern and southern mercenaries. I know you are affiliated with Bane, so the council wants us to question the newcomers, especially you. Bane had dared to attack twice now since you got here. It must mean something,” He said to me, and I felt it was ridiculous.

“We have all sworn to serve the Alpha,” I said, avoiding mentioning Sylvester’s name.

“How can we work against him? Why should we pay for Bane’s crimes?” I asked, and he looked at me with rage in his eyes.

“I will tell you why. I warned my brother to be careful with you, but he wouldn’t listen. Too bad I am here to help him think when he is carried away. Since our father was murdered, our mother has hidden in Lucland successfully without event. You are the first outsider to know she lives in Lucland, and then this happened. I also won’t forget that Bane had tried to take you from the north. You were supposed to visit her today; they might have as well come to get you and decided to do some damage when they did not find you there,” he

said, and my eyes widened at his wicked angle. Putting things that way made me seem suspicious.

“I won’t say anything until I see my alpha,” I said, and he turned to look at me and slapped me again.

“You will afford me the same respect. I have permission from the council to use force if necessary. I would not want to damage my brother’s toy. Do not push me,” he said, and I remained silent, knowing this was a difficult situation. As much as I hated Dominic, I could not dispute the fact that he had a point. I was carried to a cell and locked up.

Soon Avery and Linda were thrown into the same cell with me. Linda had a bleeding nose, so I figured she resisted. We were too many for them to afford private cells.

Other women that were brought from the East were locked up, too; some were bound in silver chains and made to sit on the floor because the cells were full.

“This is highly unfair. After swearing to serve the north, they still treat us as prisoners,” Avery retorted, and I nodded.

“Let us wait for Sylvester to return. I am sure he will put Dominic in his place,” I told

Avery, and she shook her head.

“I doubt it is that simple. If the council is backing Dominic on this, then Sylvester would have to allow the investigation to run its course,” she said, telling me something I already knew.

“Why did Bane attack their mother and kill a council member?” I asked Avery, and she frowned at me.

“There is a war, remember?” She said, and I shook my head.

“There is nothing substantial to gain from that,” I said, and Linda shook her head.

“He could destabilise the lord and the north. If she dies, Sylvester might act irrationally, giving Bane the opportunity he wants,” Linda said, and I shook my head.

“It still doesn’t sound like Bane’s mode of operation. I think someone did this to make it seem like Bane,” I said.

“It doesn’t matter; we will still have to answer questions. I wished we had something useful to give,” Avery said, knowing what happened to prisoners that were useless, and we sat there.

No one attended to us. We spent the night there.

“Who gave you the right to barge in here and do this!” I heard Sylvester’s voice. He was livid. I had woken up from sleep in the cell they kept us

“So what if Bane attacked mother? Does that mean you should take it out on Tamia, Avery and Linda and the innocent women from the East? What crime did they commit here?” He asked, and I heard Dominic’s voice.

“The Council gave the order. I am just carrying it out,” Dominic said, trying to justify his actions. I could hear a tinge of fear in his voice too. Sylvester was outraged. We all felt it.

“You are just being malicious. You could have as well asked them whatever question you wanted to ask without degrading them like this. You wanted to hurt them, and I do not know why,” Sylvester said.

“Degrade them? They are prisoners. They should be in a cell and not in your bed,” and I heard a punch, and then there was an uproar. Sylvester was beating his brother up.

“Please stop; I am fine,” I linked him quickly. I did not know if it worked, but the unrest stopped. I heard footsteps, and then I saw Sylvester in front of our cell.

“Open it!” he yelled at the guard, and the guard was so afraid that he dropped the key twice before opening the cell.

“They will have to answer the council’s questions,” I heard Dominic say.

“When that time comes, it will be done with respect,” Sylvester said, and as soon as the cell was opened, he rushed towards me and carried me out of the cell.

I honestly wanted to walk, so I made him put me down. He was afraid and worried.

“I am not mad at you,” I said so he could relax.

Avery and Linda were ushered out.

“I am sorry I did not return on time,” Sylvester pleaded with me, and I told him it was okay.

He asked me if they had hit me, and I lied that they didn’t. The last thing I wanted was for Sylvester to go berserk and beat his brother.

“What happened?” I finally asked him while we walked towards the room.

“My mother’s home was attacked. She was injured while a council member was killed. Bane soldiers left a message demanding I send you to him,” He said, and I was stunned.

Dominic’s anger made sense.

Why will Bane do something like this? What was his deal?

“So he knew where your mother lived all along?” I asked, and Sylvester looked at me and searched my eyes.

“That is the second issue. No one knows where my mother lives except the council members, my brother, and me. It was a surprise that Bane knew to attack there and also knew we would be visiting,” Sylvester said. I realised the situation was a puzzle.

It was either Bane had an informant and knew more than Sylvester thought he knew, or the attack wasn’t Bane but was made to seem like it. I dared not say these things but hoped they would solve it soon.

“How is your mother?” I asked.

“She is out of the woods and healing nicely,” he said.

He stopped to open the door, and I walked in.

“Do not worry about the council or my brother, Tamia. He is just an arsehole. You have nothing to prove to anyone. Marcel and Theodore are already investigating the incident,” He told me, and I nodded.

This development also meant I won't see his mother anytime soon.

-Tamia-

Long after Sylvester and I returned to our room, Dominic banged on our door.

I was initially afraid of the douchebag, but I was angry now that Sylvester was back.

Sylvester seemed like he wanted to ignore his brother but opened the door last minute because the guy wouldn't stop banging.

The man walked into our bedroom angrily.

He looked at me, and I could see his hatred for me.

Honestly, I did not know what his deal was, but it was clear I was in his bad books for no reason.

“You may be the Wolf Lord, but you have not right to interfere with my investigation,” He said to Sylvester, and Sylvester did not respond.

“Mother would have been killed, and these women would have been roaming free,” He said, and Sylvester nodded.

“Yes, they would have been roaming free, Dominic. Why punish people for a crime they did not commit?” Sylvester asked him, and Dominic was shocked at Sylvester's response.

“She knew mother was in Lucland,” He argued, and Sylvester shook his head.

“She did not know where she was in Lucland. The only people with that information were me, you and the council, so don't try to pin this on Tamia. Besides, she will never do anything to hurt me, and as for Devin, I doubt he has a hand in this. It is not his style,” Sylvester said, voicing his opinion.

“What happened to you? You used to be so focused and stern. Now you seem pussy whipped,” Dominic said, and Sylvester laughed.

“Nothing happened to me, Dominic. I am not a madman and won’t start acting like one because you want me to. The east has its hands full, and Tamia is a member of my pack. She has no reason to fight against me or hurt our mother. You need to drop it, Dominic. As things are, I am relieving you of the right to come into this estate and order my men around. Whatever you need to do has to pass through me, and Tamia should be afforded respect. On no account should you ever try to question or hurt her again,” he said, and Dominic looked disappointed.

“She will be your downfall, Sylvester, and I will laugh at you when that happens.” He told him and then looked at me. 1

“Your position isn’t secure. He has been trying to fill a void Susan left for eleven years. You might think he is head over heels for you now, but if Susan ever returns, he will dump you in a heartbeat. Just don’t get comfortable,” he said and excused himself. Sylvester was mad about his brother’s words, but I left the bed, hugged him from behind, and kissed his back.

“Don’t let it bother you. His words can’t get to me,” I assured Sylvester, but he was still mad.

We left the room to have dinner, and I wondered how Avery and Linda were doing because we were all in the same predicament.

The dining room was silent, and Sylvester and I took our seats; Marcel and Theodore were angry. I looked at my friends, and they looked a bit worried.

I hoped things don’t get explosive between

We ate in silence, and Sylvester decided to break the ice.

“Out with it,” He said, looking at Marcel, and Marcel dropped his cutlery on his plate.

“I have a lot of respect for you. I understand the gravity of the crime, but Dominic had no right to have my fiance beaten up and dragged out of her room like a criminal. I serve you, and not the Volkov family; I won’t hesitate to beat the shit out of him next time,” Marcel said, and Sylvester turned to Theodore.

“What he said” was all Theodore could say, and Sylvester laughed.

“I already beat the shit out of him,” He said, trying to calm the situation, and it worked.

“What is the deal with the guy? He does not have what it takes to be lord, yet he keeps trying, and the sad part is that the council knows, yet they keep putting him in a situation where he would clash with you. I think we should bring it up at the summit,” Marcel said, and Sylvester nodded.

“Dominic is the least of our problems; we need to find out who is behind the attack on my mother and Jenny Lawrence from the council,” Sylvester said.

“I heard you were one of the best strategists and investigators when you were Luna of the east; what do you think about this?” Marcel said, directing the question to me, and I looked at Avery, who smiled and nodded. She was the one that must have told him.

“Well, based on the information I got, it doesn’t seem like Devin’s mode of operation, and it seems more like an inside job, but I could be wrong,” I said quickly, and Sylvester caressed my hands gently.

“Speak freely, Tamia,” He said, and I knew he was thinking the same as I was. I could see it in his eyes, and he seemed fascinated that I had the same thought.

“I think someone is trying to force your hand to go to war with Devin, and there is a possibility that this Jenny woman was the real target; your mother might have just been with the wrong person at the wrong place,” I said, and Marcel frowned.

“If they wanted Luna Volkov dead, they would have killed her just like they killed Jenny, but they only wounded her and moved on. It seems the main target was Jenny. You need to find out why anyone would want to kill Jenny.” I said, and Marcel nodded.

“Then why frame Devin and the east for the attack, and make it seem he had sent soldiers to try to get you?” Theodore said.

“That was the most stupid plot ever. Whoever did this isn’t so bright. First, Devin does not know where she lives, and second, how the hell did he know

Sylvester and I would be visiting there? Whoever did this knows the issue between the north and Devin. They also know that Devin has attempted to take me from the north too. They just felt the bad blood between Devin and Sylvester would make Sylvester overlook the other aspects of the crime and go after his arch-enemy. The person was stupid and sloppy.” I said, and Theodore smiled at me.

“We all thought as much, Tamia, but when Avery said you were a strategist, we wanted to see how good you are, and you are excellent,” Marcel said. I looked at Sylvester, who was smiling at me.

“You two owe me fifty each,” Sylvester said to Marcel, and I could not believe they had made a bet on this. I smacked his hand gently, and we laughed, and just like that, laughter had returned to our dinner.

Although we discussed the matter during dinner, I was still worried. Knowing someone was willing to frame the south and the east to get what they wanted, baffled me.

I did not even know what the deal was with the Jenny woman. It was a mess, and I could not sleep.

I spent the night tossing and turning; Sylvester was too tired to know I was having trouble sleeping.

The event that had taken place troubled me. I was worried about the north and east. I was concerned for Sylvester’s mother. Above all, Dominic scared me because whatever he had for me was personal, and I did not know why.

I woke up early and went to shower.

Sylvester was still sleeping when I went to the bathroom. I turned on the water and stood under it, trying to make my mind go blank.

“Good morning, darling,” Sylvester said, getting into the shower with me.

I was spooked because I was deep in thought, and I did not hear him get in.

I looked at him, and he frowned. He was naked, and he was hard.

“What is the matter?” He asked me gently, and I shook my head.

“I know you are troubled, Tamia,” he said to me, and I sighed.

“What if they had killed your mother, Sylvester? What would have happened?” I said, voicing out my fears, and he hugged me under the warm shower.

“Please let it go. Dominic can’t do anything to you. I know you will never double-cross me. You have proven that already. Whatever Dominic says does not count,” he said and kissed me.

“You are safe with me, Tamia. I won’t let anyone hurt you.” He said, and I pulled away.

“You would have gone to war with the east on this,” I said, afraid for Leo, and he searched my eyes.

“I love you too much to attack your people or your ex. Unlike before, I would investigate before proceeding. Please let it go,” He said, and I knew he needed me to let it go, so I nodded.

He hoisted me up in the shower, and I wrapped my legs around him.

“We can’t let this waste now,” he said, and I laughed. He carried me out of the shower to the bed and went down on me.

A Jump.

I should have woken him up when I was tossing and turning. His ministrations on me pushed my troubles far away.

I felt his finger in me as he worked on my nerve bundle, and I moaned. Soon I climaxed, and he drove his very hard and erect cock into me. Pumping hard and fast. As if he had anticipated it all night.

It was a while before he came, and I had climaxed several times by then. My legs were like jelly when he was done. 1

We laid down to catch our breaths, and he stroked my back gently.

“Do not worry about war, Tamia. How can I plan to go to war when I want to start a family with you as my wife?” he said, and I froze in bed.

I searched his eyes to see if he was serious, and there was no deception in his dark eyes.

“Sylvester,” I said, and he held my hand and kissed it.

“Please disregard what happened with Dominic. I have never felt so right about anything in my life. I want this. That is why I never took precautions with you. I want us to settle down and start a family. I want you to be my wife, my mate and my Luna,” He said, searching my eyes for an answer and tears of excitement and relief poured. 1

“Sylvester,” I said again and nodded in response.

I could not speak. My breathy voice was caught in my throat. He beamed at me and kissed me passionately.

“That was why I wanted you to meet my mother.” He said, breaking the kiss, then went to the dresser and returned with a jewellery box,

“I picked this out for you,” He said, sitting beside me in bed and holding my left hand.

“I have never felt this way about anyone before. You complete me, Tamia, and I want this to be official. No more will anyone again refer to you as a whore or prisoner because you are neither of those things. My respect is yours, and my life is yours. Everything I am and own is yours, Tamia. I want to take this leap with you. Let us do this,” He said and brought out an emerald ring, and I laughed at the irony of the gem being green. 3

“They match your eyes,” he teased, laughing with me and then slipped it onto my ring finger. The platinum band made it look exquisite, and I kissed him.

I had said yes to marriage twice now; I hoped this would be it.

Sylvester was so happy about my response that he made love to me, and I could feel the difference this time. His strokes were sure and determined.

He was pouring out all his feelings, and I received them with so much gratitude.

Soon I felt Knight taking over, and it became wild because Kaira joined in. They had agreed to be mates too.

~Leo~

Protecting what was left of my territory from Bane's invasion was hard, but I had to.

These were times when I would have loved Tamia on my team.

She knew exactly what to do and how to act.

I was leaning on Max and Kyle, and our odds didn't seem great.

When the lesser Alphas joined with Bane, it didn't hurt.

I felt it was their choice.

They wanted to go after the wolf lord and get their daughters back; some wanted revenge for their loved ones. I could understand their pain. However the Wolf Lord tried to justify his attack, his actions were wrong. Attacking the entire East because a pack from the East dared to attack him was wrong.

I knew it was cowardly to accept defeat and urge the East to rebuild and move on, but I did not want us to lose more than we had already.

The northern soldiers were strong, and they had a larger army.

Combining our strength with the south would have evened the playing field, but I did not trust Bane's intentions, and I still don't.

I had called a meeting with the remaining

Alphas under me, and they answered.

When the alphas arrived, they were angry and scared at the same time.

Everyone blamed Kyle for our misfortunes because he was the one that brought Bane to

What pissed all of us off was Bane wanted us to join up by force.

It was as if the part of the East that willingly went with him was not good enough. He wanted Kyle, Max and me on his team too.

During the meeting, I watched the alphas argue and push blame around, which wasn't why I called the meeting. I called the meeting because I needed to find the best solution for peace. Joining Bane was out of the question.

“We need to call a truce,” I said, and the hall went quiet.

“We can’t do that, Alpha Leo; the man is mad. I heard something about him calling himself the rightful Wolf lord because he killed Maurice Volkov,” Ramsey said. I was surprised about how ambitious Bane was.

“We need to find a way to tell him we do not share in his views and we won’t go to war against the North,” I told them, and they agreed.

“How will we do that? We have already told him we maintain a neutral stance. How else can we tell that bastard that we are not interested in his promises and helping him further his cause?” Alpha Christian said.

“Since you told us Luna Tamia spoke highly of the Wolf Lord, and that he has been treating our sisters and daughters well, we have made peace. How many more do we have to lose?” Timothy said, sounding as frail as he was.

He was one of the Alphas that did not bother fighting. He just handed his granddaughter over as tribute because his daughter was already mated. I could understand his fear.

“I say we take the war to Bane and let him know he has his limits. What he took from the East isn’t the best of the East; we can take him down,” Gaston said, and I shook my head.

“Luna Tamia was one of our best strategists,

Luna Avery dealt with welfare, and Luna Linda dealt with shelter protection. With those three aspects of our society unattended, we stand no chance. The north crippled us already by taking the three most powerful Lunas of the east. We have to rely on strength, and as my wife always said, smarts beats strength any day,” I said, remembering Tamia, and we were silent.

“We can still manage with what we have,” Gaston said, and I nodded.

“Of course, we can, but we do not want any more bloodshed. I suggest we have a peace talk with him,” I said, and they began to grumble.

“The man is mad. He will not answer us or anyone. He is greedy and covetous. He won’t stop until he gets what he wants,” Gaston argued. It seemed the Alpha had made up his mind about fighting Bane.

“I will try and have a peaceful meeting with him,” I said, and Ramzey refused.

“This is Kyle’s mess. He brought the bastard upon us; he should have a peaceful meeting with him. Why should you risk your life?” Ramzey said, and I nodded.

“I understand your anger, Alpha Ramzey, but this is beyond pettiness. Yes, Kyle brought him, but we all agreed. Even though Tamia warned that the Wolf Lord wasn’t bothering us, we still chose to Join forces with the south to protect ourselves. Kyle did not force us to accept the alliance; we did it

wholeheartedly; it can’t be his cross alone to bear. As the leader of the East, I am to have that peace talk with Bane,” I said, owning up to my responsibility, and everyone was silent.

“If anything happens to you, we will go to war with Bane. It is as simple as that. He wants us for the army he is building, and going to war with him will cripple the size and strength of his army. We might not win, but we will do damage. I rather hurt the bastard and die than take orders from him,” Max said, and I realised he, too, had it in for Bane.

Max claimed he had written several letters to Avery in the north but never got any response. He tried to insinuate that Tamia wrote her letter under duress, but I had to point out the difference to him.

Other than breaking my promise to my wife, I never maltreated her for Amanda’s sake. I never lay a finger on her and performed my duties as a husband towards her.

I refused to give her up and would have laid down my life for her sake; he did the opposite.

If anything, he should take her silence as moving on. She was probably enjoying herself there and had moved on.

Knowing that it was a tradition in the north to split Lunas among the top officers, she was probably with the Alpha, Beta, Gammal or Delta and having the time of her life.

Any life would be better than what she and Mia had with him.

During our community full moon walks, I saw the silver scars on Mia's white fur several times. I ignored it because it wasn't my business.

Although I had been pleading with Max to let go, he didn't want to, and now he wanted to go to war against Bane. All I could see was a desperate alpha looking for a thrill.

He never loved his Luna enough to treat her well. I looked at Kyle.

"Set up a meeting with Bane for tomorrow evening, to take place on Hill valley land, where it shares a border with Krane. He will feel safe meeting me there," I said and ended the meeting.

Amanda buzzed my phone throughout the meeting, so I decided to rush home to see what the problem was.

I arrived and found northern warriors at my home.

Although they did not seem like they came to fight me, I had to be on my guard.

They took my wife away the last time they were at my home.

I composed myself and walked into the house.

Amanda was showing, and we had learned we were expecting triplets. Meaning we will have a full house soon.

As happy as the news was, my joy wasn't complete.

This wasn't the life I wanted for myself.

The fact that I would be taking this transition into parenthood without Tamia was heartbreaking.

I slowly began to accept that I was the cause of my heartbreak, not fate.

I was too weak to keep my promise, and it will stay with me like that.

"Alpha Leo, the Council of the North sends us," The man leading the envoy said to me, and I nodded and sat down on the couch in my living room.

I did not like what Amanda did with the place; I preferred the way Tamia decorated it, but it was Amanda's home now, and she could do whatever she liked.

I noticed she had served them some small bites and drinks.

I just hoped she wasn't stupid enough to slip them something.

The last thing I wanted was for both Bane and the Wolf Lord to come at me.

Amanda smiled at me and went to her room.

I was still yet to let her move into the master bedroom.

Tamia's clothes were still there, and her pictures graced the walls. Amanda had come to accept it, and it didn't bother her anymore.

"To what do I owe this visit?" I asked the man in charge.

"I am Jacob Mikhailov. The Northern Council spokesman," he said, and I nodded, he looked more like a warrior to me, but I let it be.

I did not need to introduce myself; he knew who I was.

"The north wants to know if you are interested in working for them. We know that Alpha Devin Corrigan has taken part of the East, and threatens to force your remaining region to come under his command. We are willing to help liberate your people and end his reign of terror," He said, and I shook my head.

"At what expense, Mr Jacob? The part that joined with Devin did it willingly; I do not want them back. He has promised to give them what I can't. I do not believe in violence. The north has brought this

hardship upon my people by attacking us and taking our wives, daughters, and sisters. It is the north that has wronged us. They dealt the first blow. If they wanted peace, they would have had peace talks about the alleged attack instigated by Brent pack before wrecking our lives. Most of us will never recover from the loss we incurred due to that attack. Devin has gained allies because of it. While some

of us are willing to let go of our loved ones, however painful it may be, others have sworn revenge. I am sorry, but I won't be teaming up with the people that wrecked my home and my life," I said with finality, and Jacob and his men stood up.

"I believe you are still grieving the loss of your Luna, Alpha; know that she is well cared for in the north. The Lord has personally made sure of it. If you ever change your mind, please reach out to us," he said, and I nodded to end the conversation.

They left quietly, and I relaxed.

A few hours later, Kyle called me to say that Devin was ready to meet. I hoped the meeting would occur the next day, but Devin was eager to get on with it. I told Amanda where I was off to, and she was scared.

She had been making many efforts lately, even training while pregnant. I knew she was hoping to fill Tamia's shoes. I told her not to worry, that it was a peaceful conversation and that I would return.

She released me eventually, and I left for Hill Valley pack.

I arrived at Max's pack house and was surprised to see Devin. He must have trusted my intentions to come there all by himself.

"He has the place surrounded," Max told me with a low growl and excused us. I guess Devin did not trust us that well.

"Hello, Leo," Devin said, smiling at me, and

I did not return the smile.

I might have come to have a peaceful discussion with him, but I was still mad at him for all he did and didn't do.

Everyone excused us; it was just me and him in Max's office.

"I see you are doing well without Tamia," he said, and I did not respond.

I sat on the couch in the office and looked at him.

“Why are you doing this? Why must we join forces with you to attack the north? Why do you want to go after a man minding his business? What is the deal, Devin?” I asked him calmly, and he sighed.

“That man ruined my life, Leo,” he confessed.

“Just like he ruined your life, he ruined mine, 11 He said.

“How are things with your fated?” he asked an unrelated question, but I answered because I called the meeting, so the burden was on me to be polite.

“What did he do to you that warrants such hatred?” I asked him, and he sighed.

I knew I could not trust his words, but I would hear him out.

“I was fifteen when Maurice Volkov attacked the south and tried to force us to pay taxes. My father revolted, and my mother was taken in the process. He won, and we were forced to pay those taxes. We thought he would return her after we agreed to pay, but we soon found out the north never returns what it takes. My father sank into depression and lost his mind. So when everyone was acting their age, waiting to turn of age so they could find their fated, I was forced to grow up and take over as Alpha. Maurice robbed me of my life. When I killed him, I saw it as an opportunity to liberate our world from the evils of the north. Automatically I should be the wolf lord, but his son took over. My request for a match between that bastard and me for the seat was denied,” he said and sighed.

“I let it go and took care of the south. Then I met Tamia,” he said and looked at me.

“Your mark sat on her neck. A great deterrent for me, but knowing that you had found your fated, I knew the union was over; it would only take a matter of time before both of you called it quits, and then I could approach. Meanwhile, I planned on courting her. It seemed like a good plan then, and I was eager to get to know the green-eyed beauty,” He said. I wanted to punch him but held my cool.

“Then I find out the north attacked and took her away, just like they took my mother; I was done being nice,” he said, and his eyes turned golden yellow, which indicated his wolf.

“All this over a woman you met once?” I asked him, pointing out the ridiculousness of the matter, and he laughed.

“You see, unlike we Alphas that can detect our mates whether we have been claimed or not, it doesn’t work the same for other wolves. It doesn’t matter how long I spent with her or how many times I met her, Leo. All that matters is that Tamia is my fated,” he said, and the shock was so much that I just stared at him, stunned.

Everything he did makes a lot of sense now.

~Sylvester-

I was thrilled about the bold step that I had taken. I felt giddy about it and wanted to celebrate the engagement.

I noticed Tamia staring at her ring, which made me smile because she liked it. There was so much life in the dining room when we ate that I was glad I gave love a chance.

I never knew my heart could ever beat for anyone again. Tamia proved me wrong and had my heart on a marathon. 1

I held her hand throughout dinner and did not miss the opportunity to kiss her. This was it for me.

After dinner, we returned to our bedroom, and we made love. We were like beasts.

Within the walls of our room, we had no control and no limits, and somehow, I knew it would always be like this.

I decided to visit my mother the next day. I knew she was healed, so I opted to check on her. I asked Tamia to come with me, and she was a bit reluctant because of Dominic.

“I do not think it is wise to take me along. Your brother hates me for reasons known to him, and your mother just came out of a terrible attack that allegedly had something to do with me,” She said, wearing her jeans. 1

“I want you there with me. I also hope we can find a way to speak to her about the event so you can make some deductions on the matter. Above all, I want her to meet her future daughter-in-law,” I said, and she looked at me.

“I do not have experience with in-Laws,” she told me, and I frowned.

“Leo’s parents are still alive,” I argued, and she nodded.

“They travelled when they handed over to him and have not returned since. It was just the two of us until Amanda came along, She said, and there was no ounce of hurt in her tone. I was pleased that she could talk about Amanda and Leo without being hurt. It showed that she had moved on.

I went to her and pulled her to my chest, then kissed her. Holding her in my arms felt so right. She was perfect for me.

“Green eyes,” I told her, and she giggled.

“Know you have nothing to worry about whenever you are with me. I can burn the world for your sake,” I said and kissed the tip of her nose. I wasn’t saying those words to soothe her ego. It was my truth, and I meant it.

Anyone that tried to come between us would face my wrath.

“Please, I want you to come with me,” I said and kissed her neck, tempted to sink my teeth in. Too bad I would have to wait for the him and have not returned since. It was just the two of us until Amanda came along,’ She said, and there was no ounce of hurt in her tone. I was pleased that she could talk about Amanda and Leo without being hurt. It showed that she had moved on.

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Anyone that tried to come between us would face my wrath.

“Please, I want you to come with me,” I said and kissed her neck, tempted to sink my teeth in. Too bad I would have to wait for the wedding night to do it as tradition.

“Okay,” She said, and I laughed.

“Great, wear a dress; Jeans are a lot of work, I said, squeezing her arse, and she giggled.

“You are naughty,” She teased.

“For you,” I replied, and her cheeks coloured.

I brushed them gently and ran my thumb against her parted lips. She licked it and sent shivers down my spine.

Then she moved away to change her outfit.

“Wear something short,” I said, composing myself, and she smiled.

“Mine,” Knight said, and my wolf made me laugh.

“She is ours, Knight,” I corrected him, and he growled.

“Bump up the wedding; we are lord; we do not have to wait for the Blue moon ceremony. I want to make her mine now,” Knight said, and I agreed with my wolf.

The Blue moon ceremony was about three months away; that was too long a time to wait to claim my woman.

“I can’t control myself, Sylvester,” Knight said, and I knew he might sink his teeth in before the due time. I would try to hold out for as long as I can.

She returned, dressed in a short orange sundress. Her legs looked beautiful.

“The colour suits you, darling,” I said, and she smiled.

“It was the only decent outfit fit for the occasion,” She said, and I smiled at her, knowing what her collection was like.

We headed out, and I felt like a schoolboy all over again. Grabbing and kissing her on our way out.

A lot of people saw us, and I did not care. I was finally living my life, and I liked it.

I wanted to drive us there but decided to have a kappa drive us last minute. I doubted if I would last behind the wheel with how I felt.

I placed my hand on Tamia's thigh and moved up.

"I am not wearing panties," She linked me, and I looked at her. Knight growled lustfully.

She knew how to get us worked up. She reached for my hand and placed it between her legs close to her pussy, and moaned.

"This was why you made me wear something short." She linked me, and I knew my eyes were back because I could not control Knight.

She reached for my fly, unzipped my pants and reached into my boxers. The moment she held me in her hands, I relaxed to enjoy the gift she was about to give me. Bending down, she placed me in her mouth, and that was all I needed to go wild.

I could not tell where we were, the car was somewhere in the woods, but I didn't care. I had never taken a woman in the car before. This will be the first time; She bobbed her head, taking me down till it touched the back of her throat, and I felt it. I didn't want to come in her mouth this time. So I made her come on top of me.

Placing me in her, she began to ride.

"I told you I could ride," She linked me, reminding me of our horse riding joke. I was too excited to laugh. I growled and moaned. She was moving right, and it felt so right.

Tight and the perfect fit for me. I wanted her to come first, so I held out. Guiding her body as she ground her pussy up and down my length.

“I’m coming,” She said, and it was like music to my ears; she moaned so loud, and I felt her walls pulsate and clench my cock until she came down, and then I released into her. I felt relaxed when we were through, and she got off me.

“Amazing,” I said, kissing her, and she giggled.

“Hope I don’t fall asleep before we get there,” She said, and I laughed.

“Me too,” I said, looking at the driver, who seemed rigid. We had assaulted his eyes, and I felt guilty for it.

We arrived at my mother’s house, and

Tamia and I went in.

My mother was sitting in the ante-room with Dominic and one of Susan’s cousins, who happened to be his new girlfriend and a bitch, Glenda Sullivan.

“Alpha,” Glenda said, standing up when she saw me. My brother did the same but was angry to see Tamia.

“Why did you bring your whore to see mother?” He said, and I wanted to attack him, but Tamia stopped me. I went to hug and kiss my mother.

“Mother, meet Tamia, my fiance,” I said, and she smiled at Tamia and hugged her.

“What!” I heard Glenda and Dominic exclaim. I wondered if my brother would ever mind his business.

“She isn’t your fated,” Glenda said, and I honestly would have slapped her if it weren’t for the fact that I respected women. I might just make her the exception.

“Who said I was searching for my fated?” I asked her.

“Susan. That was why she left. She said you needed to be strong and needed your..” She said, and I shut her up.

“I will not repeat this. Do not mention that name where I am concerned, and it will be nice if you mind your business or I will forget you are screwing my

brother and mistreat you. Whether you are with Dominic or not, I am still your lord, and you should never speak to me unless I ask you to.

“Leave them alone, Sylvester; I am glad you came,” My mother said, leading Tamia and me to the living room.

“She is gorgeous,” my mother said, admiring Tamia.

“How is he treating you, dear?” She asked Tamia offering us a seat. Tamia sat and smiled.

“I am happy,” She said, and my mother smiled.

“From your smiles, I can see you are happy,

My mother said and took her hand to admire the ring.

“The shade of your eyes,” My mother said, looking at Tamia.

“Who would have thought you were a romantic, Sylvester?” She said, looking at me, and I smiled.

“So this is it?” She finally said, and I nodded.

“I hope babies are in the plan,” She asked, and I nodded.

“So you two will wed on the blue moon according to tradition?” She asked. I nodded, and she beamed.

“Great, Tamia and I have three months to get to know each other and plan the wedding. I want it to be grand,” My mother said, and there was no way I would be bringing Tamia to Lucland often.

“Mother, I can’t come here all the time with Tamia,” I said, and her smile faded. My mother wanted to tell me something, trying to find the right words.

“You see, son, since the incident with Jenny,

I felt the essence of coming to live here had been defeated. If they could attack me here, then I am no longer safe here,” She said, and I frowned at her, wondering where she was heading with this.

“I thought about it after I was discharged from the hospital this morning, and I have decided I will be moving back to the Estate,” She said, and I did not know how to feel about it.

I love my breakfast with my friends, who were also my officers. I loved my life there.

Having my mother move back there would change a lot of things.

I will have to eat with her and spend more time with her.

She would want to get involved with running the place, and I would not like it. It was just better this way.

“Mother, I do not think it is wise. Let me increase the security here,” I said, trying to convince her not to come and stay in the estate.

“No, Sylvester, my mind is made up on this. You may be a lord, but I am still your mother. Your brother and I are moving back in,” She said, and I exclaimed.

“You can’t bring Dominic to the estate, mother. You know we do not see eye to eye on many things. I need to be focused. He will be a serious negative distraction for me,” I complained, and she shook her head.

“It is just the two of you. Please, Sylvester. I have spoken to him about it, and he is willing to try. The both of you have to try to get along. He is your only family, other than me, of course,” She said, and I shook my head.

“Tamia and our children are my family,” I said, and she nodded.

“Of course, Sylvester, I am not disputing that, but please, you must try to make it work with Dominic. It breaks my heart to see you two fight and hate each other. Please,” She said, holding my hand, and I looked at Tamia. Her face bore no expression, she could not say yes or no even though she hated Dominic.

“I have rules, mother. He should not speak to or disrespect Tamia in any way. He isn’t allowed to get involved with running the place. He cannot attend my meetings. I do not want to know he is there,” I said, and she shook her head.

“I can understand all that except the last one. We will have some time together when we can, and he can be relaxed there, too; after all, the estate belongs to our family. Try, Sylvester,” She said, and I knew if I said no, it would break her heart. I would just have to see how it goes. Living with Dominic would be very difficult, especially now that he is going steady with Glenda.

-Tamia~

Sylvester’s mother received me with kindness, and she was nice to me, but I realised Sylvester wasn’t happy about having his brother on the estate.

I could understand his reluctance. I have met Dominic three times, and none have been pleasant.

Sylvester searched my eyes for answers, but I could not give any. Until I officially became his Luna, I had no say.

Dominic walked into the living room with his girlfriend, who was afraid of Sylvester.

“Have you told the wolf Lord, mother?”

Dominic asked and came to sit in the living room with his girlfriend.

“I have told him, but there are conditions,” his mother said, and he exclaimed.

“He can’t give me conditions to live on our family’s property,” Dominic said, and their mother growled.

“He can, and he has. He is lord and Alpha of the North; you will give him his respect, Dominic. I am beginning to sense you are jealous of your younger brother,” His mother said, and Dominic seemed bewildered by her words.

“Why do you think I am jealous, mother?” He asked, and she looked at him.

“To begin with, you lied about his relationship with Tamia; you made it seem like he was going about misbehaving, and you made it seem as if she was a liability. Then you lied about him neglecting his responsibilities. When Jenny came to meet me, she had nothing but praise for Sylvester. I will advise

you to find something worthwhile and stop trying to bring your brother down, and yes, he has the right to set the rules. He is lord and Alpha. You will abide

by his rules, or you won't move in with us. I am warning you that you should not insult or disrespect Tamia. She is Sylvester's chosen and future Luna of the North. You will give her her respect," His mother said, through gritted teeth, and I could feel the boss in her rise to the surface.

She was a tough woman, and I could see where Sylvester got his toughness from. Although I hadn't met their father, I figured Sylvester was more like his mother.

We spent a while with Luna Stephanie Volkov, Sylvester's mother. She was a joy to be around. She showed me baby pictures of Sylvester, making me want to have children. I remembered how hurt I was when Leo told me Amanda was expecting. I looked at Sylvester and thanked my stars for giving me a second chance.

Understanding how I felt in those moments, he touched my hand and squeezed. He knew I wanted children. Leo must have included it in the letter.

"I can't wait too," He linked me, and tears welled in my eyes, but I brushed them away before Luna Stephanie would ask me why I was crying.

Glenda tried to be friendly, but I was weary of her; learning she was Susan's cousin did it for me, and I did not trust her intention towards Sylvester.

I trusted my man, but I did not trust her. Knowing that Dominic would be moving into the estate meant I would have to deal with her. I am okay as long as Susan does not miraculously show up looking for her cousin. Somehow I knew what Susan did still hurt Sylvester even though he wouldn't admit it. She was best far away from us. I hoped she was married with plenty of children.

Soon it was time for us to leave, and Luna

Stephanie felt sad about it. She pleaded with

Sylvester to let us stay, but he declined because we had to answer questions at the council early in the morning the next day.

According to him, Avery, Linda and me would be questioned extensively about Elder

Jenny's death. As long as Dominic wasn't doing the questioning, I was fine with it.

We returned to the estate and tried not to assault the driver's senses this time.

Entering our room, Sylvester pulled me close to him and kissed me.

"No one will hurt you, I promise." He said, and I smiled at him.

"I know," I said, assuring him I was okay, and he smiled.

We went to shower so we could get ready and head for dinner.

Dinner was a bit silent.

I guess Sylvester had linked Marcel and Theodore about the new development.

They weren't enthusiastic about Dominic moving in.

I guess I wasn't the only one that did not like Dominic.

Linda was afraid and wondered how we could remain calm after finding out that the man that locked us up in cages and tried to pin Luna's assault and the Elder's murder on us, was moving in. I had no answer because I was afraid, but I was confident that Sylvester wouldn't let him hurt us.

After dinner, we all returned to our rooms and decided to sleep early so we would be refreshed the next day.

I thought we would be sleeping, but Sylvester had other things in mind. He went under the covers and decided to give me the wildest night yet. Kaira howled in my head, enjoying every bit of his ministrations.

It was clear he was trying to get a baby in me. I wasn't on the pill anymore, so it might happen soon.

We left early the next day for the Dark Wolf Pack council building in Lucland. It was tall. and grand.

The sight of the building alone was intimidating.

The North was the most developed and organised part of our world.

It was only normal they would lead the rest of our world, and now that I was a part of it,

I was proud of it.

We entered a small auditorium, loges boxes were on the walls.

The boxes were raised sitting platforms towards the rear of the auditorium.

They were on multiple levels stacked vertically above the ground. I counted a total of six levels of sitting boxes on the wall. Dominic was sitting in a loge on the first level.

We were taken to the grand Loge meant for the lord. It was on the first level but on the opposite side of where Dominic was sitting. It was a beauty.

I could see the Elders seat on the ground floor and the opened centre on the floor where the speaker would start to speak so everyone could hear. It was a beautiful setting. If only it was bigger, they could have plays there, but it was clear it was an official setting.

Some ladies were asked to serve our Loge, and from how they were dressed, it was obvious they had a different kind of service. in mind.

Avery got uncomfortable and snapped at one of the girls.

Noticing what was happening, Marcel requested that men serve the Loge instead. The women were not happy.

“Your reputation precedes you.” I leaned close to Sylvester’s ear and said; he looked at me and frowned.

“Tell me you wouldn’t have selected a bedmate from those girls if I wasn’t in your life,” I teased, and he smiled and kissed my hand.

“I only go for premium stuff,” he said, maintaining eye contact with me. His gaze made me shudder, and I felt like I was the only one in the room. He had that effect on me, and he knew it.

He stuck out his tongue and sensually licked the back of my hand with the tip before kissing my hand the second time. My pussy clenched, imagining his tongue on me.

“Sylvester,” I breathed, and he smiled at me. He had me right where he wanted.

Just then, a woman approached our Loge to speak with Sylvester.

“Lord Volkov,” She said, bowing her head,

“We are about to start. The Eastern Lunas have to follow me,” The woman said, and it still bothered me that we were seen as eastern Lunas, even though we had no marks on our necks.

“They are no longer Eastern Lunas,”

Sylvester corrected her, and she bowed her head and apologised for her blunder.

We were led to the centre and made to stand. I guess we were the entertainment of the event.

Standing on the open centre of the ground floor meant we would be the ones answering the questions.

Seven elderly people took a seat where the elders sat, leaving one seat vacant.

I believed that was the chair that belonged to Elder Jenny. I felt terrible for her.

The leader of the council was a young man called Vino Lawrence.

He was an Alpha, and it seemed he had succeeded his father.

He was the most reserved, and it did not seem like he would be asking questions.

Looking at him, I realised the seats belonged to families, not nominated individuals. If not, Vino would not be the head of the council.

“Luna Tamia Albert, welcome to the council. I know you know why you and your colleagues are here. So we can get right to it,

“An elder called Larry McMillian said, and I nodded.

“Three days ago, Luna Stephanie and Elder

Jenney were attacked at Lunna Stephanie’s house by Southern and eastern soldiers.

According to the northern warriors on guard, they claimed the men were there to get you, and they were sent by Alpha Devin Corrigan, also known as Bane. Explain your relationship with Bane and how he knew to search for you in Luna Stephanie’s home.” The man said, and I was pissed off. He might not have said it, but he insinuated I set the Luna up.

“I was the Luna of the Mountain pack, married to Alpha Leonardo Albert until I was given as a peace offering to Lord Sylvester Volkov to settle the misunderstanding between the North and the east. I do not know Alpha Devin Corrigan.”

“I met him once at a dinner party, and that was all. I have not communicated with anyone outside the Volkov Estate. We are under strict conditions and cannot wander about the place or communicate with outsiders.”

“I did not know where Luna Stephanie lived, and I have no dealing with Elder Jenny. I am not in a position to shed light on the matter.” I said, and Elder Larry Laughed.

“Lying to the council is a crime Luna,” he said and looked at me with dark eyes.

“We have laws in the North, and we abide by them. I will give you a chance to come clean if it happens, or your colleagues will be punished severely for the crime.” He said to

“I will not admit to anything because I did not do anything,” I said, and he nodded.

“Alpha Max Christian blanc of the Woodland pack at Hill Valley sent letters to his Luna. We were able to intercept those letters, and we found something interesting. In those letters, Alpha Max tells his wife to respond. He says he knows she can respond because you, Luna Tamia, sent Alpha Leo letters. about your stay in the North,” He said, and I frowned at the man.

“We have the letters in our possession.” He said, and people began to murmur. I did not know what to say.

“Luna Tamia, What did you tell your husband about the North? I am of the notion that you told him all he needed to know.

Because there is an alliance between the east and south, Alpha Leonardo Albert, leader of the east, sought help from the man that had beaten the North in battle, believing he would be able to do the task to try to take you away from the North,” He said, and I could not believe this bastard. He had twisted the narrative.

“These are all insinuations. You have no proof,” I said, and he shook his head.

“I have Alpha Max’s letters that say otherwise, Luna,” he said, and I was about to speak when I heard Sylvester’s voice from his Loge.

“Enough!” He said, and everyone was silent.

“I made her write one letter to her husband when she got here and sent it myself. She did not know my mother was in Lucland then. I read the letter and still have a photocopy of its content. You can not base your deductions on the letter of a husband that misses his wife and wants her to write to him at all costs. Besides, what I want to know is why they killed Elder Jenny. If Tamia was their target, they would have injured both my mother and Jenny, not killed Jenny. I have done some investigations myself, and my mother said they did not ask for Tamia; they beat her up and killed Jenny before she blacked out. Whatever happened had nothing to do with Tamia, Avery and Linda.

And I will advise this court to refrain from referring to them as Eastern Lunas. As you can all see, They no longer bear their husbands’ marks., They belong to my pack, and Tamia will be my Luna soon,” He said, and people began to murmur.

As proud as I was of him, I did not think telling them I would be their Luna soon was a good idea.

They had it in for the east, and the three of us represented the east and south to them, especially Dominic.

Chapter 24 - The Destiny of a Heart-broken Luna

~Tamia~

After breakfast, I felt lost and bored.

Since they brought us to the estate, Sylvester had been around, and I had his attention, so the place felt new and lonely.

Avery and Marcel had things planned, and Linda and Theodore were getting to know each other; I could not inconvenience them.

I returned to our bedroom to think of all that Marcel had told me about Bane, the silent war, and the east.

I was worried for the east. The last thing I wanted was for the east to get caught up in a mess.

I didn't want to stress about it too much, so I decided I would hang out with Katya in the garden.

I knew some of the women in the harem liked to hang out in the garden, so I wore jeans from the new collection of clothes

Sylvester got me, and his t-shirt to surround myself with his scent.

I held the t-shirt to my nose before wearing I headed to the garden in high spirits.

When I got there, most of the women in the harem came to greet me. Katya approached, and we hugged.

"You look stunning in his t-shirt, Tamia," She said, and I smiled at her. I found a place to sit, and some women came to sit around me.

I noticed Lilly from a distance, and she was looking at me with scorn, but I couldn't be bothered.

"Is it official? Are you the new woman in his life?" Katya asked me, and I frowned at her, wondering why she would ask me such a question.

"What do you mean by the new woman?" I asked her, accepting a cup of tea from one of the women.

I made sure I stylishly sniffed it before placing the cup against my tongue to pretend to take a sip, and then I put the cup down. I wasn't stupid to drink something served by women in Sylvester's Harem whom he wasn't screwing.

“I mean, since he kicked Lilly to the curb and all,” Katya said, explaining her question, and I laughed. It was clear Lilly did not tell them the truth. I was about to speak when I saw her approaching us.

“See who decided to grace us,” She said politely, and I smiled at her.

“I see you did not tell them the truth,” I told her, and she shrugged.

“Alpha only said those things to make you happy, Tamia. Who am I to say he is lying? I am just a prisoner of war. If he said he wasn’t screwing me so you would feel better, so be it,” She said, trying to save face.

“Whatever makes you happy, Lilly,” I said, and I noticed that the women had figured out what we were saying.

“So, you mean you have been lying to us all this while?” one woman asked, and Lilly shook her head.

“How can I be lying when we spent long hours in his office and his room?” She said, and I decided to change the topic.

Lilly was clearly ashamed and too embarrassed to own up to the truth. Since we had the same alpha, I could now link her.

“You need to be careful with your lies so he doesn’t find out, Lilly,” I said, and she frowned at me.

“Let us change the topic,” I said to the women and stood up without drinking the tea.

It was my most innovative way of refusing to drink it. I have read a book about back palace politics. I wouldn’t want to be a victim.

“What do you ladies do for fun?” I asked, and Katya stood up.

“Painting, quilting, sewing, embroidery,” She said, and I rolled my eyes.

“I want something that is fun and consumes energy. Don’t get me wrong, those things are relaxing, but I do not want to relax.” I said, and some of the women laughed.

“Croquet, Volleyball,” Katya said, and I beamed at her.

“Now that will be fun. I say we play Volleyball and then wind down with Croquet. I said, and we headed to a field meant for Volleyball. We immediately formed our teams.

The women took off their tunics and gowns, leaving them wearing sexy lacey lingerie. I did the same, and the game was on.

Most of the guards came to watch. It was my team against Lilly’s team, and Katya was on my team. Lilly seemed a bit relaxed because I did not embarrass her as she had thought I would.

I served the ball, and the rest was history.

We had a lot of fun, and the women were genuinely overjoyed.

Soon, makeshift courts were created so that others wouldn’t have to wait too long for their turn.

It was so much fun that Avery joined us, and I looked and saw Marcel standing by.

It was supposed to be their day together since the Beta was always busy. I guess this was part of the fun they were having.

“Alpha won’t be pleased seeing you playing in your underwear outside,” Marcel warned, laughing, and I placed my index finger against my lips.

“Then this will be our secret,” I said.

We had so much fun, and it turned into a party.

When we were tired of playing Volleyball, the guards came to set the place for Croquet.

It took time to set it up, allowing us time to catch our breaths.

While the guards set it up, we relaxed with wine and bite-size treats.

It somehow turned into a party, and I noticed some women were getting comfortable with the officers.

“Is that allowed?” I asked Katya, and she smiled.

“Of course. The Alpha, Beta and Gamma don’t touch us, but we are allowed to date. There are some women who are currently married with children to top officers and ordinary people. I do not know why alpha calls it a harem,” She said, and I hoped she was telling me the truth because I did not want anyone setting me up where Sylvester was concerned.

While they played Croquet, I went to meet Marcel where he was, to ask him if it was okay that the women flirt with the officers, and he nodded. Apparently, everyone was allowed to mingle except for my friends and

Soon it was evening, and we returned to freshen up and eat dinner. I did not want to enter the room because I would miss Sylvester.

The moment I stepped into the room, I felt alone again.

Sylvester had spoiled me with attention and care. I did not know how much until now. I went to the shower and showered in a hurry, then headed for dinner.

Everyone was waiting for me.

The moment I got there, we all started eating.

I felt it was odd that Marcel would wait for me to arrive before eating. Whenever Sylvester wasn’t around, he was the one in command. I took it as a kind gesture, and I was grateful.

After dinner, Linda and Theodore left in a hurry, and I somehow figured they had gone all the way.

Linda didn’t seem uptight with him anymore, and I was happy for her. Kyle was a bastard. I was glad she was moving on.

I hoped Marcel would let Avery hang out with me, but it seemed Avery wanted to be around Marcel instead. I understood, so I let it alone.

I walked back to the room slowly.

Lilly came to me on my way, and I rolled my eyes, bracing myself for her smart mouth. Instead, she hugged me.

“Thank you, Tamia, for not embarrassing me out there,” She said and broke the hug,

“You and alpha look good together; I hope it lasts. Since he disposed of his Harem three years ago, he has been single. You are lucky, She said; I frowned at her.

“Were you here three years ago?” I asked, and she nodded.

“I came a few months before he sent the women he was screwing away. They were five altogether,” she said smiling, and I felt a tinge of jealousy, but it was normal for me to feel that way with how I felt for Sylvester.

“Well, good for them; they are free,” I said, and she shook her head.

“They didn’t want to leave. It was horrible.

He treated them as if they were nothing. It was heart-wrenching to see. Especially Arya, who was crazy about him. We all thought she would be luna with the way he showered her with attention, and the fact that she was from a small pack in the north, but he threw her out as if she was nothing,” She said, and I didn’t want to hear anymore.

“Well, it is none of my business,” I said, and she nodded and placed her hand on my shoulder.

“I am not trying to antagonise you or hurt you. Please do not take this wrongly, but be guarded and be ready to say goodbye. I am only telling you this because you were kind to me today. When he set those women free, he told them they were wasting their time. because he does not plan on ever settling down with anyone,” She said, and I smiled at her and thanked her.

“Well, as for the settling-down part, I have been there, done that, and there is nothing to it. Let us see where this leads. But I am grateful for the heads up.” I said, and she smiled.

I couldn’t tell if she told me those things to hurt or make me feel bad. I was grateful if she was genuinely looking out for me by warning and preparing me. Otherwise, she was wasting her time. I returned to the room, showered and wore Sylvester’s shirt to bed.

It was clear I was sharing his wardrobe.

Who would have thought I would be with the dreaded Wolf Lord? It was an unbelievable turn of events, and the fact that he ended up being sweet, loving

and sensitive towards me was amazing. I didn't miss that he wasn't kind to others, and I liked it that way.

"What do you think he is doing?" Kaira asked me, missing Sylvester, and I sighed.

"I do not know, Kaira," I said, and I felt the loneliness down to my soul because Kaira was feeling it too.

"I think I am falling for him," Kaira said, and I smiled.

"We both are," I assured my wolf, and I felt warmth.

"Do you think we have a fated out there?" She asked, using the word I had come to hate.

"Honestly, at this point, I do not care. If Sylvester is true and we ever end up together before he comes, I will reject him," I told my wolf.

"Leo couldn't do it, and he loved us," She pointed out.

"Not enough, apparently. He did not want to be weak. He was being an asshole and selfish," I told her.

"Do you think Sylvester will be different?" She asked, and I could not answer the question. She knew it but asked anyway because it troubled both of us.

"Our emotions are one and the same," She said, and I laughed.

"Do you think he will fall in love with us?" I asked her, and she was silent.

"I wonder if he will ever tell us he loves us, or this is all we will get," I told her.

"It will be nice to hear the rumoured heartless Wolf Lord tell us he loves us. You

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“I wonder if he will ever tell us he loves us, or this is all we will get,” I told her.

“It will be nice to hear the rumoured heartless Wolf Lord tell us he loves us. You know he is a complete contrast to the stories we heard,” She said, and I adjusted in bed and laid on my side, hugging his pillow.

“Let us not be too hopeful, Kaira. We are still war prisoners, and he is the wolf lord. We should take what we get.” I said, smiled and hugged the pillow with his scent tighter. Thanks to our activities, sleep came. Sweet pleasure erupted inside me, and I thought I was dreaming.

I opened my eyes and saw Sylvester between my legs. I was a bit disoriented, and the pleasure he was giving me did not allow my mind to settle.

I began to moan. Losing control of my body and I came. Waking me up completely with a burning desire for him. He moved up to look at my face, and my juices glistened on his lips. He kissed me, and I could taste myself.

“I couldn’t stay away, Tamia,” He said with a breathy voice, and I grabbed onto him and kissed him.

“Good morning, darling,” He said to me, undressing me.

He buried himself in me, and I hoped I wasn’t dreaming. I flipped our positions and decided to show him how well I could ride. He held my hips and guided me.

I was in my world, and soon we both came. simultaneously.

I lay next to him, and he pulled me close and kissed my neck.

“I couldn’t stay away, green eyes. You are becoming an addiction,” He said, and I giggled. I looked at the clock and saw it was two in the morning.

He must have snuck out of his mother's house. It made me feel important.

"Did you miss me much?" He asked, and I turned to look at him.

"No," I lied.

He kissed the tip of my nose, and I laughed. He stared at me seriously and intensely.

"Don't break my heart, Tamia," He said, and I stopped laughing.

Patting my hair gently, he continued to look at me.

"I am never letting you go," He said with a firm promise and pulled me close holding me in his arms, and we both fell asleep.

Tamia-

Things got intense between Sylvester and me, and I found myself completely in love. with him.

I was afraid that I would repeat history, but my heart was beyond my control. He knew how to act, what to say and what to He made me feel like the most important person in his world, and I slowly found myself saying, 'this is it' but I had said that before, not so long ago, and I came out burnt and broken.

I wasn't willing to make that jump again. It was a scary situation to be in. I tried to fight my feelings and kept telling myself it was casual.

I tried to think through the situation to guard my heart. The fact that Sylvester and I weren't fated scared the shit out of me.

Questions of the future plagued my mind. What if she shows up one day just like Amanda? Where will that leave me? He had never told me he loved me. This could be a fun and exciting thing for him.

I scolded myself for catching feelings.

Every day we would wake up, eat, and train together. I let him go and handle his duties, and then we met in the evening and did whatever we liked.

It was fun and scary because I had fallen in love with him.

When I decided to speak to Sylvester about my fears, we were lying on the grass in the western garden, a part of the estate people rarely visited.

“Sylvester,” I said gently; we were lying side by side and looking at the stars that graced the night sky. It was a beautiful sight and a lovely moment. I was afraid that I might ruin it.

“Yes,” he replied, and I exhaled.

“Do you ever let your prisoners go?” I asked him, and he chuckled.

“Which of the prisoner’s, green eyes? The ones in the cell or the trophies?” he asked, making light the question.

“Your trophies,” I asked, and he exhaled too.

“They have nowhere to go back to, I am their Alpha, and they are connected to me; I am not keeping them here as prisoners; they are here because this is their only home for now. They are free to leave, but they only leave if they find love or want to move to Lucland or another part of the north. They are all here of their own volition. I am a lord, not a monster. I expect the women to fall in love eventually and move on. I also know they have needs.” He said.

“Would you ever settle down?” I asked him immediately, and he was silent.

“I am sorry to ask, but I overheard some ladies talking about how you threw out the five women in your harem. They said you told a woman called Arya that you do not plan on settling down. I just want to know if it is true,” I said.

“I am not worried about it. I understand. Coming out of a failed marriage, I can understand, and I am okay where we are; that way, if you find your fated, it would not be an issue,” I said, trying to convince myself more that falling for him was stupid.

He turned to his side to look at me.

“Look at me,” He said, and I did what he asked and made sure my face bore no emotions.

“I indeed said those things, and I meant them, Tamia. As the lord of the north with a pending war, I doubt I would want to tie any woman down. It was my

way of setting them free and making them forget about me,” He said, and his words hurt because it seemed as if his mindset had not changed.

“As for my fate, I do not care about that shit, Tamia. I make my destiny. I do not care what the stars say. I won’t lose my shit or betray a woman that has been there for me. through thick and thin, because fate said so. I will reject her in a heartbeat and risk being weak,” He said, and I smiled at him. Having been there, I knew it was easier said than done.

He touched my face gently and smiled.

“I am not Leo, Tamia,” he said, and I nodded, but my eyes were already welling up with tears because I was a fool all over again. I had fallen completely in love with someone that did not plan on having anything serious with me.

“I am nothing like my father. My trophies are not prisoners: they are free, but I won’t let you go, Tamia. You aren’t a prisoner here, and you aren’t a trophy; you are my woman,” he said, and I smiled at him, but tears were threatening to fall at that moment.

He sat up and asked me to do the same. Then he pulled me close and crashed his lips on mine,

“I want to make love to the woman I love under the stars,” he said, tugging on my clothes gently, and I could not believe he had used the word ‘love’ with me. He moved from my lips to my neck.

“I can’t wait to claim you as mine, Tamia,” he linked me, sucking on the spot on my neck, and my body came apart; he moved to the crook of my neck and opened my blouse. to expose my breasts.

“You aren’t my trophy, Tamia. Never compare yourself to them,” He linked me and sucked my nipples one at a time. He sucked while he rubbed the other between his thumb and index finger.

I had started moaning, and he growled with approval.

He rolled down my panties and spread my legs wide. I laid back down on the grass, looking at the stars while he ate me.

“Sylvester,” I moaned, my vision blurry and my heart racing fast.

Please let this be it; I prayed while I writhed, moaning in pleasure, running my fingers through his hair and anticipating the release.

All my senses were alive, and I felt the release coming through. I let go, and it erupted inside me.

He did not stop until I came down.

Then he leaned over me and stared into my eyes.

“I wasn’t joking when I said this is it, Tamia, I love you,” He said, knowing what had troubled my heart all along and drove himself into me before I could say anything, making love to me under the stars.

“This is it for me, Tamia,” He said, pumping gently but hitting the right spot.

Soon he sat up and pulled me up. I came on top, hugging him and riding. He held me and my body responded to him.

My speed became faster because an orgasm was coming, and soon it erupted again. He stilled and released into me. He held me, his head against my chest.

“I am never letting go. I love you,” He said and looked at me.

I had tears of fear in my eyes, fear that fate might take him from me, so I held on to my confession of love, never speaking the words that might doom me again, and my lips quivered.

“You have nothing to worry about with me, Tamia. You won’t lose me to anyone, not even a fated. I won’t do what Leo did to you. I promise. Your heart and love are too precious for me to throw away because fate says so. I am begging you to trust me and love me without reserve,” he said. I searched his eyes, and they were sincere, but so were Leo’s until, the day he saw Amanda.

“Don’t make promises you can’t keep,” I said to him, my hands and knees shaking.

“I don’t. I know I will keep this one,” he breathed in my scent.

“Until you, I did not think my heart would ever beat for anyone or I would ever feel this way, but you have made what seemed impossible possible. I want you to trust me and take this leap with me, please. Open up one more time. I know it is a lot to ask for, but I am asking you to give me a chance,” he said to me, and in those moments, I threw caution to the wind because who was I fooling? My heart was already invested deep in what we had; I might as well go all in. 1

“I love you too, Sylvester,” I said to him, “please do not damage what is left of my heart. I doubt I will survive another rejection. I will always be with you and never leave, even if there is an opportunity to do so, I am with you by choice, and I am giving you my heart by choice. If ever fate interferes with what we have, I will let him go in a heartbeat because I choose you, but please, Sylvester, do not let me down. Do not make me share, and do not make me regret this,” I pleaded with him, and he held me.

“I am ready to go all the way with you, Tamia; settle down and have children. I want to build a life with you, and I hope you will let me.” He said, pleading with me, and I nodded.

I wanted those things, too; although fate had robbed me greatly, I still wanted those things.

“Don’t ever listen to rumours and equate yourself to the people of my past. What we have is different. It is unique and new,” he said, and I nodded.

He kissed me and made love to me under the stars. My heart was lifted that night, and my worries dissipated, but fate still scared me. because I feared what it might have in store for me.

~Tamia-

Sylvester finally asked me to follow him to Lucland to meet his mother. After meeting Dominic at the club, I wasn’t looking forward to the meeting.

I learned the woman was strict and had her sons on a tight leash.

Even though Sylvester had confessed his feelings for me, what if she did not approve of me?

I was scared, but since Sylvester insisted and told me I had nothing to worry about, I decided to take him up on it.

We ate breakfast in our room and prepared to leave.

Linda was the most worried for me because there were only two things that could happen; she could either be unreasonable and ask her son to choose between her and me, or give me a chance. I hoped she would give me a chance.

Leo did not have parents when we got together, so this was new for me. We got dressed to visit his mother.

On our way out, Silvester stopped.

“Marcel needs me for a minute. Do you think you can wait for me? The matter seems urgent; it is about Bane and the East,” he said, and I was a bit worried because of Leo.

“Link me when you are ready to leave,” I told him, and he nodded. I decided to go to Avery’s room. I found Avery in her room, embroidering a piece of fabric. It looked horrible, but it seemed to be her new

pastime. I had not seen her that morning because we didn’t eat in the dining room.

“Hey, you guys haven’t left yet?” She said, putting down the hoop that held the scarf she was marring with her needlework.

I noticed a diamond ring on her finger, and she smiled at me.

“He proposed an hour ago. I did not think about it; I just said yes,” She said, smiling with tears in her eyes.

“I can’t get it wrong twice now, can I?” She said, and I could hear the nervousness in her voice. She was afraid.

“Why did you say yes?” I asked her, picking up on her fear.

“Because I love him, and it will be great to have a life with him, but deep down, I am scared fated will show up and mess me up again,” She said, and I went to hug her. She pulled away and nodded, wiping away her tears.

I now understood why she was in her room working on an embroidery hoop instead of socialising in the eastern garden as usual.

"I have to take this leap of faith, or I might keep guessing and live with regrets. Marcel is a great guy and a great catch. He is a step up from that arsehole, Max. This is a good thing," she said, wiping her tears.

"Feeling afraid and being happy at the same time is a weird mix of emotions," She confessed, and I smiled.

"Has Sylvester told you what is happening in the east?" She asked, changing the topic, and I shook my head.

"We were heading out when Marcel called him for a meeting about Bane and the east, I told her, and she nodded.

"That bastard," She said, and I wondered why she was pissed.

"Bane has successfully divided the east. Leo isn't in full control of the East anymore. A part of the East has joined the south. I also learned he might go to war against Leo to take over the East completely. I just picked bits of Marcel's conversation. I am sure Sylvester will tell you what is going on in case I heard wrong," She said, and I was in shock.

How could the Eastern Alphas allow Bane to use them like this? I was worried. I hoped Leo was getting all the help he needed to push back. It was one thing to willingly join up; it was another to be forced into it.

I sat nervously in Avery's room for almost two hours and decided to return to my room. I wasn't in the mood to hang out in the garden. "Where are you?" I linked Sylvester.

"Still in the meeting," he said, and I felt bored. I sat and prayed for Leo's safety. Eventually, I got tired of waiting and fell asleep.

LATER THAT DAY.

I woke up to a commotion in the corridor.

I looked out the window, and it was evening.

I wondered what was happening. Sylvester did not return.

The meeting had taken all day. What was happening?

Some guards entered my room, and I sat up in bed, worried because they were northern guards. No one had ever barged into Sylvester's room like this before.

"Sylvester", I linked Sylvester but met silence which meant he was not around. To my surprise, Dominic walked in, looking angry.

"Bind the bitch; she has questions to answer," he said, and Kaira began to growl.

"It will be in your best interest to comply, or your actions might be seen as treason", he warned me, and I looked at him angrily.

"Does Sylvester know about this?" I asked him, and he did not care.

"I do not need his permission to question a prisoner. Fucking him does not change what you are here. A crime has been committed, and we require your full cooperation to solve it," he said, then the guards clamped the silver cuffs around my wrist.

"What happened? At least I deserve to know what happened." I said while the guards dragged me out of the room.

"You will find out during questioning," Dominic said, and I tried to link Marcel and Theodore, but they were not around too.

"What has happened to Sylvester?" I asked, afraid something had happened to him, and Dominic stopped and slapped me on the face.

"You should not speak his name. He is lord of the north, whore!" he growled. What had happened to make him like this?

"He trusted you. I warned him. Our mother was attacked today and is currently fighting for her life. She was attacked in the afternoon, and she was in the company of one of a council elder. Unfortunately, the

elder did not make it. The surviving warriors identified the men as a mix of eastern and southern mercenaries. I know you are affiliated with Bane, so the council wants us to question the newcomers, especially you. Bane had dared to attack twice now since you got here. It must mean something," He said to me, and I felt it was ridiculous.

“We have all sworn to serve the Alpha,” I said, avoiding mentioning Sylvester’s name.

“How can we work against him? Why should we pay for Bane’s crimes?” I asked, and he looked at me with rage in his eyes.

“I will tell you why. I warned my brother to be careful with you, but he wouldn’t listen. Too bad I am here to help him think when he is carried away. Since our father was murdered, our mother has hidden in Lucland successfully without event. You are the first outsider to know she lives in Lucland, and then this happened. I also won’t forget that Bane had tried to take you from the north. You were supposed to visit her today; they might have as well come to get you and decided to do some damage when they did not find you there,” he said, and my eyes widened at his wicked angle. Putting things that way made me seem suspicious.

“I won’t say anything until I see my alpha,” I said, and he turned to look at me and slapped me again.

“You will afford me the same respect. I have permission from the council to use force if necessary. I would not want to damage my brother’s toy. Do not push me,” he said, and I remained silent, knowing this was a difficult situation. As much as I hated Dominic, I could not dispute the fact that he had a point. I was carried to a cell and locked up.

Soon Avery and Linda were thrown into the same cell with me. Linda had a bleeding nose, so I figured she resisted. We were too many for them to afford private cells.

Other women that were brought from the East were locked up, too; some were bound in silver chains and made to sit on the floor because the cells were full.

“This is highly unfair. After swearing to serve the north, they still treat us as prisoners,” Avery retorted, and I nodded.

“Let us wait for Sylvester to return. I am sure he will put Dominic in his place,” I told

Avery, and she shook her head.

"I doubt it is that simple. If the council is backing Dominic on this, then Sylvester would have to allow the investigation to run its course," she said, telling me something I already knew.

"Why did Bane attack their mother and kill a council member?" I asked Avery, and she frowned at me.

"There is a war, remember?" She said, and I shook my head.

"There is nothing substantial to gain from that," I said, and Linda shook her head.

"He could destabilise the lord and the north. If she dies, Sylvester might act irrationally, giving Bane the opportunity he wants," Linda said, and I shook my head.

"It still doesn't sound like Bane's mode of operation. I think someone did this to make it seem like Bane," I said.

"It doesn't matter; we will still have to answer questions. I wished we had something useful to give," Avery said, knowing what happened to prisoners that were useless, and we sat there.

No one attended to us. We spent the night there.

"Who gave you the right to barge in here and do this!" I heard Sylvester's voice. He was livid. I had woken up from sleep in the cell they kept us

"So what if Bane attacked mother? Does that mean you should take it out on Tamia, Avery and Linda and the innocent women from the East? What crime did they commit here?" He asked, and I heard Dominic's voice.

"The Council gave the order. I am just carrying it out," Dominic said, trying to justify his actions. I could hear a tinge of fear in his voice too. Sylvester was outraged. We all felt it.

"You are just being malicious. You could have as well asked them whatever question you wanted to ask without degrading them like this. You wanted to hurt them, and I do not know why," Sylvester said.

“Degrade them? They are prisoners. They should be in a cell and not in your bed,” and I heard a punch, and then there was an uproar. Sylvester was beating his brother up.

“Please stop; I am fine,” I linked him quickly. I did not know if it worked, but the unrest stopped. I heard footsteps, and then I saw Sylvester in front of our cell.

“Open it!” he yelled at the guard, and the guard was so afraid that he dropped the key twice before opening the cell.

“They will have to answer the council’s questions,” I heard Dominic say.

“When that time comes, it will be done with respect,” Sylvester said, and as soon as the cell was opened, he rushed towards me and carried me out of the cell.

I honestly wanted to walk, so I made him put me down. He was afraid and worried.

“I am not mad at you,” I said so he could relax.

Avery and Linda were ushered out.

“I am sorry I did not return on time,” Sylvester pleaded with me, and I told him it was okay.

He asked me if they had hit me, and I lied that they didn’t. The last thing I wanted was for Sylvester to go berserk and beat his brother.

“What happened?” I finally asked him while we walked towards the room.

“My mother’s home was attacked. She was injured while a council member was killed. Bane soldiers left a message demanding I send you to him,” He said, and I was stunned.

Dominic’s anger made sense.

Why will Bane do something like this? What was his deal?

“So he knew where your mother lived all along?” I asked, and Sylvester looked at me and searched my eyes.

“That is the second issue. No one knows where my mother lives except the council members, my brother, and me. It was a surprise that Bane knew to attack there and also knew we would be visiting,” Sylvester said. I realised the situation was a puzzle.

It was either Bane had an informant and knew more than Sylvester thought he knew, or the attack wasn't Bane but was made to seem like it. I dared not say these things but hoped they would solve it soon.

“How is your mother?” I asked.

“She is out of the woods and healing nicely,” he said.

He stopped to open the door, and I walked in.

“Do not worry about the council or my brother, Tamia. He is just an asshole. You have nothing to prove to anyone. Marcel and Theodore are already investigating the incident,” He told me, and I nodded.

This development also meant I won't see his mother anytime soon.

-Tamia-

Long after Sylvester and I returned to our room, Dominic banged on our door.

I was initially afraid of the douchebag, but I was angry now that Sylvester was back.

Sylvester seemed like he wanted to ignore his brother but opened the door last minute because the guy wouldn't stop banging.

The man walked into our bedroom angrily.

He looked at me, and I could see his hatred for me.

Honestly, I did not know what his deal was, but it was clear I was in his bad books for no reason.

“You may be the Wolf Lord, but you have not right to interfere with my investigation,” He said to Sylvester, and Sylvester did not respond.

“Mother would have been killed, and these women would have been roaming free,” He said, and Sylvester nodded.

“Yes, they would have been roaming free, Dominic. Why punish people for a crime they did not commit?” Sylvester asked him, and Dominic was shocked at Sylvester’s response.

“She knew mother was in Lucland,” He argued, and Sylvester shook his head.

“She did not know where she was in Lucland. The only people with that information were me, you and the council, so don’t try to pin this on Tamia. Besides, she will never do anything to hurt me, and as for Devin, I doubt he has a hand in this. It is not his style,” Sylvester said, voicing his opinion.

“What happened to you? You used to be so focused and stern. Now you seem pussy whipped,” Dominic said, and Sylvester laughed.

“Nothing happened to me, Dominic. I am not a madman and won’t start acting like one because you want me to. The east has its hands full, and Tamia is a member of my pack. She has no reason to fight against me or hurt our mother. You need to drop it, Dominic. As things are, I am relieving you of the right to come into this estate and order my men around. Whatever you need to do has to pass through me, and Tamia should be afforded respect. On no account should you ever try to question or hurt her again,” he said, and Dominic looked disappointed.

“She will be your downfall, Sylvester, and I will laugh at you when that happens.” He told him and then looked at me. 1

“Your position isn’t secure. He has been trying to fill a void Susan left for eleven years. You might think he is head over heels for you now, but if Susan ever returns, he will dump you in a heartbeat. Just don’t get comfortable,” he said and excused himself. Sylvester was mad about his brother’s words, but I left the bed, hugged him from behind, and kissed his back.

“Don’t let it bother you. His words can’t get to me,” I assured Sylvester, but he was still mad.

We left the room to have dinner, and I wondered how Avery and Linda were doing because we were all in the same predicament.

The dining room was silent, and Sylvester and I took our seats; Marcel and Theodore were angry. I looked at my friends, and they looked a bit worried.

I hoped things don’t get explosive between

We ate in silence, and Sylvester decided to break the ice.

“Out with it,” He said, looking at Marcel, and Marcel dropped his cutlery on his plate.

“I have a lot of respect for you. I understand the gravity of the crime, but Dominic had no right to have my fiance beaten up and dragged out of her room like a criminal. I serve you, and not the Volkov family; I won’t hesitate to beat the shit out of him next time,” Marcel said, and Sylvester turned to Theodore.

“What he said” was all Theodore could say, and Sylvester laughed.

“I already beat the shit out of him,” He said, trying to calm the situation, and it worked.

“What is the deal with the guy? He does not have what it takes to be lord, yet he keeps trying, and the sad part is that the council knows, yet they keep putting him in a situation where he would clash with you. I think we should bring it up at the summit,” Marcel said, and Sylvester nodded.

“Dominic is the least of our problems; we need to find out who is behind the attack on my mother and Jenny Lawrence from the council,” Sylvester said.

“I heard you were one of the best strategists and investigators when you were Luna of the east; what do you think about this?” Marcel said, directing the question to me, and I looked at Avery, who smiled and nodded. She was the one that must have told him.

“Well, based on the information I got, it doesn’t seem like Devin’s mode of operation, and it seems more like an inside job, but I could be wrong,” I said quickly, and Sylvester caressed my hands gently.

“Speak freely, Tamia,” He said, and I knew he was thinking the same as I was. I could see it in his eyes, and he seemed fascinated that I had the same thought.

“I think someone is trying to force your hand to go to war with Devin, and there is a possibility that this Jenny woman was the real target; your mother might have just been with the wrong person at the wrong place,” I said, and Marcel frowned.

"If they wanted Luna Volkov dead, they would have killed her just like they killed Jenny, but they only wounded her and moved on. It seems the main target was Jenny. You need to find out why anyone would want to kill Jenny." I said, and Marcel nodded.

"Then why frame Devin and the east for the attack, and make it seem he had sent soldiers to try to get you?" Theodore said.

"That was the most stupid plot ever. Whoever did this isn't so bright. First, Devin does not know where she lives, and second, how the hell did he know Sylvester and I would be visiting there? Whoever did this knows the issue between the north and Devin. They also know that Devin has attempted to take me from the north too. They just felt the bad blood between Devin and Sylvester would make Sylvester overlook the other aspects of the crime and go after his arch-enemy. The person was stupid and sloppy." I said, and Theodore smiled at me.

"We all thought as much, Tamia, but when Avery said you were a strategist, we wanted to see how good you are, and you are excellent," Marcel said. I looked at Sylvester, who was smiling at me.

"You two owe me fifty each," Sylvester said to Marcel, and I could not believe they had made a bet on this. I smacked his hand gently, and we laughed, and just like that, laughter had returned to our dinner.

Although we discussed the matter during dinner, I was still worried. Knowing someone was willing to frame the south and the east to get what they wanted, baffled me.

I did not even know what the deal was with the Jenny woman. It was a mess, and I could not sleep.

I spent the night tossing and turning; Sylvester was too tired to know I was having trouble sleeping.

The event that had taken place troubled me. I was worried about the north and east. I was concerned for Sylvester's mother. Above all, Dominic scared me because whatever he had for me was personal, and I did not know why.

I woke up early and went to shower.

Sylvester was still sleeping when I went to the bathroom. I turned on the water and stood under it, trying to make my mind go blank.

“Good morning, darling,” Sylvester said, getting into the shower with me.

I was spooked because I was deep in thought, and I did not hear him get in.

I looked at him, and he frowned. He was naked, and he was hard.

“What is the matter?” He asked me gently, and I shook my head.

“I know you are troubled, Tamia,” he said to me, and I sighed.

“What if they had killed your mother, Sylvester? What would have happened?” I said, voicing out my fears, and he hugged me under the warm shower.

“Please let it go. Dominic can’t do anything to you. I know you will never double-cross me. You have proven that already. Whatever Dominic says does not count,” he said and kissed me.

“You are safe with me, Tamia. I won’t let anyone hurt you.” He said, and I pulled away.

“You would have gone to war with the east on this,” I said, afraid for Leo, and he searched my eyes.

“I love you too much to attack your people or your ex. Unlike before, I would investigate before proceeding. Please let it go,” He said, and I knew he needed me to let it go, so I nodded.

He hoisted me up in the shower, and I wrapped my legs around him.

“We can’t let this waste now,” he said, and I laughed. He carried me out of the shower to the bed and went down on me.

A Jump.

I should have woken him up when I was tossing and turning. His ministrations on me pushed my troubles far away.

I felt his finger in me as he worked on my nerve bundle, and I moaned. Soon I climaxed, and he drove his very hard and erect cock into me. Pumping hard and fast. As if he had anticipated it all night.

It was a while before he came, and I had climaxed several times by then. My legs were like jelly when he was done. 1

We laid down to catch our breaths, and he stroked my back gently.

“Do not worry about war, Tamia. How can I plan to go to war when I want to start a family with you as my wife?” he said, and I froze in bed.

I searched his eyes to see if he was serious, and there was no deception in his dark eyes.

“Sylvester,” I said, and he held my hand and kissed it.

“Please disregard what happened with Dominic. I have never felt so right about anything in my life. I want this. That is why I never took precautions with you. I want us to settle down and start a family. I want you to be my wife, my mate and my Luna,” He said, searching my eyes for an answer and tears of excitement and relief poured. 1

“Sylvester,” I said again and nodded in response.

I could not speak. My breathy voice was caught in my throat. He beamed at me and kissed me passionately.

“That was why I wanted you to meet my mother.” He said, breaking the kiss, then went to the dresser and returned with a jewellery box,

“I picked this out for you,” He said, sitting beside me in bed and holding my left hand.

“I have never felt this way about anyone before. You complete me, Tamia, and I want this to be official. No more will anyone again refer to you as a whore or prisoner because you are neither of those things. My respect is yours, and my life is yours. Everything I am and own is yours, Tamia. I want to take this leap with you. Let us do this,” He said and brought out an emerald ring, and I laughed at the irony of the gem being green. 3

“They match your eyes,” he teased, laughing with me and then slipped it onto my ring finger. The platinum band made it look exquisite, and I kissed him.

I had said yes to marriage twice now; I hoped this would be it.

Sylvester was so happy about my response that he made love to me, and I could feel the difference this time. His strokes were sure and determined.

He was pouring out all his feelings, and I received them with so much gratitude.

Soon I felt Knight taking over, and it became wild because Kaira joined in. They had agreed to be mates too.

~Leo~

Protecting what was left of my territory from Bane’s invasion was hard, but I had to.

These were times when I would have loved Tamia on my team.

She knew exactly what to do and how to act.

I was leaning on Max and Kyle, and our odds didn’t seem great.

When the lesser Alphas joined with Bane, it didn’t hurt.

I felt it was their choice.

They wanted to go after the wolf lord and get their daughters back; some wanted revenge for their loved ones. I could understand their pain. However the Wolf Lord tried to justify his attack, his actions were wrong. Attacking the entire East because a pack from the East dared to attack him was wrong.

I knew it was cowardly to accept defeat and urge the East to rebuild and move on, but I did not want us to lose more than we had already.

The northern soldiers were strong, and they had a larger army.

Combining our strength with the south would have evened the playing field, but I did not trust Bane’s intentions, and I still don’t.

I had called a meeting with the remaining

Alphas under me, and they answered.

When the alphas arrived, they were angry and scared at the same time.

Everyone blamed Kyle for our misfortunes because he was the one that brought Bane to

What pissed all of us off was Bane wanted us to join up by force.

It was as if the part of the East that willingly went with him was not good enough. He wanted Kyle, Max and me on his team too.

During the meeting, I watched the alphas argue and push blame around, which wasn't why I called the meeting. I called the meeting because I needed to find the best solution for peace. Joining Bane was out of the question.

"We need to call a truce," I said, and the hall went quiet.

"We can't do that, Alpha Leo; the man is mad. I heard something about him calling himself the rightful Wolf lord because he killed Maurice Volkov," Ramsey said. I was surprised about how ambitious Bane was.

"We need to find a way to tell him we do not share in his views and we won't go to war against the North," I told them, and they agreed.

"How will we do that? We have already told him we maintain a neutral stance. How else can we tell that bastard that we are not interested in his promises and helping him further his cause?" Alpha Christian said.

"Since you told us Luna Tamia spoke highly of the Wolf Lord, and that he has been treating our sisters and daughters well, we have made peace. How many more do we have to lose?" Timothy said, sounding as frail as he was.

He was one of the Alphas that did not bother fighting. He just handed his granddaughter over as tribute because his daughter was already mated. I could understand his fear.

"I say we take the war to Bane and let him know he has his limits. What he took from the East isn't the best of the East; we can take him down," Gaston said, and I shook my head.

"Luna Tamia was one of our best strategists,

Luna Avery dealt with welfare, and Luna Linda dealt with shelter protection. With those three aspects of our society unattended, we stand no chance. The north crippled us already by taking the three most powerful Lunas of the east. We have to rely on strength, and as my wife always said, smarts beats strength any day," I said, remembering Tamia, and we were silent.

"We can still manage with what we have," Gaston said, and I nodded.

"Of course, we can, but we do not want any more bloodshed. I suggest we have a peace talk with him," I said, and they began to grumble.

"The man is mad. He will not answer us or anyone. He is greedy and covetous. He won't stop until he gets what he wants," Gaston argued. It seemed the Alpha had made up his mind about fighting Bane.

"I will try and have a peaceful meeting with him," I said, and Ramzey refused.

"This is Kyle's mess. He brought the bastard upon us; he should have a peaceful meeting with him. Why should you risk your life?" Ramzey said, and I nodded.

"I understand your anger, Alpha Ramzey, but this is beyond pettiness. Yes, Kyle brought him, but we all agreed. Even though Tamia warned that the Wolf Lord wasn't bothering us, we still chose to Join forces with the south to protect ourselves. Kyle did not force us to accept the alliance; we did it

wholeheartedly; it can't be his cross alone to bear. As the leader of the East, I am to have that peace talk with Bane," I said, owning up to my responsibility, and everyone was silent.

"If anything happens to you, we will go to war with Bane. It is as simple as that. He wants us for the army he is building, and going to war with him will cripple the size and strength of his army. We might not win, but we will do damage. I rather hurt the bastard and die than take orders from him," Max said, and I realised he, too, had it in for Bane.

Max claimed he had written several letters to Avery in the north but never got any response. He tried to insinuate that Tamia wrote her letter under duress, but I had to point out the difference to him.

Other than breaking my promise to my wife, I never maltreated her for Amanda's sake. I never lay a finger on her and performed my duties as a husband towards her.

I refused to give her up and would have laid down my life for her sake; he did the opposite.

If anything, he should take her silence as moving on. She was probably enjoying herself there and had moved on.

Knowing that it was a tradition in the north to split Lunas among the top officers, she was probably with the Alpha, Beta, Gamma or Delta and having the time of her life.

Any life would be better than what she and Mia had with him.

During our community full moon walks, I saw the silver scars on Mia's white fur several times. I ignored it because it wasn't my business.

Although I had been pleading with Max to let go, he didn't want to, and now he wanted to go to war against Bane. All I could see was a desperate alpha looking for a thrill.

He never loved his Luna enough to treat her well. I looked at Kyle.

"Set up a meeting with Bane for tomorrow evening, to take place on Hill valley land, where it shares a border with Krane. He will feel safe meeting me there," I said and ended the meeting.

Amanda buzzed my phone throughout the meeting, so I decided to rush home to see what the problem was.

I arrived and found northern warriors at my home.

Although they did not seem like they came to fight me, I had to be on my guard.

They took my wife away the last time they were at my home.

I composed myself and walked into the house.

Amanda was showing, and we had learned we were expecting triplets. Meaning we will have a full house soon.

As happy as the news was, my joy wasn't complete.

This wasn't the life I wanted for myself.

The fact that I would be taking this transition into parenthood without Tamia was heartbreaking.

I slowly began to accept that I was the cause of my heartbreak, not fate.

I was too weak to keep my promise, and it will stay with me like that.

"Alpha Leo, the Council of the North sends us," The man leading the envoy said to me, and I nodded and sat down on the couch in my living room.

I did not like what Amanda did with the place; I preferred the way Tamia decorated it, but it was Amanda's home now, and she could do whatever she liked.

I noticed she had served them some small bites and drinks.

I just hoped she wasn't stupid enough to slip them something.

The last thing I wanted was for both Bane and the Wolf Lord to come at me.

Amanda smiled at me and went to her room.

I was still yet to let her move into the master bedroom.

Tamia's clothes were still there, and her pictures graced the walls. Amanda had come to accept it, and it didn't bother her anymore.

"To what do I owe this visit?" I asked the man in charge.

"I am Jacob Mikhailov. The Northern Council spokesman," he said, and I nodded, he looked more like a warrior to me, but I let it be.

I did not need to introduce myself; he knew who I was.

"The north wants to know if you are interested in working for them. We know that Alpha Devin Corrigan has taken part of the East, and threatens to force your remaining region to come under his command. We are willing to help

liberate your people and end his reign of terror,” He said, and I shook my head.

“At what expense, Mr Jacob? The part that joined with Devin did it willingly; I do not want them back. He has promised to give them what I can’t. I do not believe in violence. The north has brought this

hardship upon my people by attacking us and taking our wives, daughters, and sisters. It is the north that has wronged us. They dealt the first blow. If they wanted peace, they would have had peace talks about the alleged attack instigated by Brent pack before wrecking our lives. Most of us will never recover from the loss we incurred due to that attack. Devin has gained allies because of it. While some

of us are willing to let go of our loved ones, however painful it may be, others have sworn revenge. I am sorry, but I won’t be teaming up with the people that wrecked my home and my life,” I said with finality, and Jacob and his men stood up.

“I believe you are still grieving the loss of your Luna, Alpha; know that she is well cared for in the north. The Lord has personally made sure of it. If you ever change your mind, please reach out to us,” he said, and I nodded to end the conversation.

They left quietly, and I relaxed.

A few hours later, Kyle called me to say that Devin was ready to meet. I hoped the meeting would occur the next day, but Devin was eager to get on with it. I told Amanda where I was off to, and she was scared.

She had been making many efforts lately, even training while pregnant. I knew she was hoping to fill Tamia’s shoes. I told her not to worry, that it was a peaceful conversation and that I would return.

She released me eventually, and I left for Hill Valley pack.

I arrived at Max’s pack house and was surprised to see Devin. He must have trusted my intentions to come there all by himself.

“He has the place surrounded,” Max told me with a low growl and excused us. I guess Devin did not trust us that well.

“Hello, Leo,” Devin said, smiling at me, and

I did not return the smile.

I might have come to have a peaceful discussion with him, but I was still mad at him for all he did and didn’t do.

Everyone excused us; it was just me and him in Max’s office.

“I see you are doing well without Tamia,” he said, and I did not respond.

I sat on the couch in the office and looked at him.

“Why are you doing this? Why must we join forces with you to attack the north? Why do you want to go after a man minding his business? What is the deal, Devin?” I asked him calmly, and he sighed.

“That man ruined my life, Leo,” he confessed.

“Just like he ruined your life, he ruined mine, 11 He said.

“How are things with your fated?” he asked an unrelated question, but I answered because I called the meeting, so the burden was on me to be polite.

“What did he do to you that warrants such hatred?” I asked him, and he sighed.

I knew I could not trust his words, but I would hear him out.

“I was fifteen when Maurice Volkov attacked the south and tried to force us to pay taxes. My father revolted, and my mother was taken in the process. He won, and we were forced to pay those taxes. We thought he would return her after we agreed to pay, but we soon found out the north never returns what it takes. My father sank into depression and lost his mind. So when everyone was acting their age, waiting to turn of age so they could find their fated, I was forced to grow up and take over as Alpha. Maurice robbed me of my life. When I killed him, I saw it as an opportunity to liberate our world from the evils of the north. Automatically I should be the wolf lord, but his son took over. My request for a match between that bastard and me for the seat was denied,” he said and sighed.

“I let it go and took care of the south. Then I met Tamia,” he said and looked at me.

“Your mark sat on her neck. A great deterrent for me, but knowing that you had found your fated, I knew the union was over; it would only take a matter of time before both of you called it quits, and then I could approach. Meanwhile, I planned on courting her. It seemed like a good plan then, and I was eager to get to know the green-eyed beauty,” He said. I wanted to punch him but held my cool.

“Then I find out the north attacked and took her away, just like they took my mother; I was done being nice,” he said, and his eyes turned golden yellow, which indicated his wolf.

“All this over a woman you met once?” I asked him, pointing out the ridiculousness of the matter, and he laughed.

“You see, unlike we Alphas that can detect our mates whether we have been claimed or not, it doesn’t work the same for other wolves. It doesn’t matter how long I spent with her or how many times I met her, Leo. All that matters is that Tamia is my fated,” he said, and the shock was so much that I just stared at him, stunned.

Everything he did makes a lot of sense now.

~Sylvester-

I was thrilled about the bold step that I had taken. I felt giddy about it and wanted to celebrate the engagement.

I noticed Tamia staring at her ring, which made me smile because she liked it. There was so much life in the dining room when we ate that I was glad I gave love a chance.

I never knew my heart could ever beat for anyone again. Tamia proved me wrong and had my heart on a marathon. 1

I held her hand throughout dinner and did not miss the opportunity to kiss her. This was it for me.

After dinner, we returned to our bedroom, and we made love. We were like beasts.

Within the walls of our room, we had no control and no limits, and somehow, I knew it would always be like this.

I decided to visit my mother the next day. I knew she was healed, so I opted to check on her. I asked Tamia to come with me, and she was a bit reluctant because of Dominic.

“I do not think it is wise to take me along. Your brother hates me for reasons known to him, and your mother just came out of a terrible attack that allegedly had something to do with me,” She said, wearing her jeans. 1

“I want you there with me. I also hope we can find a way to speak to her about the event so you can make some deductions on the matter. Above all, I want her to meet her future daughter-in-law,” I said, and she looked at me.

“I do not have experience with in-Laws,” she told me, and I frowned.

“Leo’s parents are still alive,” I argued, and she nodded.

“They travelled when they handed over to him and have not returned since. It was just the two of us until Amanda came along, She said, and there was no ounce of hurt in her tone. I was pleased that she could talk about Amanda and Leo without being hurt. It showed that she had moved on.

I went to her and pulled her to my chest, then kissed her. Holding her in my arms felt so right. She was perfect for me.

“Green eyes,” I told her, and she giggled.

“Know you have nothing to worry about whenever you are with me. I can burn the world for your sake,” I said and kissed the tip of her nose. I wasn’t saying those words to soothe her ego. It was my truth, and I meant it.

Anyone that tried to come between us would face my wrath.

“Please, I want you to come with me,” I said and kissed her neck, tempted to sink my teeth in. Too bad I would have to wait for the him and have not returned since. It was just the two of us until Amanda came along,’ She said, and there was no ounce of hurt in her tone. I was pleased that she could talk about Amanda and Leo without being hurt. It showed that she had moved on.

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and I meant it.

Anyone that tried to come between us would face my wrath.

“Please, I want you to come with me,” I said and kissed her neck, tempted to sink my teeth in. Too bad I would have to wait for the wedding night to do it as tradition.

“Okay,” She said, and I laughed.

“Great, wear a dress; Jeans are a lot of work, I said, squeezing her arse, and she giggled.

“You are naughty,” She teased.

“For you,” I replied, and her cheeks coloured.

I brushed them gently and ran my thumb against her parted lips. She licked it and sent shivers down my spine.

Then she moved away to change her outfit.

“Wear something short,” I said, composing myself, and she smiled.

“Mine,” Knight said, and my wolf made me laugh.

“She is ours, Knight,” I corrected him, and he growled.

“Bump up the wedding; we are lord; we do not have to wait for the Blue moon ceremony. I want to make her mine now,” Knight said, and I agreed with my wolf.

The Blue moon ceremony was about three months away; that was too long a time to wait to claim my woman.

“I can’t control myself, Sylvester,” Knight said, and I knew he might sink his teeth in before the due time. I would try to hold out for as long as I can.

She returned, dressed in a short orange sundress. Her legs looked beautiful.

“The colour suits you, darling,” I said, and she smiled.

“It was the only decent outfit fit for the occasion,” She said, and I smiled at her, knowing what her collection was like.

We headed out, and I felt like a schoolboy all over again. Grabbing and kissing her on our way out.

A lot of people saw us, and I did not care. I was finally living my life, and I liked it.

I wanted to drive us there but decided to have a kappa drive us last minute. I doubted if I would last behind the wheel with how I felt.

I placed my hand on Tamia’s thigh and moved up.

“I am not wearing panties,” She linked me, and I looked at her. Knight growled lustfully.

She knew how to get us worked up. She reached for my hand and placed it between her legs close to her pussy, and moaned.

“This was why you made me wear something short.” She linked me, and I knew my eyes were back because I could not control Knight.

She reached for my fly, unzipped my pants and reached into my boxers. The moment she held me in her hands, I relaxed to enjoy the gift she was about to give me. Bending down, she placed me in her mouth, and that was all I needed to go wild.

I could not tell where we were, the car was somewhere in the woods, but I didn’t care. I had never taken a woman in the car before. This will be the first time; She bobbed her head, taking me down till it touched the back of her throat, and I felt it. I didn’t want to come in her mouth this time. So I made her come on top of me.

Placing me in her, she began to ride.

“I told you I could ride,” She linked me, reminding me of our horse riding joke. I was too excited to laugh. I growled and moaned. She was moving right, and it felt so right.

Tight and the perfect fit for me. I wanted her to come first, so I held out. Guiding her body as she ground her pussy up and down my length.

"I'm coming," She said, and it was like music to my ears; she moaned so loud, and I felt her walls pulsate and clench my cock until she came down, and then I released into her. I felt relaxed when we were through, and she got off me.

"Amazing," I said, kissing her, and she giggled.

"Hope I don't fall asleep before we get there," She said, and I laughed.

"Me too," I said, looking at the driver, who seemed rigid. We had assaulted his eyes, and I felt guilty for it.

We arrived at my mother's house, and

Tamia and I went in.

My mother was sitting in the ante-room with Dominic and one of Susan's cousins, who happened to be his new girlfriend and a bitch, Glenda Sullivan.

"Alpha," Glenda said, standing up when she saw me. My brother did the same but was angry to see Tamia.

"Why did you bring your whore to see mother?" He said, and I wanted to attack him, but Tamia stopped me. I went to hug and kiss my mother.

"Mother, meet Tamia, my fiance," I said, and she smiled at Tamia and hugged her.

"What!" I heard Glenda and Dominic exclaim. I wondered if my brother would ever mind his business.

"She isn't your fated," Glenda said, and I honestly would have slapped her if it weren't for the fact that I respected women. I might just make her the exception.

"Who said I was searching for my fated?" I asked her.

"Susan. That was why she left. She said you needed to be strong and needed your.." She said, and I shut her up.

"I will not repeat this. Do not mention that name where I am concerned, and it will be nice if you mind your business or I will forget you are screwing my brother and mistreat you. Whether you are with Dominic or not, I am still your lord, and you should never speak to me unless I ask you to.

"Leave them alone, Sylvester; I am glad you came," My mother said, leading Tamia and me to the living room.

"She is gorgeous," my mother said, admiring Tamia.

"How is he treating you, dear?" She asked Tamia offering us a seat. Tamia sat and smiled.

"I am happy," She said, and my mother smiled.

"From your smiles, I can see you are happy,

My mother said and took her hand to admire the ring.

"The shade of your eyes," My mother said, looking at Tamia.

"Who would have thought you were a romantic, Sylvester?" She said, looking at me, and I smiled.

"So this is it?" She finally said, and I nodded.

"I hope babies are in the plan," She asked, and I nodded.

"So you two will wed on the blue moon according to tradition?" She asked. I nodded, and she beamed.

"Great, Tamia and I have three months to get to know each other and plan the wedding. I want it to be grand," My mother said, and there was no way I would be bringing Tamia to Lucland often.

"Mother, I can't come here all the time with Tamia," I said, and her smile faded. My mother wanted to tell me something, trying to find the right words.

"You see, son, since the incident with Jenny,

I felt the essence of coming to live here had been defeated. If they could attack me here, then I am no longer safe here," She said, and I frowned at her, wondering where she was heading with this.

“I thought about it after I was discharged from the hospital this morning, and I have decided I will be moving back to the Estate,” She said, and I did not know how to feel about it.

I love my breakfast with my friends, who were also my officers. I loved my life there.

Having my mother move back there would change a lot of things.

I will have to eat with her and spend more time with her.

She would want to get involved with running the place, and I would not like it. It was just better this way.

“Mother, I do not think it is wise. Let me increase the security here,” I said, trying to convince her not to come and stay in the estate.

“No, Sylvester, my mind is made up on this. You may be a lord, but I am still your mother. Your brother and I are moving back in,” She said, and I exclaimed.

“You can’t bring Dominic to the estate, mother. You know we do not see eye to eye on many things. I need to be focused. He will be a serious negative distraction for me,” I complained, and she shook her head.

“It is just the two of you. Please, Sylvester. I have spoken to him about it, and he is willing to try. The both of you have to try to get along. He is your only family, other than me, of course,” She said, and I shook my head.

“Tamia and our children are my family,” I said, and she nodded.

“Of course, Sylvester, I am not disputing that, but please, you must try to make it work with Dominic. It breaks my heart to see you two fight and hate each other. Please,” She said, holding my hand, and I looked at Tamia. Her face bore no expression, she could not say yes or no even though she hated Dominic.

“I have rules, mother. He should not speak to or disrespect Tamia in any way. He isn’t allowed to get involved with running the place. He cannot attend my meetings. I do not want to know he is there,” I said, and she shook her head.

“I can understand all that except the last one. We will have some time together when we can, and he can be relaxed there, too; after all, the estate belongs to our family. Try, Sylvester,” She said, and I knew if I said no, it would break her heart. I would just have to see how it goes. Living with Dominic would be very difficult, especially now that he is going steady with Glenda.

-Tamia~

Sylvester’s mother received me with kindness, and she was nice to me, but I realised Sylvester wasn’t happy about having his brother on the estate.

I could understand his reluctance. I have met Dominic three times, and none have been pleasant.

Sylvester searched my eyes for answers, but I could not give any. Until I officially became his Luna, I had no say.

Dominic walked into the living room with his girlfriend, who was afraid of Sylvester.

“Have you told the wolf Lord, mother?”

Dominic asked and came to sit in the living room with his girlfriend.

“I have told him, but there are conditions,” his mother said, and he exclaimed.

“He can’t give me conditions to live on our family’s property,” Dominic said, and their mother growled.

“He can, and he has. He is lord and Alpha of the North; you will give him his respect, Dominic. I am beginning to sense you are jealous of your younger brother,” His mother said, and Dominic seemed bewildered by her words.

“Why do you think I am jealous, mother?” He asked, and she looked at him.

“To begin with, you lied about his relationship with Tamia; you made it seem like he was going about misbehaving, and you made it seem as if she was a liability. Then you lied about him neglecting his responsibilities. When Jenny came to meet me, she had nothing but praise for Sylvester. I will advise

you to find something worthwhile and stop trying to bring your brother down, and yes, he has the right to set the rules. He is lord and Alpha. You will abide

by his rules, or you won't move in with us. I am warning you that you should not insult or disrespect Tamia. She is Sylvester's chosen and future Luna of the North. You will give her her respect," His mother said, through gritted teeth, and I could feel the boss in her rise to the surface.

She was a tough woman, and I could see where Sylvester got his toughness from. Although I hadn't met their father, I figured Sylvester was more like his mother.

We spent a while with Luna Stephanie Volkov, Sylvester's mother. She was a joy to be around. She showed me baby pictures of Sylvester, making me want to have children. I remembered how hurt I was when Leo told me Amanda was expecting. I looked at Sylvester and thanked my stars for giving me a second chance.

Understanding how I felt in those moments, he touched my hand and squeezed. He knew I wanted children. Leo must have included it in the letter.

"I can't wait too," He linked me, and tears welled in my eyes, but I brushed them away before Luna Stephanie would ask me why I was crying.

Glenda tried to be friendly, but I was weary of her; learning she was Susan's cousin did it for me, and I did not trust her intention towards Sylvester.

I trusted my man, but I did not trust her. Knowing that Dominic would be moving into the estate meant I would have to deal with her. I am okay as long as Susan does not miraculously show up looking for her cousin. Somehow I knew what Susan did still hurt Sylvester even though he wouldn't admit it. She was best far away from us. I hoped she was married with plenty of children.

Soon it was time for us to leave, and Luna

Stephanie felt sad about it. She pleaded with

Sylvester to let us stay, but he declined because we had to answer questions at the council early in the morning the next day.

According to him, Avery, Linda and me would be questioned extensively about Elder

Jenny's death. As long as Dominic wasn't doing the questioning, I was fine with it.

We returned to the estate and tried not to assault the driver's senses this time.

Entering our room, Sylvester pulled me close to him and kissed me.

"No one will hurt you, I promise." He said, and I smiled at him.

"I know," I said, assuring him I was okay, and he smiled.

We went to shower so we could get ready and head for dinner.

Dinner was a bit silent.

I guess Sylvester had linked Marcel and Theodore about the new development.

They weren't enthusiastic about Dominic moving in.

I guess I wasn't the only one that did not like Dominic.

Linda was afraid and wondered how we could remain calm after finding out that the man that locked us up in cages and tried to pin Luna's assault and the Elder's murder on us, was moving in. I had no answer because I was afraid, but I was confident that Sylvester wouldn't let him hurt us.

After dinner, we all returned to our rooms and decided to sleep early so we would be refreshed the next day.

I thought we would be sleeping, but Sylvester had other things in mind. He went under the covers and decided to give me the wildest night yet. Kaira howled in my head, enjoying every bit of his ministrations.

It was clear he was trying to get a baby in me. I wasn't on the pill anymore, so it might happen soon.

We left early the next day for the Dark Wolf Pack council building in Lucland. It was tall. and grand.

The sight of the building alone was intimidating.

The North was the most developed and organised part of our world.

It was only normal they would lead the rest of our world, and now that I was a part of it,

I was proud of it.

We entered a small auditorium, loges boxes were on the walls.

The boxes were raised sitting platforms towards the rear of the auditorium.

They were on multiple levels stacked vertically above the ground. I counted a total of six levels of sitting boxes on the wall. Dominic was sitting in a loge on the first level.

We were taken to the grand Loge meant for the lord. It was on the first level but on the opposite side of where Dominic was sitting. It was a beauty.

I could see the Elders seat on the ground floor and the opened centre on the floor where the speaker would start to speak so everyone could hear. It was a beautiful setting. If only it was bigger, they could have plays there, but it was clear it was an official setting.

Some ladies were asked to serve our Loge, and from how they were dressed, it was obvious they had a different kind of service. in mind.

Avery got uncomfortable and snapped at one of the girls.

Noticing what was happening, Marcel requested that men serve the Loge instead. The women were not happy.

“Your reputation precedes you.” I leaned close to Sylvester’s ear and said; he looked at me and frowned.

“Tell me you wouldn’t have selected a bedmate from those girls if I wasn’t in your life,” I teased, and he smiled and kissed my hand.

“I only go for premium stuff,” he said, maintaining eye contact with me. His gaze made me shudder, and I felt like I was the only one in the room. He had that effect on me, and he knew it.

He stuck out his tongue and sensually licked the back of my hand with the tip before kissing my hand the second time. My pussy clenched, imagining his tongue on me.

“Sylvester,” I breathed, and he smiled at me. He had me right where he wanted.

Just then, a woman approached our Loge to speak with Sylvester.

“Lord Volkov,” She said, bowing her head,

“We are about to start. The Eastern Lunas have to follow me,” The woman said, and it still bothered me that we were seen as eastern Lunas, even though we had no marks on our necks.

“They are no longer Eastern Lunas,”

Sylvester corrected her, and she bowed her head and apologised for her blunder.

We were led to the centre and made to stand. I guess we were the entertainment of the event.

Standing on the open centre of the ground floor meant we would be the ones answering the questions.

Seven elderly people took a seat where the elders sat, leaving one seat vacant.

I believed that was the chair that belonged to Elder Jenny. I felt terrible for her.

The leader of the council was a young man called Vino Lawrence.

He was an Alpha, and it seemed he had succeeded his father.

He was the most reserved, and it did not seem like he would be asking questions.

Looking at him, I realised the seats belonged to families, not nominated individuals. If not, Vino would not be the head of the council.

“Luna Tamia Albert, welcome to the council. I know you know why you and your colleagues are here. So we can get right to it,

“An elder called Larry McMillian said, and I nodded.

“Three days ago, Luna Stephanie and Elder

Jenney were attacked at Lunna Stephanie’s house by Southern and eastern soldiers.

According to the northern warriors on guard, they claimed the men were there to get you, and they were sent by Alpha Devin Corrigan, also known as Bane. Explain your relationship with Bane and how he knew to search for you in Luna Stephanie’s home.” The man said, and I was pissed off. He might not have said it, but he insinuated I set the Luna up.

“I was the Luna of the Mountain pack, married to Alpha Leonardo Albert until I was given as a peace offering to Lord Sylvester Volkov to settle the misunderstanding between the North and the east. I do not know Alpha Devin Corrigan.”

“I met him once at a dinner party, and that was all. I have not communicated with anyone outside the Volkov Estate. We are under strict conditions and cannot wander about the place or communicate with outsiders.”

“I did not know where Luna Stephanie lived, and I have no dealing with Elder Jenny. I am not in a position to shed light on the matter.” I said, and Elder Larry Laughed.

“Lying to the council is a crime Luna,” he said and looked at me with dark eyes.

“We have laws in the North, and we abide by them. I will give you a chance to come clean if it happens, or your colleagues will be punished severely for the crime.” He said to

“I will not admit to anything because I did not do anything,” I said, and he nodded.

“Alpha Max Christian blanc of the Woodland pack at Hill Valley sent letters to his Luna. We were able to intercept those letters, and we found something interesting. In those letters, Alpha Max tells his wife to respond. He says he knows she can respond because you, Luna Tamia, sent Alpha Leo letters. about your stay in the North,” He said, and I frowned at the man.

“We have the letters in our possession.” He said, and people began to murmur. I did not know what to say.

“Luna Tamia, What did you tell your husband about the North? I am of the notion that you told him all he needed to know.

Because there is an alliance between the east and south, Alpha Leonardo Albert, leader of the east, sought help from the man that had beaten the North in battle, believing he would be able to do the task to try to take you away from the North,” He said, and I could not believe this bastard. He had twisted the narrative.

“These are all insinuations. You have no proof,” I said, and he shook his head.

“I have Alpha Max’s letters that say otherwise, Luna,” he said, and I was about to speak when I heard Sylvester’s voice from his Loge.

“Enough!” He said, and everyone was silent.

“I made her write one letter to her husband when she got here and sent it myself. She did not know my mother was in Lucland then. I read the letter and still have a photocopy of its content. You can not base your deductions on the letter of a husband that misses his wife and wants her to write to him at all costs. Besides, what I want to know is why they killed Elder Jenny. If Tamia was their target, they would have injured both my mother and Jenny, not killed Jenny. I have done some investigations myself, and my mother said they did not ask for Tamia; they beat her up and killed Jenny before she blacked out. Whatever happened had nothing to do with Tamia, Avery and Linda.

And I will advise this court to refrain from referring to them as Eastern Lunas. As you can all see, They no longer bear their husbands’ marks., They belong to my pack, and Tamia will be my Luna soon,” He said, and people began to murmur.

As proud as I was of him, I did not think telling them I would be their Luna soon was a good idea.

They had it in for the east, and the three of us represented the east and south to them, especially Dominic.

Chapter 25 - The Destiny of a Heart-broken Luna

Tamia-

Things got intense between Sylvester and me, and I found myself completely in love. with him.

I was afraid that I would repeat history, but my heart was beyond my control. He knew how to act, what to say and what to He made me feel like the most important person in his world, and I slowly found myself saying, 'this is it' but I had said that before, not so long ago, and I came out burnt and broken.

I wasn't willing to make that jump again. It was a scary situation to be in. I tried to fight my feelings and kept telling myself it was casual.

I tried to think through the situation to guard my heart. The fact that Sylvester and I weren't fated scared the shit out of me.

Questions of the future plagued my mind. What if she shows up one day just like Amanda? Where will that leave me? He had never told me he loved me. This could be a fun and exciting thing for him.

I scolded myself for catching feelings.

Every day we would wake up, eat, and train together. I let him go and handle his duties, and then we met in the evening and did whatever we liked.

It was fun and scary because I had fallen in love with him.

When I decided to speak to Sylvester about my fears, we were lying on the grass in the western garden, a part of the estate people rarely visited.

"Sylvester," I said gently; we were lying side by side and looking at the stars that graced the night sky. It was a beautiful sight and a lovely moment. I was afraid that I might ruin it.

"Yes," he replied, and I exhaled.

"Do you ever let your prisoners go?" I asked him, and he chuckled.

"Which of the prisoner's, green eyes? The ones in the cell or the trophies?" he asked, making light the question.

"Your trophies," I asked, and he exhaled too.

"They have nowhere to go back to, I am their Alpha, and they are connected to me; I am not keeping them here as prisoners; they are here because this is

their only home for now. They are free to leave, but they only leave if they find love or want to move to Lucland or another part of the north. They are all here of their own volition. I am a lord, not a monster. I expect the women to fall in love eventually and move on. I also know they have needs.” He said.

“Would you ever settle down?” I asked him immediately, and he was silent.

“I am sorry to ask, but I overheard some ladies talking about how you threw out the five women in your harem. They said you told a woman called Arya that you do not plan on settling down. I just want to know if it is true,” I said.

“I am not worried about it. I understand. Coming out of a failed marriage, I can understand, and I am okay where we are; that way, if you find your fated, it would not be an issue,” I said, trying to convince myself more that falling for him was stupid.

He turned to his side to look at me.

“Look at me,” He said, and I did what he asked and made sure my face bore no emotions.

“I indeed said those things, and I meant them, Tamia. As the lord of the north with a pending war, I doubt I would want to tie any woman down. It was my way of setting them free and making them forget about me,” He said, and his words hurt because it seemed as if his mindset had not changed.

“As for my fated, I do not care about that shit, Tamia. I make my destiny. I do not care what the stars say. I won’t lose my shit or betray a woman that has been there for me. through thick and thin, because fate said so. I will reject her in a heartbeat and risk being weak,” He said, and I smiled at him. Having been there, I knew it was easier said than done.

He touched my face gently and smiled.

“I am not Leo, Tamia,” he said, and I nodded, but my eyes were already welling up with tears because I was a fool all over again. I had fallen completely in love with someone that did not plan on having anything serious with me.

“I am nothing like my father. My trophies are not prisoners: they are free, but I won’t let you go, Tamia. You aren’t a prisoner here, and you aren’t a trophy;

you are my woman,” he said, and I smiled at him, but tears were threatening to fall at that moment.

He sat up and asked me to do the same. Then he pulled me close and crashed his lips on mine,

“I want to make love to the woman I love under the stars,” he said, tugging on my clothes gently, and I could not believe he had used the word ‘love’ with me. He moved from my lips to my neck.

“I can’t wait to claim you as mine, Tamia,’ he linked me, sucking on the spot on my neck, and my body came apart; he moved to the crook of my neck and opened my blouse. to expose my breasts.

“You aren’t my trophy, Tamia. Never compare yourself to them,” He linked me and sucked my nipples one at a time. He sucked while he rubbed the other between his thumb and index finger.

I had started moaning, and he growled with approval.

He rolled down my panties and spread my legs wide. I laid back down on the grass, looking at the stars while he ate me.

“Sylvester,” I moaned, my vision blurry and my heart racing fast.

Please let this be it; I prayed while I writhed, moaning in pleasure, running my fingers through his hair and anticipating the release.

All my senses were alive, and I felt the release coming through. I let go, and it erupted inside me.

He did not stop until I came down.

Then he leaned over me and stared into my eyes.

“I wasn’t joking when I said this is it, Tamia, I love you,” He said, knowing what had troubled my heart all along and drove himself into me before I could say anything, making love to me under the stars.

“This is it for me, Tamia,” He said, pumping gently but hitting the right spot.

Soon he sat up and pulled me up. I came on top, hugging him and riding. He held me and my body responded to him.

My speed became faster because an orgasm was coming, and soon it erupted again. He stilled and released into me. He held me, his head against my chest.

“I am never letting go. I love you,” He said and looked at me.

I had tears of fear in my eyes, fear that fate might take him from me, so I held on to my confession of love, never speaking the words that might doom me again, and my lips quivered.

“You have nothing to worry about with me, Tamia. You won’t lose me to anyone, not even a fated. I won’t do what Leo did to you. I promise. Your heart and love are too precious for me to throw away because fate says so. I am begging you to trust me and love me without reserve,” he said. I searched his eyes, and they were sincere, but so were Leo’s until, the day he saw Amanda.

“Don’t make promises you can’t keep,” I said to him, my hands and knees shaking.

“I don’t. I know I will keep this one,” he breathed in my scent.

“Until you, I did not think my heart would ever beat for anyone or I would ever feel this way, but you have made what seemed impossible possible. I want you to trust me and take this leap with me, please. Open up one more time. I know it is a lot to ask for, but I am asking you to give me a chance,” he said to me, and in those moments, I threw caution to the wind because who was I fooling? My heart was already invested deep in what we had; I might as well go all in. 1

“I love you too, Sylvester,” I said to him,” please do not damage what is left of my heart. I doubt I will survive another rejection. I will always be with you and never leave, even if there is an opportunity to do so, I am with you by choice, and I am giving you my heart by choice. If ever fate interferes with what we have, I will let him go in a heartbeat because I choose you, but please, Sylvester, do not let me down. Do not make me share, and do not make me regret this,” I pleaded with him, and he held me.

“I am ready to go all the way with you, Tamia; settle down and have children. I want to build a life with you, and I hope you will let me.” He said, pleading with me, and I nodded.

I wanted those things, too; although fate had robbed me greatly, I still wanted those things.

“Don’t ever listen to rumours and equate yourself to the people of my past. What we have is different. It is unique and new,” he said, and I nodded.

He kissed me and made love to me under the stars. My heart was lifted that night, and my worries dissipated, but fate still scared me. because I feared what it might have in store for me.

~Tamia-

Sylvester finally asked me to follow him to Lucland to meet his mother. After meeting Dominic at the club, I wasn’t looking forward to the meeting.

I learned the woman was strict and had her sons on a tight leash.

Even though Sylvester had confessed his feelings for me, what if she did not approve of me?

I was scared, but since Sylvester insisted and told me I had nothing to worry about, I decided to take him up on it.

We ate breakfast in our room and prepared to leave.

Linda was the most worried for me because there were only two things that could happen; she could either be unreasonable and ask her son to choose between her and me, or give me a chance. I hoped she would give me a chance.

Leo did not have parents when we got together, so this was new for me. We got dressed to visit his mother.

On our way out, Silvester stopped.

“Marcel needs me for a minute. Do you think you can wait for me? The matter seems urgent; it is about Bane and the East,” he said, and I was a bit worried because of Leo.

“Link me when you are ready to leave,” I told him, and he nodded. I decided to go to Avery’s room. I found Avery in her room, embroidering a piece of fabric. It looked horrible, but it seemed to be her new

pastime. I had not seen her that morning because we didn’t eat in the dining room.

“Hey, you guys haven’t left yet?” She said, putting down the hoop that held the scarf she was marring with her needlework.

I noticed a diamond ring on her finger, and she smiled at me.

“He proposed an hour ago. I did not think about it; I just said yes,” She said, smiling with tears in her eyes.

“I can’t get it wrong twice now, can I?” She said, and I could hear the nervousness in her voice. She was afraid.

“Why did you say yes?” I asked her, picking up on her fear.

“Because I love him, and it will be great to have a life with him, but deep down, I am scared fated will show up and mess me up again,” She said, and I went to hug her. She pulled away and nodded, wiping away her tears.

I now understood why she was in her room working on an embroidery hoop instead of socialising in the eastern garden as usual.

“I have to take this leap of faith, or I might keep guessing and live with regrets. Marcel is a great guy and a great catch. He is a step up from that arsehole, Max. This is a good thing,” she said, wiping her tears.

“Feeling afraid and being happy at the same time is a weird mix of emotions,” She confessed, and I smiled.

“Has Sylvester told you what is happening in the east?” She asked, changing the topic, and I shook my head.

“We were heading out when Marcel called him for a meeting about Bane and the east, I told her, and she nodded.

“That bastard,” She said, and I wondered why she was pissed.

“Bane has successfully divided the east. Leo isn’t in full control of the East anymore. A part of the East has joined the south. I also learned he might go to war against Leo to take over the East completely. I just picked bits of Marcel’s conversation. I am sure Sylvester will tell you what is going on in case I heard wrong,” She said, and I was in shock.

How could the Eastern Alphas allow Bane to use them like this? I was worried. I hoped Leo was getting all the help he needed to push back. It was one thing to willingly join up; it was another to be forced into it.

I sat nervously in Avery’s room for almost two hours and decided to return to my room. I wasn’t in the mood to hang out in the garden. “Where are you?” I linked Sylvester.

“Still in the meeting,” he said, and I felt bored. I sat and prayed for Leo’s safety. Eventually, I got tired of waiting and fell asleep.

LATER THAT DAY.

I woke up to a commotion in the corridor.

I looked out the window, and it was evening.

I wondered what was happening. Sylvester did not return.

The meeting had taken all day. What was happening?

Some guards entered my room, and I sat up in bed, worried because they were northern guards. No one had ever barged into Sylvester’s room like this before.

“Sylvester”, I linked Sylvester but met silence which meant he was not around. To my surprise, Dominic walked in, looking angry.

“Bind the bitch; she has questions to answer, ” he said, and Kaira began to growl.

“It will be in your best interest to comply, or your actions might be seen as treason”, he warned me, and I looked at him angrily.

“Does Sylvester know about this?” I asked him, and he did not care.

"I do not need his permission to question a prisoner. Fucking him does not change what you are here. A crime has been committed, and we require your full cooperation to solve it," he said, then the guards clamped the silver cuffs around my wrist.

"What happened? At least I deserve to know what happened." I said while the guards dragged me out of the room.

"You will find out during questioning," Dominic said, and I tried to link Marcel and Theodore, but they were not around too.

"What has happened to Sylvester?" I asked, afraid something had happened to him, and Dominic stopped and slapped me on the face.

"You should not speak his name. He is lord of the north, whore!" he growled. What had happened to make him like this?

"He trusted you. I warned him. Our mother was attacked today and is currently fighting for her life. She was attacked in the afternoon, and she was in the company of one of a council elder. Unfortunately, the

elder did not make it. The surviving warriors identified the men as a mix of eastern and southern mercenaries. I know you are affiliated with Bane, so the council wants us to question the newcomers, especially you. Bane had dared to attack twice now since you got here. It must mean something," He said to me, and I felt it was ridiculous.

"We have all sworn to serve the Alpha," I said, avoiding mentioning Sylvester's name.

"How can we work against him? Why should we pay for Bane's crimes?" I asked, and he looked at me with rage in his eyes.

"I will tell you why. I warned my brother to be careful with you, but he wouldn't listen. Too bad I am here to help him think when he is carried away. Since our father was murdered, our mother has hidden in Lucland successfully without event. You are the first outsider to know she lives in Lucland, and then this happened. I also won't forget that Bane had tried to take you from the north. You were supposed to visit her today; they might have as well come to get you and decided to do some damage when they did not find you there," he said, and my eyes widened at his wicked angle. Putting things that way made me seem suspicious.

“I won’t say anything until I see my alpha,” I said, and he turned to look at me and slapped me again.

“You will afford me the same respect. I have permission from the council to use force if necessary. I would not want to damage my brother’s toy. Do not push me,” he said, and I remained silent, knowing this was a difficult situation. As much as I hated Dominic, I could not dispute the fact that he had a point. I was carried to a cell and locked up.

Soon Avery and Linda were thrown into the same cell with me. Linda had a bleeding nose, so I figured she resisted. We were too many for them to afford private cells.

Other women that were brought from the East were locked up, too; some were bound in silver chains and made to sit on the floor because the cells were full.

“This is highly unfair. After swearing to serve the north, they still treat us as prisoners,” Avery retorted, and I nodded.

“Let us wait for Sylvester to return. I am sure he will put Dominic in his place,” I told

Avery, and she shook her head.

“I doubt it is that simple. If the council is backing Dominic on this, then Sylvester would have to allow the investigation to run its course,” she said, telling me something I already knew.

“Why did Bane attack their mother and kill a council member?” I asked Avery, and she frowned at me.

“There is a war, remember?” She said, and I shook my head.

“There is nothing substantial to gain from that,” I said, and Linda shook her head.

“He could destabilise the lord and the north. If she dies, Sylvester might act irrationally, giving Bane the opportunity he wants,” Linda said, and I shook my head.

“It still doesn’t sound Like Bane’s mode of operation. I think someone did this to make it seem like Bane,” I said.

“It doesn’t matter; we will still have to answer questions. I wished we had something useful to give,” Avery said, knowing what happened to prisoners that were useless, and we sat there.

No one attended to us. We spent the night there.

“Who gave you the right to barge in here and do this!” I heard Sylvester’s voice. He was livid. I had woken up from sleep in the cell they kept us

“So what if Bane attacked mother? Does that mean you should take it out on Tamia, Avery and Linda and the innocent women from the East? What crime did they commit here?” He asked, and I heard Dominic’s voice.

“The Council gave the order. I am just carrying it out,” Dominic said, trying to justify his actions. I could hear a tinge of fear in his voice too. Sylvester was outraged. We all felt it.

“You are just being malicious. You could have as well asked them whatever question you wanted to ask without degrading them like this. You wanted to hurt them, and I do not know why,” Sylvester said.

“Degrade them? They are prisoners. They should be in a cell and not in your bed,” and I heard a punch, and then there was an uproar. Sylvester was beating his brother up.

“Please stop; I am fine,” I linked him quickly. I did not know if it worked, but the unrest stopped. I heard footsteps, and then I saw Sylvester in front of our cell.

“Open it!” he yelled at the guard, and the guard was so afraid that he dropped the key twice before opening the cell.

“They will have to answer the council’s questions,” I heard Dominic say.

“When that time comes, it will be done with respect,” Sylvester said, and as soon as the cell was opened, he rushed towards me and carried me out of the cell.

I honestly wanted to walk, so I made him put me down. He was afraid and worried.

"I am not mad at you," I said so he could relax.

Avery and Linda were ushered out.

"I am sorry I did not return on time," Sylvester pleaded with me, and I told him it was okay.

He asked me if they had hit me, and I lied that they didn't. The last thing I wanted was for Sylvester to go berserk and beat his brother.

"What happened?" I finally asked him while we walked towards the room.

"My mother's home was attacked. She was injured while a council member was killed. Bane soldiers left a message demanding I send you to him," He said, and I was stunned.

Dominic's anger made sense.

Why will Bane do something like this? What was his deal?

"So he knew where your mother lived all along?" I asked, and Sylvester looked at me and searched my eyes.

"That is the second issue. No one knows where my mother lives except the council members, my brother, and me. It was a surprise that Bane knew to attack there and also knew we would be visiting," Sylvester said. I realised the situation was a puzzle.

It was either Bane had an informant and knew more than Sylvester thought he knew, or the attack wasn't Bane but was made to seem like it. I dared not say these things but hoped they would solve it soon.

"How is your mother?" I asked.

"She is out of the woods and healing nicely," he said.

He stopped to open the door, and I walked in.

“Do not worry about the council or my brother, Tamia. He is just an asshole. You have nothing to prove to anyone. Marcel and Theodore are already investigating the incident,” He told me, and I nodded.

This development also meant I won't see his mother anytime soon.

-Tamia-

Long after Sylvester and I returned to our room, Dominic banged on our door.

I was initially afraid of the douchebag, but I was angry now that Sylvester was back.

Sylvester seemed like he wanted to ignore his brother but opened the door last minute because the guy wouldn't stop banging.

The man walked into our bedroom angrily.

He looked at me, and I could see his hatred for me.

Honestly, I did not know what his deal was, but it was clear I was in his bad books for no reason.

“You may be the Wolf Lord, but you have not right to interfere with my investigation,” He said to Sylvester, and Sylvester did not respond.

“Mother would have been killed, and these women would have been roaming free,” He said, and Sylvester nodded.

“Yes, they would have been roaming free, Dominic. Why punish people for a crime they did not commit?” Sylvester asked him, and Dominic was shocked at Sylvester's response.

“She knew mother was in Lucland,” He argued, and Sylvester shook his head.

“She did not know where she was in Lucland. The only people with that information were me, you and the council, so don't try to pin this on Tamia. Besides, she will never do anything to hurt me, and as for Devin, I doubt he has a hand in this. It is not his style,” Sylvester said, voicing his opinion.

“What happened to you? You used to be so focused and stern. Now you seem pussy whipped,” Dominic said, and Sylvester laughed.

“Nothing happened to me, Dominic. I am not a madman and won’t start acting like one because you want me to. The east has its hands full, and Tamia is a member of my pack. She has no reason to fight against me or hurt our mother. You need to drop it, Dominic. As things are, I am relieving you of the right to come into this estate and order my men around. Whatever you need to do has to pass through me, and Tamia should be afforded respect. On no account should you ever try to question or hurt her again,” he said, and Dominic looked disappointed.

“She will be your downfall, Sylvester, and I will laugh at you when that happens.” He told him and then looked at me. 1

“Your position isn’t secure. He has been trying to fill a void Susan left for eleven years. You might think he is head over heels for you now, but if Susan ever returns, he will dump you in a heartbeat. Just don’t get comfortable,” he said and excused himself. Sylvester was mad about his brother’s words, but I left the bed, hugged him from behind, and kissed his back.

“Don’t let it bother you. His words can’t get to me,” I assured Sylvester, but he was still mad.

We left the room to have dinner, and I wondered how Avery and Linda were doing because we were all in the same predicament.

The dining room was silent, and Sylvester and I took our seats; Marcel and Theodore were angry. I looked at my friends, and they looked a bit worried.

I hoped things don’t get explosive between

We ate in silence, and Sylvester decided to break the ice.

“Out with it,” He said, looking at Marcel, and Marcel dropped his cutlery on his plate.

“I have a lot of respect for you. I understand the gravity of the crime, but Dominic had no right to have my fiance beaten up and dragged out of her room like a criminal. I serve you, and not the Volkov family; I won’t hesitate to beat the shit out of him next time,” Marcel said, and Sylvester turned to Theodore.

“What he said” was all Theodore could say, and Sylvester laughed.

"I already beat the shit out of him," He said, trying to calm the situation, and it worked.

"What is the deal with the guy? He does not have what it takes to be lord, yet he keeps trying, and the sad part is that the council knows, yet they keep putting him in a situation where he would clash with you. I think we should bring it up at the summit," Marcel said, and Sylvester nodded.

"Dominic is the least of our problems; we need to find out who is behind the attack on my mother and Jenny Lawrence from the council," Sylvester said.

"I heard you were one of the best strategists and investigators when you were Luna of the east; what do you think about this?" Marcel said, directing the question to me, and I looked at Avery, who smiled and nodded. She was the one that must have told him.

"Well, based on the information I got, it doesn't seem like Devin's mode of operation, and it seems more like an inside job, but I could be wrong," I said quickly, and Sylvester caressed my hands gently.

"Speak freely, Tamia," He said, and I knew he was thinking the same as I was. I could see it in his eyes, and he seemed fascinated that I had the same thought.

"I think someone is trying to force your hand to go to war with Devin, and there is a possibility that this Jenny woman was the real target; your mother might have just been with the wrong person at the wrong place," I said, and Marcel frowned.

"If they wanted Luna Volkov dead, they would have killed her just like they killed Jenny, but they only wounded her and moved on. It seems the main target was Jenny. You need to find out why anyone would want to kill Jenny." I said, and Marcel nodded.

"Then why frame Devin and the east for the attack, and make it seem he had sent soldiers to try to get you?" Theodore said.

"That was the most stupid plot ever. Whoever did this isn't so bright. First, Devin does not know where she lives, and second, how the hell did he know Sylvester and I would be visiting there? Whoever did this knows the issue between the north and Devin. They also know that Devin has attempted to take me from the north too. They just felt the bad blood between Devin and

Sylvester would make Sylvester overlook the other aspects of the crime and go after his arch-enemy. The person was stupid and sloppy.” I said, and Theodore smiled at me.

“We all thought as much, Tamia, but when Avery said you were a strategist, we wanted to see how good you are, and you are excellent,” Marcel said. I looked at Sylvester, who was smiling at me.

“You two owe me fifty each,” Sylvester said to Marcel, and I could not believe they had made a bet on this. I smacked his hand gently, and we laughed, and just like that, laughter had returned to our dinner.

Although we discussed the matter during dinner, I was still worried. Knowing someone was willing to frame the south and the east to get what they wanted, baffled me.

I did not even know what the deal was with the Jenny woman. It was a mess, and I could not sleep.

I spent the night tossing and turning; Sylvester was too tired to know I was having trouble sleeping.

The event that had taken place troubled me. I was worried about the north and east. I was concerned for Sylvester’s mother. Above all, Dominic scared me because whatever he had for me was personal, and I did not know why.

I woke up early and went to shower.

Sylvester was still sleeping when I went to the bathroom. I turned on the water and stood under it, trying to make my mind go blank.

“Good morning, darling,” Sylvester said, getting into the shower with me.

I was spooked because I was deep in thought, and I did not hear him get in.

I looked at him, and he frowned. He was naked, and he was hard.

“What is the matter?” He asked me gently, and I shook my head.

“I know you are troubled, Tamia,” he said to me, and I sighed.

“What if they had killed your mother, Sylvester? What would have happened?” I said, voicing out my fears, and he hugged me under the warm shower.

“Please let it go. Dominic can’t do anything to you. I know you will never double-cross me. You have proven that already. Whatever Dominic says does not count,” he said and kissed me.

“You are safe with me, Tamia. I won’t let anyone hurt you.” He said, and I pulled away.

“You would have gone to war with the east on this,” I said, afraid for Leo, and he searched my eyes.

“I love you too much to attack your people or your ex. Unlike before, I would investigate before proceeding. Please let it go,” He said, and I knew he needed me to let it go, so I nodded.

He hoisted me up in the shower, and I wrapped my legs around him.

“We can’t let this waste now,” he said, and I laughed. He carried me out of the shower to the bed and went down on me.

A Jump.

I should have woken him up when I was tossing and turning. His ministrations on me pushed my troubles far away.

I felt his finger in me as he worked on my nerve bundle, and I moaned. Soon I climaxed, and he drove his very hard and erect cock into me. Pumping hard and fast. As if he had anticipated it all night.

It was a while before he came, and I had climaxed several times by then. My legs were like jelly when he was done. 1

We laid down to catch our breaths, and he stroked my back gently.

“Do not worry about war, Tamia. How can I plan to go to war when I want to start a family with you as my wife?” he said, and I froze in bed.

I searched his eyes to see if he was serious, and there was no deception in his dark eyes.

“Sylvester,” I said, and he held my hand and kissed it.

“Please disregard what happened with Dominic. I have never felt so right about anything in my life. I want this. That is why I never took precautions with you. I want us to settle down and start a family. I want you to be my wife, my mate and my Luna,” He said, searching my eyes for an answer and tears of excitement and relief poured. 1

“Sylvester,” I said again and nodded in response.

I could not speak. My breathy voice was caught in my throat. He beamed at me and kissed me passionately.

“That was why I wanted you to meet my mother.” He said, breaking the kiss, then went to the dresser and returned with a jewellery box,

“I picked this out for you,” He said, sitting beside me in bed and holding my left hand.

“I have never felt this way about anyone before. You complete me, Tamia, and I want this to be official. No more will anyone again refer to you as a whore or prisoner because you are neither of those things. My respect is yours, and my life is yours. Everything I am and own is yours, Tamia. I want to take this leap with you. Let us do this,” He said and brought out an emerald ring, and I laughed at the irony of the gem being green. 3

“They match your eyes,” he teased, laughing with me and then slipped it onto my ring finger. The platinum band made it look exquisite, and I kissed him.

I had said yes to marriage twice now; I hoped this would be it.

Sylvester was so happy about my response that he made love to me, and I could feel the difference this time. His strokes were sure and determined.

He was pouring out all his feelings, and I received them with so much gratitude.

Soon I felt Knight taking over, and it became wild because Kaira joined in. They had agreed to be mates too.

~Leo~

Protecting what was left of my territory from Bane’s invasion was hard, but I had to.

These were times when I would have loved Tamia on my team.

She knew exactly what to do and how to act.

I was leaning on Max and Kyle, and our odds didn't seem great.

When the lesser Alphas joined with Bane, it didn't hurt.

I felt it was their choice.

They wanted to go after the wolf lord and get their daughters back; some wanted revenge for their loved ones. I could understand their pain. However the Wolf Lord tried to justify his attack, his actions were wrong. Attacking the entire East because a pack from the East dared to attack him was wrong.

I knew it was cowardly to accept defeat and urge the East to rebuild and move on, but I did not want us to lose more than we had already.

The northern soldiers were strong, and they had a larger army.

Combining our strength with the south would have evened the playing field, but I did not trust Bane's intentions, and I still don't.

I had called a meeting with the remaining

Alphas under me, and they answered.

When the alphas arrived, they were angry and scared at the same time.

Everyone blamed Kyle for our misfortunes because he was the one that brought Bane to

What pissed all of us off was Bane wanted us to join up by force.

It was as if the part of the East that willingly went with him was not good enough. He wanted Kyle, Max and me on his team too.

During the meeting, I watched the alphas argue and push blame around, which wasn't why I called the meeting. I called the meeting because I needed to find the best solution for peace. Joining Bane was out of the question.

"We need to call a truce," I said, and the hall went quiet.

“We can’t do that, Alpha Leo; the man is mad. I heard something about him calling himself the rightful Wolf lord because he killed Maurice Volkov,” Ramsey said. I was surprised about how ambitious Bane was.

“We need to find a way to tell him we do not share in his views and we won’t go to war against the North,” I told them, and they agreed.

“How will we do that? We have already told him we maintain a neutral stance. How else can we tell that bastard that we are not interested in his promises and helping him further his cause?” Alpha Christian said.

“Since you told us Luna Tamia spoke highly of the Wolf Lord, and that he has been treating our sisters and daughters well, we have made peace. How many more do we have to lose?” Timothy said, sounding as frail as he was.

He was one of the Alphas that did not bother fighting. He just handed his granddaughter over as tribute because his daughter was already mated. I could understand his fear.

“I say we take the war to Bane and let him know he has his limits. What he took from the East isn’t the best of the East; we can take him down,” Gaston said, and I shook my head.

“Luna Tamia was one of our best strategists,

Luna Avery dealt with welfare, and Luna Linda dealt with shelter protection. With those three aspects of our society unattended, we stand no chance. The north crippled us already by taking the three most powerful Lunas of the east. We have to rely on strength, and as my wife always said, smarts beats strength any day,” I said, remembering Tamia, and we were silent.

“We can still manage with what we have,” Gaston said, and I nodded.

“Of course, we can, but we do not want any more bloodshed. I suggest we have a peace talk with him,” I said, and they began to grumble.

“The man is mad. He will not answer us or anyone. He is greedy and covetous. He won’t stop until he gets what he wants,” Gaston argued. It seemed the Alpha had made up his mind about fighting Bane.

“I will try and have a peaceful meeting with him,” I said, and Ramsey refused.

“This is Kyle’s mess. He brought the bastard upon us; he should have a peaceful meeting with him. Why should you risk your life?” Ramzey said, and I nodded.

“I understand your anger, Alpha Ramzey, but this is beyond pettiness. Yes, Kyle brought him, but we all agreed. Even though Tamia warned that the Wolf Lord wasn’t bothering us, we still chose to Join forces with the south to protect ourselves. Kyle did not force us to accept the alliance; we did it

wholeheartedly; it can’t be his cross alone to bear. As the leader of the East, I am to have that peace talk with Bane,” I said, owning up to my responsibility, and everyone was silent.

“If anything happens to you, we will go to war with Bane. It is as simple as that. He wants us for the army he is building, and going to war with him will cripple the size and strength of his army. We might not win, but we will do damage. I rather hurt the bastard and die than take orders from him,” Max said, and I realised he, too, had it in for Bane.

Max claimed he had written several letters to Avery in the north but never got any response. He tried to insinuate that Tamia wrote her letter under duress, but I had to point out the difference to him.

Other than breaking my promise to my wife, I never maltreated her for Amanda’s sake. I never lay a finger on her and performed my duties as a husband towards her.

I refused to give her up and would have laid down my life for her sake; he did the opposite.

If anything, he should take her silence as moving on. She was probably enjoying herself there and had moved on.

Knowing that it was a tradition in the north to split Lunas among the top officers, she was probably with the Alpha, Beta, Gammal or Delta and having the time of her life.

Any life would be better than what she and Mia had with him.

During our community full moon walks, I saw the silver scars on Mia’s white fur several times. I ignored it because it wasn’t my business.

Although I had been pleading with Max to let go, he didn't want to, and now he wanted to go to war against Bane. All I could see was a desperate alpha looking for a thrill.

He never loved his Luna enough to treat her well. I looked at Kyle.

"Set up a meeting with Bane for tomorrow evening, to take place on Hill valley land, where it shares a border with Krane. He will feel safe meeting me there," I said and ended the meeting.

Amanda buzzed my phone throughout the meeting, so I decided to rush home to see what the problem was.

I arrived and found northern warriors at my home.

Although they did not seem like they came to fight me, I had to be on my guard.

They took my wife away the last time they were at my home.

I composed myself and walked into the house.

Amanda was showing, and we had learned we were expecting triplets. Meaning we will have a full house soon.

As happy as the news was, my joy wasn't complete.

This wasn't the life I wanted for myself.

The fact that I would be taking this transition into parenthood without Tamia was heartbreaking.

I slowly began to accept that I was the cause of my heartbreak, not fate.

I was too weak to keep my promise, and it will stay with me like that.

"Alpha Leo, the Council of the North sends us," The man leading the envoy said to me, and I nodded and sat down on the couch in my living room.

I did not like what Amanda did with the place; I preferred the way Tamia decorated it, but it was Amanda's home now, and she could do whatever she liked.

I noticed she had served them some small bites and drinks.

I just hoped she wasn't stupid enough to slip them something.

The last thing I wanted was for both Bane and the Wolf Lord to come at me.

Amanda smiled at me and went to her room.

I was still yet to let her move into the master bedroom.

Tamia's clothes were still there, and her pictures graced the walls. Amanda had come to accept it, and it didn't bother her anymore.

"To what do I owe this visit?" I asked the man in charge.

"I am Jacob Mikhailov. The Northern Council spokesman," he said, and I nodded, he looked more like a warrior to me, but I let it be.

I did not need to introduce myself; he knew who I was.

"The north wants to know if you are interested in working for them. We know that Alpha Devin Corrigan has taken part of the East, and threatens to force your remaining region to come under his command. We are willing to help liberate your people and end his reign of terror," He said, and I shook my head.

"At what expense, Mr Jacob? The part that joined with Devin did it willingly; I do not want them back. He has promised to give them what I can't. I do not believe in violence. The north has brought this

hardship upon my people by attacking us and taking our wives, daughters, and sisters. It is the north that has wronged us. They dealt the first blow. If they wanted peace, they would have had peace talks about the alleged attack instigated by Brent pack before wrecking our lives. Most of us will never recover from the loss we incurred due to that attack. Devin has gained allies because of it. While some

of us are willing to let go of our loved ones, however painful it may be, others have sworn revenge. I am sorry, but I won't be teaming up with the people that wrecked my home and my life," I said with finality, and Jacob and his men stood up.

“I believe you are still grieving the loss of your Luna, Alpha; know that she is well cared for in the north. The Lord has personally made sure of it. If you ever change your mind, please reach out to us,” he said, and I nodded to end the conversation.

They left quietly, and I relaxed.

A few hours later, Kyle called me to say that Devin was ready to meet. I hoped the meeting would occur the next day, but Devin was eager to get on with it. I told Amanda where I was off to, and she was scared.

She had been making many efforts lately, even training while pregnant. I knew she was hoping to fill Tamia’s shoes. I told her not to worry, that it was a peaceful conversation and that I would return.

She released me eventually, and I left for Hill Valley pack.

I arrived at Max’s pack house and was surprised to see Devin. He must have trusted my intentions to come there all by himself.

“He has the place surrounded,” Max told me with a low growl and excused us. I guess Devin did not trust us that well.

“Hello, Leo,” Devin said, smiling at me, and

I did not return the smile.

I might have come to have a peaceful discussion with him, but I was still mad at him for all he did and didn’t do.

Everyone excused us; it was just me and him in Max’s office.

“I see you are doing well without Tamia,” he said, and I did not respond.

I sat on the couch in the office and looked at him.

“Why are you doing this? Why must we join forces with you to attack the north? Why do you want to go after a man minding his business? What is the deal, Devin?” I asked him calmly, and he sighed.

“That man ruined my life, Leo,” he confessed.

“Just like he ruined your life, he ruined mine, 11 He said.

“How are things with your fated?” he asked an unrelated question, but I answered because I called the meeting, so the burden was on me to be polite.

“What did he do to you that warrants such hatred?” I asked him, and he sighed.

I knew I could not trust his words, but I would hear him out.

“I was fifteen when Maurice Volkov attacked the south and tried to force us to pay taxes. My father revolted, and my mother was taken in the process. He won, and we were forced to pay those taxes. We thought he would return her after we agreed to pay, but we soon found out the north never returns what it takes. My father sank into depression and lost his mind. So when everyone was acting their age, waiting to turn of age so they could find their fated, I was forced to grow up and take over as Alpha. Maurice robbed me of my life. When I killed him, I saw it as an opportunity to liberate our world from the evils of the north. Automatically I should be the wolf lord, but his son took over. My request for a match between that bastard and me for the seat was denied,” he said and sighed.

“I let it go and took care of the south. Then I met Tamia,” he said and looked at me.

“Your mark sat on her neck. A great deterrent for me, but knowing that you had found your fated, I knew the union was over; it would only take a matter of time before both of you called it quits, and then I could approach. Meanwhile, I planned on courting her. It seemed like a good plan then, and I was eager to get to know the green-eyed beauty,” He said. I wanted to punch him but held my cool.

“Then I find out the north attacked and took her away, just like they took my mother; I was done being nice,” he said, and his eyes turned golden yellow, which indicated his wolf.

“All this over a woman you met once?” I asked him, pointing out the ridiculousness of the matter, and he laughed.

“You see, unlike we Alphas that can detect our mates whether we have been claimed or not, it doesn’t work the same for other wolves. It doesn’t matter how long I spent with her or how many times I met her, Leo. All that matters is that Tamia is my fated,” he said, and the shock was so much that I just stared at him, stunned.

Everything he did makes a lot of sense now.

~Sylvester-

I was thrilled about the bold step that I had taken. I felt giddy about it and wanted to celebrate the engagement.

I noticed Tamia staring at her ring, which made me smile because she liked it. There was so much life in the dining room when we ate that I was glad I gave love a chance.

I never knew my heart could ever beat for anyone again. Tamia proved me wrong and had my heart on a marathon. 1

I held her hand throughout dinner and did not miss the opportunity to kiss her. This was it for me.

After dinner, we returned to our bedroom, and we made love. We were like beasts.

Within the walls of our room, we had no control and no limits, and somehow, I knew it would always be like this.

I decided to visit my mother the next day. I knew she was healed, so I opted to check on her. I asked Tamia to come with me, and she was a bit reluctant because of Dominic.

“I do not think it is wise to take me along. Your brother hates me for reasons known to him, and your mother just came out of a terrible attack that allegedly had something to do with me,” She said, wearing her jeans. 1

“I want you there with me. I also hope we can find a way to speak to her about the event so you can make some deductions on the matter. Above all, I want her to meet her future daughter-in-law,” I said, and she looked at me.

“I do not have experience with in-Laws,” she told me, and I frowned.

“Leo’s parents are still alive,” I argued, and she nodded.

“They travelled when they handed over to him and have not returned since. It was just the two of us until Amanda came along, She said, and there was no ounce of hurt in her tone. I was pleased that she could talk about Amanda and Leo without being hurt. It showed that she had moved on.

I went to her and pulled her to my chest, then kissed her. Holding her in my arms felt so right. She was perfect for me.

“Green eyes,” I told her, and she giggled.

“Know you have nothing to worry about whenever you are with me. I can burn the world for your sake,” I said and kissed the tip of her nose. I wasn’t saying those words to soothe her ego. It was my truth, and I meant it.

Anyone that tried to come between us would face my wrath.

“Please, I want you to come with me,” I said and kissed her neck, tempted to sink my teeth in. Too bad I would have to wait for the him and have not returned since. It was just the two of us until Amanda came along,’ She said, and there was no ounce of hurt in her tone. I was pleased that she could talk about Amanda and Leo without being hurt. It showed that she had moved on.

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and I meant it.

Anyone that tried to come between us would face my wrath.

“Please, I want you to come with me,” I said and kissed her neck, tempted to sink my teeth in. Too bad I would have to wait for the wedding night to do it as tradition.

“Okay,” She said, and I laughed.

“Great, wear a dress; Jeans are a lot of work, I said, squeezing her arse, and she giggled.

“You are naughty,” She teased.

“For you,” I replied, and her cheeks coloured.

I brushed them gently and ran my thumb against her parted lips. She licked it and sent shivers down my spine.

Then she moved away to change her outfit.

“Wear something short,” I said, composing myself, and she smiled.

“Mine,” Knight said, and my wolf made me laugh.

“She is ours, Knight,” I corrected him, and he growled.

“Bump up the wedding; we are lord; we do not have to wait for the Blue moon ceremony. I want to make her mine now,” Knight said, and I agreed with my wolf.

The Blue moon ceremony was about three months away; that was too long a time to wait to claim my woman.

“I can’t control myself, Sylvester,” Knight said, and I knew he might sink his teeth in before the due time. I would try to hold out for as long as I can.

She returned, dressed in a short orange sundress. Her legs looked beautiful.

“The colour suits you, darling,” I said, and she smiled.

“It was the only decent outfit fit for the occasion,” She said, and I smiled at her, knowing what her collection was like.

We headed out, and I felt like a schoolboy all over again. Grabbing and kissing her on our way out.

A lot of people saw us, and I did not care. I was finally living my life, and I liked it.

I wanted to drive us there but decided to have a kappa drive us last minute. I doubted if I would last behind the wheel with how I felt.

I placed my hand on Tamia’s thigh and moved up.

“I am not wearing panties,” She linked me, and I looked at her. Knight growled lustfully.

She knew how to get us worked up. She reached for my hand and placed it between her legs close to her pussy, and moaned.

“This was why you made me wear something short.” She linked me, and I knew my eyes were back because I could not control Knight.

She reached for my fly, unzipped my pants and reached into my boxers. The moment she held me in her hands, I relaxed to enjoy the gift she was about to give me. Bending down, she placed me in her mouth, and that was all I needed to go wild.

I could not tell where we were, the car was somewhere in the woods, but I didn't care. I had never taken a woman in the car before. This will be the first time; She bobbed her head, taking me down till it touched the back of her throat, and I felt it. I didn't want to come in her mouth this time. So I made her come on top of me.

Placing me in her, she began to ride.

“I told you I could ride,” She linked me, reminding me of our horse riding joke. I was too excited to laugh. I growled and moaned. She was moving right, and it felt so right.

Tight and the perfect fit for me. I wanted her to come first, so I held out. Guiding her body as she ground her pussy up and down my length.

“I'm coming,” She said, and it was like music to my ears; she moaned so loud, and I felt her walls pulsate and clench my cock until she came down, and then I released into her. I felt relaxed when we were through, and she got off me.

“Amazing,” I said, kissing her, and she giggled.

“Hope I don't fall asleep before we get there,” She said, and I laughed.

“Me too,” I said, looking at the driver, who seemed rigid. We had assaulted his eyes, and I felt guilty for it.

We arrived at my mother's house, and

Tamia and I went in.

My mother was sitting in the ante-room with Dominic and one of Susan's cousins, who happened to be his new girlfriend and a bitch, Glenda Sullivan.

“Alpha,” Glenda said, standing up when she saw me. My brother did the same but was angry to see Tamia.

“Why did you bring your whore to see mother?” He said, and I wanted to attack him, but Tamia stopped me. I went to hug and kiss my mother.

“Mother, meet Tamia, my fiance,” I said, and she smiled at Tamia and hugged her.

“What!” I heard Glenda and Dominic exclaim. I wondered if my brother would ever mind his business.

“She isn’t your fated,” Glenda said, and I honestly would have slapped her if it weren’t for the fact that I respected women. I might just make her the exception.

“Who said I was searching for my fated?” I asked her.

“Susan. That was why she left. She said you needed to be strong and needed your..” She said, and I shut her up.

“I will not repeat this. Do not mention that name where I am concerned, and it will be nice if you mind your business or I will forget you are screwing my brother and mistreat you. Whether you are with Dominic or not, I am still your lord, and you should never speak to me unless I ask you to.

“Leave them alone, Sylvester; I am glad you came,” My mother said, leading Tamia and me to the living room.

“She is gorgeous,” my mother said, admiring Tamia.

“How is he treating you, dear?” She asked Tamia offering us a seat. Tamia sat and smiled.

“I am happy,” She said, and my mother smiled.

“From your smiles, I can see you are happy,

My mother said and took her hand to admire the ring.

“The shade of your eyes,” My mother said, looking at Tamia.

“Who would have thought you were a romantic, Sylvester?” She said, looking at me, and I smiled.

“So this is it?” She finally said, and I nodded.

“I hope babies are in the plan,” She asked, and I nodded.

“So you two will wed on the blue moon according to tradition?” She asked. I nodded, and she beamed.

“Great, Tamia and I have three months to get to know each other and plan the wedding. I want it to be grand,” My mother said, and there was no way I would be bringing Tamia to Lucland often.

“Mother, I can’t come here all the time with Tamia,” I said, and her smile faded. My mother wanted to tell me something, trying to find the right words.

“You see, son, since the incident with Jenny,

I felt the essence of coming to live here had been defeated. If they could attack me here, then I am no longer safe here,” She said, and I frowned at her, wondering where she was heading with this.

“I thought about it after I was discharged from the hospital this morning, and I have decided I will be moving back to the Estate,” She said, and I did not know how to feel about it.

I love my breakfast with my friends, who were also my officers. I loved my life there.

Having my mother move back there would change a lot of things.

I will have to eat with her and spend more time with her.

She would want to get involved with running the place, and I would not like it. It was just better this way.

“Mother, I do not think it is wise. Let me increase the security here,” I said, trying to convince her not to come and stay in the estate.

“No, Sylvester, my mind is made up on this. You may be a lord, but I am still your mother. Your brother and I are moving back. in,” She said, and I exclaimed.

“You can’t bring Dominic to the estate, mother. You know we do not see eye to eye on many things. I need to be focused. He will be a serious negative distraction for me,” I complained, and she shook her head.

“It is just the two of you. Please, Sylvester. I have spoken to him about it, and he is willing to try. The both of you have to try to get along. He is your only family, other than me, of course,” She said, and I shook my head.

“Tamia and our children are my family,” I said, and she nodded.

“Of course, Sylvester, I am not disputing that, but please, you must try to make it work with Dominic. It breaks my heart to see you two fight and hate each other. Please,” She said, holding my hand, and I looked at Tamia. Her face bore no expression, she could not say yes or no even though she hated Dominic.

“I have rules, mother. He should not speak to or disrespect Tamia in any way. He isn’t allowed to get involved with running the place. He cannot attend my meetings. I do not want to know he is there,” I said, and she shook her head.

“I can understand all that except the last one. We will have some time together when we can, and he can be relaxed there, too; after all, the estate belongs to our family. Try, Sylvester,” She said, and I knew if I said no, it would break her heart. I would just have to see how it goes. Living with Dominic would be very difficult, especially now that he is going steady with Glenda.

-Tamia~

Sylvester’s mother received me with kindness, and she was nice to me, but I realised Sylvester wasn’t happy about having his brother on the estate.

I could understand his reluctance. I have met Dominic three times, and none have been pleasant.

Sylvester searched my eyes for answers, but I could not give any. Until I officially became his Luna, I had no say.

Dominic walked into the living room with his girlfriend, who was afraid of Sylvester.

“Have you told the wolf Lord, mother?”

Dominic asked and came to sit in the living room with his girlfriend.

“I have told him, but there are conditions,” his mother said, and he exclaimed.

“He can’t give me conditions to live on our family’s property,” Dominic said, and their mother growled.

“He can, and he has. He is lord and Alpha of the North; you will give him his respect, Dominic. I am beginning to sense you are jealous of your younger brother,” His mother said, and Dominic seemed bewildered by her words.

“Why do you think I am jealous, mother?” He asked, and she looked at him.

“To begin with, you lied about his relationship with Tamia; you made it seem like he was going about misbehaving, and you made it seem as if she was a liability. Then you lied about him neglecting his responsibilities. When Jenny came to meet me, she had nothing but praise for Sylvester. I will advise

you to find something worthwhile and stop trying to bring your brother down, and yes, he has the right to set the rules. He is lord and Alpha. You will abide by his rules, or you won’t move in with us. I am warning you that you should not insult or disrespect Tamia. She is Sylvester’s chosen and future Luna of the North. You will give her her respect,” His mother said, through gritted teeth, and I could feel the boss in her rise to the surface.

She was a tough woman, and I could see where Sylvester got his toughness from. Although I hadn’t met their father, I figured Sylvester was more like his mother.

We spent a while with Luna Stephanie Volkov, Sylvester’s mother. She was a joy to be around. She showed me baby pictures of Sylvester, making me want to have children. I remembered how hurt I was when Leo told me Amanda was expecting. I looked at Sylvester and thanked my stars for giving me a second chance.

Understanding how I felt in those moments, he touched my hand and squeezed. He knew I wanted children. Leo must have included it in the letter.

“I can’t wait too,” He linked me, and tears welled in my eyes, but I brushed them away before luna Stephanie would ask me why I was crying.

Glenda tried to be friendly, but I was weary of her; learning she was Susan's cousin did it for me, and I did not trust her intention towards Sylvester.

I trusted my man, but I did not trust her. Knowing that Dominic would be moving into the estate meant I would have to deal with her. I am okay as long as Susan does not miraculously show up looking for her cousin. Somehow I knew what Susan did still hurt Sylvester even though he wouldn't admit it. She was best far away from us. I hoped she was married with plenty of children.

Soon it was time for us to leave, and Luna

Stephanie felt sad about it. She pleaded with

Sylvester to let us stay, but he declined because we had to answer questions at the council early in the morning the next day.

According to him, Avery, Linda and me would be questioned extensively about Elder

Jenny's death. As long as Dominic wasn't doing the questioning, I was fine with it.

We returned to the estate and tried not to assault the driver's senses this time.

Entering our room, Sylvester pulled me close to him and kissed me.

"No one will hurt you, I promise." He said, and I smiled at him.

"I know," I said, assuring him I was okay, and he smiled.

We went to shower so we could get ready and head for dinner.

Dinner was a bit silent.

I guess Sylvester had linked Marcel and Theodore about the new development.

They weren't enthusiastic about Dominic moving in.

I guess I wasn't the only one that did not like Dominic.

Linda was afraid and wondered how we could remain calm after finding out that the man that locked us up in cages and tried to pin Luna's assault and the Elder's murder on us, was moving in. I had no answer because I was afraid, but I was confident that Sylvester wouldn't let him hurt us.

After dinner, we all returned to our rooms and decided to sleep early so we would be refreshed the next day.

I thought we would be sleeping, but Sylvester had other things in mind. He went under the covers and decided to give me the wildest night yet. Kaira howled in my head, enjoying every bit of his ministrations.

It was clear he was trying to get a baby in me. I wasn't on the pill anymore, so it might happen soon.

We left early the next day for the Dark Wolf Pack council building in Lucland. It was tall. and grand.

The sight of the building alone was intimidating.

The North was the most developed and organised part of our world.

It was only normal they would lead the rest of our world, and now that I was a part of it,

I was proud of it.

We entered a small auditorium, loges boxes were on the walls.

The boxes were raised sitting platforms towards the rear of the auditorium.

They were on multiple levels stacked vertically above the ground. I counted a total of six levels of sitting boxes on the wall. Dominic was sitting in a loge on the first level.

We were taken to the grand Loge meant for the lord. It was on the first level but on the opposite side of where Dominic was sitting. It was a beauty.

I could see the Elders seat on the ground floor and the opened centre on the floor where the speaker would start to speak so everyone could hear. It was a beautiful setting. If only it was bigger, they could have plays there, but it was clear it was an official setting.

Some ladies were asked to serve our Loge, and from how they were dressed, it was obvious they had a different kind of service. in mind.

Avery got uncomfortable and snapped at one of the girls.

Noticing what was happening, Marcel requested that men serve the Loge instead. The women were not happy.

“Your reputation precedes you.” I leaned close to Sylvester’s ear and said; he looked at me and frowned.

“Tell me you wouldn’t have selected a bedmate from those girls if I wasn’t in your life,” I teased, and he smiled and kissed my hand.

“I only go for premium stuff,” he said, maintaining eye contact with me. His gaze made me shudder, and I felt like I was the only one in the room. He had that effect on me, and he knew it.

He stuck out his tongue and sensually licked the back of my hand with the tip before kissing my hand the second time. My pussy clenched, imagining his tongue on me.

“Sylvester,” I breathed, and he smiled at me. He had me right where he wanted.

Just then, a woman approached our Loge to speak with Sylvester.

“Lord Volkov,” She said, bowing her head,

“We are about to start. The Eastern Lunas have to follow me,” The woman said, and it still bothered me that we were seen as eastern Lunas, even though we had no marks on our necks.

“They are no longer Eastern Lunas,”

Sylvester corrected her, and she bowed her head and apologised for her blunder.

We were led to the centre and made to stand. I guess we were the entertainment of the event.

Standing on the open centre of the ground floor meant we would be the ones answering the questions.

Seven elderly people took a seat where the elders sat, leaving one seat vacant.

I believed that was the chair that belonged to Elder Jenny. I felt terrible for her.

The leader of the council was a young man called Vino Lawrence.

He was an Alpha, and it seemed he had succeeded his father.

He was the most reserved, and it did not seem like he would be asking questions.

Looking at him, I realised the seats belonged to families, not nominated individuals. If not, Vino would not be the head of the council.

“Luna Tamia Albert, welcome to the council. I know you know why you and your colleagues are here. So we can get right to it,

“An elder called Larry McMillian said, and I nodded.

“Three days ago, Luna Stephanie and Elder

Jenney were attacked at Lunna Stephanie’s house by Southern and eastern soldiers.

According to the northern warriors on guard, they claimed the men were there to get you, and they were sent by Alpha Devin Corrigan, also known as Bane. Explain your relationship with Bane and how he knew to search for you in Luna Stephanie’s home.” The man said, and I was pissed off. He might not have said it, but he insinuated I set the Luna up.

“I was the Luna of the Mountain pack, married to Alpha Leonardo Albert until I was given as a peace offering to Lord Sylvester Volkov to settle the misunderstanding between the North and the east. I do not know Alpha Devin Corrigan.”

“I met him once at a dinner party, and that was all. I have not communicated with anyone outside the Volkov Estate. We are under strict conditions and cannot wander about the place or communicate with outsiders.”

“I did not know where Luna Stephanie lived, and I have no dealing with Elder Jenny. I am not in a position to shed light on the matter.” I said, and Elder Larry Laughed.

“Lying to the council is a crime Luna,” he said and looked at me with dark eyes.

“We have laws in the North, and we abide by them. I will give you a chance to come clean if it happens, or your colleagues will be punished severely for the crime.” He said to

“I will not admit to anything because I did not do anything,” I said, and he nodded.

“Alpha Max Christian blanc of the Woodland pack at Hill Valley sent letters to his Luna. We were able to intercept those letters, and we found something interesting. In those letters, Alpha Max tells his wife to respond. He says he knows she can respond because you, Luna Tamia, sent Alpha Leo letters. about your stay in the North,” He said, and I frowned at the man.

“We have the letters in our possession.” He said, and people began to murmur. I did not know what to say.

“Luna Tamia, What did you tell your husband about the North? I am of the notion that you told him all he needed to know.

Because there is an alliance between the east and south, Alpha Leonardo Albert, leader of the east, sought help from the man that had beaten the North in battle, believing he would be able to do the task to try to take you away from the North,” He said, and I could not believe this bastard. He had twisted the narrative.

“These are all insinuations. You have no proof,” I said, and he shook his head.

“I have Alpha Max’s letters that say otherwise, Luna,” he said, and I was about to speak when I heard Sylvester’s voice from his Loge.

“Enough!” He said, and everyone was silent.

“I made her write one letter to her husband when she got here and sent it myself. She did not know my mother was in Lucland then. I read the letter and still have a photocopy of its content. You can not base your deductions on the

letter of a husband that misses his wife and wants her to write to him at all costs. Besides, what I want to know is why they killed Elder Jenny. If Tamia was their target, they would have injured both my mother and Jenny, not killed Jenny. I have done some investigations myself, and my mother said they did not ask for Tamia; they beat her up and killed Jenny before she blacked out. Whatever happened had nothing to do with Tamia, Avery and Linda.

And I will advise this court to refrain from referring to them as Eastern Lunas. As you can all see, They no longer bear their husbands' marks., They belong to my pack, and Tamia will be my Luna soon," He said, and people began to murmur.

As proud as I was of him, I did not think telling them I would be their Luna soon was a good idea.

They had it in for the east, and the three of us represented the east and south to them, especially Dominic.