

Chapter 56 - The Destiny of a Heart-broken Luna

~Devin~

I decided to attend Jake's festival to unwind. It was a last-minute decision. I planned to spend four days in Brighton and then return to Greenwood. It was a great plan. It was supposed to ease my stress and help me think straight.

When I arrived in Brighton in the evening of the festival and Jake told me that Tamia was around, I was giddy. Rex was overjoyed, and I could not believe how easy it would be to take my mate away from Sylvester. Hearing that Sylvester sent her to have a peace talk with Jake unaccompanied made me think of two different extremes.

Either they loved and trusted each other so much that he would allow her to handle state matters without fear, or her life meant nothing. He was willing to gamble it away by using her to apologise to Jake, hoping Jake won't attack and kill her.

Hearing Jake talk about her made me realise she was alright.

He told me she arrived a bit ill and pale looking, and I was afraid Sylvester maltreated her in the north.

I planned it all.

The rose, the garden. I wanted it to be perfect. I wanted it to be romantic. It is all I have ever wanted. Finding my mate and starting a real life in love and happiness.

Tamia was perfect. I did not care that she was once married or was taken by the wolf lord. I did not care. I just wanted my mate.

Rex hoped to hold her, accept her and claim her. I wasn't going to waste any time.

I was going to run fast and sink my teeth into her.

I did not need to wait for the blue moon; that was only done by chosen mates for the claiming to work.

I did not need the blue moon to claim my mate. The moon goddess had given her to me.

So I used my scent to lure her.

She scented Peach and Wildflowers. Her scent was vivid and more precise than when we first met at the party.

She was delicious, and she was mine. I hoped she would follow, and she did.

When she saw me and tears started streaming down her cheeks, I knew it wouldn't be easy.

Everything she said to me in tears broke my heart. Not because she refused to run into my arms, but because what she was saying was true.

I took my moment with her for granted. I wronged her deeply.

I knew she was hurting with Leo, and I should have challenged him for her hand, but I was diplomatic about it. I made the biggest mistake of my life.

I should have taken her from him that night. I took our moment for granted, and Volkov stole her heart.

I could not blame her for rejecting me. But deep down, she should have given me a chance to prove myself.

No pain or weakness came with the rejection, but the feeling was the same.

I knew she battled her wolf to let me go. As much as I wanted to be persistent, I had to respect her wishes. I lost my chance, and I hated myself for it. Rex did not forgive me for accepting the rejection.

We actually thought she would let us claim her. The feeling was right. It felt so good, and I wanted to sink my teeth into her neck, but she pulled away. I could not force myself on her.

I left Brighton the next day a broken man.

Throughout my journey back to Greenwood, my wolf howled, blaming me for the loss and rejection. He, too, was right.

When I held her in my arms at the party, he urged me to throw away the alliance and challenge Leo for her hand. Her eyes were sad and withdrawn. I should've listened to my wolf, but I didn't.

I wanted the marriage to end naturally because they weren't ready to let each other go, even though Amanda had come between them. I know Leo still feels the same way.

I got home and thought I wouldn't long for her anymore, but I still wanted her. I remembered how it felt to have her in my arms, and I wished things were different and she didn't fall in love with Volkov.

"What will we do now?" Rex asked me, still mourning our loss.

"I do not know, but I think we shouldn't be quick to move on. Tamia does not like to share, and knowing the history of the Volkovs, they always have more than one woman. I plan on waiting a bit to see how things go between them." I told my wolf, and he was silent.

I wasn't going to actively try to separate them, but I was afraid she might lose on his side too. There was no way he could be different from his father. I had to make sure I remained available a little longer for her sake.

"I say we wage war and take her from him. The goddess made her for us. She is ours. He has stolen what is ours," Rex said, and tears streamed down my face.

"She is in love with him, Rex. We can't beat that. The only thing we can do is wait them out. He might slip up, and if he does, I will be there for her, even if it is as a friend, but this can't be it," I said, trying to convince myself there was hope.

My day went slow, and I returned to Greenwood more depressed than I had left.

A day later, I was sitting in my office when Lukman, my beta, brought me an invitation from the Northern Council.

"We hereby invite your pack to partake in our tournament starting next month's new moon. The open competitions are Polo, Swimming, Football, Golf, Croquet, Volleyball, One Hundred Metre Dash and Ring Fight (without any presence of Silver). Please reply with the list of sports you are interested

in and the name of your team members. Thank you, and we look forward to hosting you,” it read, and I looked at the person that sent the invitation.

“From the Northern Council, Signed Joan Clayman. ”

It was strange that the northern council would invite me to participate in the all-region sports games. They usually invite lesser southern Alphas, but they had chosen to invite me this year. I contemplated whether I should accept or not.

“Weirdly, the council would invite us, knowing we have an issue with the lord,” Lukman said. I even had more issues with the Lord because Volkov had stolen the heart of my fated.

“Should we take part in it?” Lukman asked, and I did not know what to say.

Usually, I would say no, but it also meant I would see Tamia one more time before her wedding.

It meant I could officially spend a month in the north without having any hindrances because the tournament takes that long before we complete.

The Polo alone takes two weeks. It would be a great opportunity.

“Do you know if Volkov is participating?” I asked Lukman, and he nodded.

“He plays Polo every year.” He said, and I began to grin from ear to ear.

“Do we have a good Polo team?” I asked him, and he nodded.

“Nikolas Sullivan has a good team. He is a northerner but relocated to the south eleven years ago with his niece. I am sure they would participate in the north as a southern team against Volkov’s team.” He said, and I began to grin because this would be an excellent opportunity to spend time with Tamia.

As much as I hated to think of it, she would be around Sylvester often, and if he played Polo, we would be around each other often.

It will give me a chance.

I need to prove that I am a better man for her. I did not plan on playing dirty, but I planned on making an effort. If I still lose, I would gracefully bow out, but

I would try as penance for not taking her away from Leo when I had the chance.

Somehow I knew it was my fault she ended up in the north. If I had taken her from Leo, the north would have still attacked the east, but she wouldn't be there to give herself up. She would have been with me.

I looked at Lukman, grateful for the opportunity that had dropped on my lap, and I wasn't going to waste it.

"Ask Nikolas Sullivan to see me in my office. I need to finalise with him and respond to the Northern council as soon as possible before the slots for Polo teams are filled." I told Lukman, and he went to sort the matter.

I waited nervously in my office, grateful for the opportunity.

Knowing the invitation came in late because most Alphas received their invites two weeks ago, it seemed like a last-minute thing. I believed I wasn't meant to be invited, but they chose to invite me for reasons known to them.

I felt it was off that the council would invite me, but it might be their step toward making peace with me. After all, Sylvester had sent Tamia to Brighton to make peace with Jake, and he had somehow made peace with Leo.

Leo never spoke scornfully of the Dark Alpha, and I believe he should because the man took his wife, whom he still loves, but Leo seemed to be okay with it. Volkov might have suddenly realised the errors of their ways and wanted to make amends, or this might also be an attempt to keep his enemies close. I did not know what it may be, but I was on alert. If it was a trap, I had to get out of it. If it weren't for my need to see Tamia again and try to prove myself to her, I would have declined.

Nikolas arrived a few hours later, and he had brought his niece. Lukeman had sent a helicopter to pick him up from Pridewood, where they were staying. It wasn't far, but they would have taken longer to get to Greenwood.

The man looked fit and a bit younger than I imagined. He was in his early forties, and I was sure he could swing a mallet with ease. His niece was a pretty blonde woman, roughly twenty-six or twenty-seven. She was very stunning and had that legendary northern beauty.

I stood up to greet them, and they greeted me with a lot of respect. His niece seemed in awe of me and made me feel like a celebrity.

“Please, make yourselves comfortable,” I said, offering them seats, and they sat down.

“To what do we owe this honour, alpha?” Nikolas asked, and I smiled so he would know to relax and that I meant well.

“I heard you have the best Polo team in the south,” I said, and the man smiled, trying to be modest.

“We try alpha, but it isn’t a popular game in the south as it is in the north,” he said, and I nodded.

“I know you relocated here with your niece from the north. I was hoping your team could represent us in the all-region tournament starting next new moon,” I said, and the man was stunned. He could not contain his joy.

“It will be an honour. I have been looking for an opportunity to showcase my teams. It will be great,” The man said, and I looked at his niece, who seemed to be drooling over me, and I smiled at her.

“You play too?” I asked her, and she nodded.

“Yes, she does, but she won’t play at the tournament. She isn’t qualified to play at that level; she will just manage the teams,” The man said, and I had no clue what it entailed, but it sounded like a good thing.

“How many teams would we enter into the competition?” I asked the man.

“Three. We have only three strong teams in the south,” He said, and I nodded.

“Very well then, I will reply and ask them to save three slots for us in the polo tournament. I will need the names of your teams and team members,” I told the man, and he nodded, smiling.

“They will give you a place to rest, and the helicopter will take you back to Pridewood tomorrow,” I said, and the man was excited about it.

I was excited, too, because I had a non-threatening legal reason to be in the north for a whole month. Rex and I were elated, and I relaxed a bit on my couch, hopeful.

~Tamia~

Dominic locked himself in his room for three days after we returned from the council hearing.

I knew it was shame and fear.

Somehow the man did not expect that to happen to him.

I believed realising that he could easily lose his life woke him up.

I wondered how his relationship with Larry would be henceforth.

I knew the council was working against the Volkovs, but we needed to find out who the mastermind was and why, so I decided to start from the beginning.

I went to Sylvester's office, and he was deep in thought, concentrating on the documents on his desk. Realising some people were actively working against him put him on edge.

Initially, it was based on speculation, but now it was apparent.

Whoever threatened Bryce was either the mastermind or part of the clique.

I looked at him and realised he needed a break.

I had to clear my throat for him to realise I had entered his office. It was either he was far away in his mind or so used to my scent that he did not think I had come in. Either way, he looked up and smiled at me.

"Hey," he said, and I smiled and looked at him.

"I want to talk to you, but first, let's go horse riding. I want to go back to the cliff where I can see the alpine," I said, and he smiled at me, but his eyes looked tired.

"How about we do that tomorrow, darling? I am busy. Besides, it would be best if you weren't riding in your condition; I will drive the jeep there. Maybe have a picnic?" he asked, and I laughed.

"But I am allowed to ride you..." I said, and his wolf flashed

“I want us to go now; you need a break, Sylvester. It would help if you unwound so you can think straight. Everyone is going crazy. Marcel and Theodore look like you. Dominic has locked himself inside his room, and your mother is confused. We all need a break, and I want to take it now, with you, at the cliff.” I insisted, and he closed the file on his desk and put it away in a silver safe.

It amazes me how comfortable the northerners were around Silver. They trained with it and used it as storage for essential things. It was mid-bugging. The silver was not in the same space as him but was enclosed in an iron cupboard to prevent it from weakening the people in the room.

Sylvester followed me to the room, and I was glad he listened.

We returned to our bedroom to change our outfits.

“What did you want to tell me other than going to the cliff?” He said, and I smiled at him while I changed into something comfortable.

“I think we should send proper investigators to search Jenny’s house and go through her belongings. Avery, Linda and I can lead it. There are specific things that I am looking for that the people we send might miss, and we are bored sitting doing nothing,” I said, and he was silent; then he went to sit on the bed and started unbuttoning his shirt.

The sight of his bare chest might stop us from making it to the cliff because I was already getting turned on by his stripping gesture alone.

“What are you looking for?” he asked.

“Journals, notes, emails, scribbles, objects...things that can tell a story,” I said, and he took off his shirt, flexing his muscles.

He was so hot that I could no longer concentrate on what I was doing.

I wanted to run my fingers against his chest and feel his muscles. He was mine, all mine, and I wanted him.

“Sylvester,” I asked him, drooling over the sight of his body. He looked at me with a question in his eyes.

“What a hot body you have,” I said to him, and he laughed.

We both laughed; just like that, his spirit was lifted, and his mood was lighter.

“The better to seduce you with, my dear,” He said, and we both laughed because I was playing the role of little red, and he was my big bad wolf.

I could not handle my hormones anymore.

We could talk about Jenny after. But the cliff would have to wait for another day. I went to straddle him on the bed and opened my shirt.

“You need to finish the talk, darling. The wolf desires to eat little red riding hood. Unlike her, I am willing to be devoured,” I said, and he gently touched my tits and sucked them gently in his mouth, swirling his tongue on them.

They were sensitive and hard, and I moaned. I wanted more, something was starving in me, and I needed him to satisfy it.

“I will eat you until you beg me to stop,” he said with a low growl and flipped me unto the bed.

He kissed my neck and nibbled my ears, sucking the lobe and breathing into it. I had goosebumps all over, and my pussy was clenching violently.

“Oh, Sylvester. Please,” I pleaded with him.

My body craved him, aching for his touch, tongue, and cock. My core was aching for release.

He worshipped my body with his mouth and travelled down, sucking and licking my skin, leaving a trail of ecstasy, anticipation, need, desire and want. I dug my nails into the sheet, anticipating him.

“Sylvester,” I moaned, and he kissed my lips but avoided my clit. He was teasing me.

“Ahhh,” I moaned from anticipation and lack of patience.

“I need it now,” I said, trying to press my thighs together to ease the ache.

“Tell me what you want, Tamia,” He growled lowly.

“I want you to eat me until I can take no more, then fuck me until I come all over you,” I said, moaning and writhing under him.

I wasn't a shy woman, and now he knew. I could be vocal when I wanted, and I wanted those things and more.

“Now, Sylvester,” I said, my pussy dripping and anticipating his attention and care.

“Prove to me that you are my big bad wolf,” I said, and he growled and dug in.

He licked my knob and travelled down my slit to my pussy.

“Ahhhhhhhh, Sylvester,” I cried.

I was extra sensitive, and he knew it.

“Do not cum until I tell you to,” He ordered, and I nodded, waiting to see how long I could hold out against his skilful tongue. His skill was unparalleled.

“Sylvester,” I cried, wanting to cum so he could bury himself in me. I wanted to feel his skin against mine. I wanted to wrap myself in his scent.

He worked on me until I could no longer take it.

“Please, Alpha...” I moaned, and he growled with satisfaction.

“Cum,” he linked me.

I released and felt the climax ripple through my veins.

My nerves tingled, and my hair was probably standing.

I felt like my spirit was going to jump out on me, and I stretched, then began to crumble from the over- sensitivity of my clit that he refused to let go of.

Sylvester placed his finger in me, kneaded my walls sweetly, then placed himself in and began to pump.

He pounded into me like a beast. Stretching my walls and satisfying my need for him. Everything was heightened, and I was enjoying it.

I dug my nails into his skin and took it all.

Placing my legs over his shoulder and kneeling between my legs, he pumped viciously, going all the way in.

I saw his teeth elongate and his claws grow out, meaning he was enjoying himself. Knight was trying to take over, and I wanted him to.

He pumped and fought a claim. I shattered all over him, feeling liquid sip out of me. Sylvester finally came and lay by my side. I could see that he was relieved, and I was satiated.

“So you want to play detective?” he said. After we had laid down for forty minutes, I nodded.

“I, too, believe we will find something out in Jenny’s place. Hence why I sealed and guarded her house after her death,” he confessed, and I squealed at him.

“But I can’t let you go there with the ladies,” He said, and I frowned at him. He sat up and sighed.

“You are my life, Tamia. I have never been this much in love in my entire existence, and people know. They know you are my weakness. They know how much I love you because I do not hide it. I can’t, even if I want to,” he said and bowed.

“After what happened with Dominic, I realised people are out to get me and hurt me. They can only hurt me by hurting you and our baby. We will be parents soon, Tamia. I want you protected at all costs. I know you will do an excellent job, tell my men what to look for, and they will bring it, but I can’t let my wife out of my sight,” He said and bent to kiss my lower belly.

“I have wanted this all my life. A mate that genuinely loves my family and me. Now that I have you, I can’t be careless, Tamia. Please. Do not push it. These people are dangerous. They took Bryce’s

pregnant mate. I am not saying you are weak or can’t defend yourself, but they are cunning and unknown. There is nothing more difficult than fighting the unknown,” he said and touched my hand.

“Please, my love, do not argue with me on this one,” he pleaded and kissed my hand.

“I want you to instruct my men, and they will do as you have requested. Share your thoughts with Theodore and Marcel, but I won’t let you play detective. If you are bored, think of something to do for the All-regional games that does not involve you participating in the sports activities,” He said. I knew he needed me to say yes. He was genuinely afraid, and I could see it. So I nodded.

“Basically, what I need are journals, notes however insignificant. If I can’t go, at least let Theodore or Marcel lead the search. Finding these items isn’t the only important thing. How and where they are found matters. It can say a lot and give us more information than the items themselves,” I said, and he sighed.

“Very well, we will all go there. I will not let you out of my sight, Tamia. I won’t.” he said, and laid back down and pulled me close. He sucked on my sweet spot gently.

“I won’t survive if I lose you. If anything ever happens to you, my darling, I will become the Dark Alpha,” he said, and as much as it sounded like a joke, I knew he was serious.

We both fell asleep, and I woke up in the night.

It was nine at night, so I decided to walk to Avery’s wing to check on her. She had been depressed lately, and I knew it was because of my pregnancy.

I knew she feared something was wrong with her, just like I was. I was sure she was alright and would happen soon, but I needed to ensure she was okay.

I left my room barefooted so I don’t wake Sylvester. He was sleeping peacefully, and he needed the rest.

While I walked down the halls barefooted, causing me to have stealth, I heard someone whispering on the phone. I did not like eavesdropping, but these were dangerous times, so I leaned closer to listen.

“It is too tight right now; I can’t get it for you. You will have to wait and let things loosen up a bit. Maybe during the games,” A voice that sounded like Lily said. Then I heard her hang up and approach, so I hid behind a door. She walked out of the corner she was hiding and looked about to be sure the coast was clear before leaving.

I knew women from the harem were not allowed phones, and Sylvester never told me she had special privileges. Whatever she was doing, she was up to no good, and I wondered what she was asked to procure that would need to be done during the games when the security wasn't so tight anymore. I planned on telling Sylvester and having the woman investigated. She was scornful and might try to hurt us for it.

I walked and bumped into Stephanie, the last person I wanted to see.

~Tamia~

Stephanie did not look well. Her eyes were swollen, and her hands were shaking. It was clear that she had been crying.

I wanted to ignore her, but I couldn't. I knew Sylvester wouldn't, so I decided to show some concern.

"Are you alright?" I asked, and she looked at me and shook her head.

"I am not, Tamia. Everything is falling apart. Dominic won't come out of his room. He said he feels like a nobody. I have tried to talk him out of it, but he is too ashamed to let himself mingle," She said, and I nodded.

"You need to give him time, Stephanie. He had a near-death experience. If Bryce had not confessed, he might have been dead by now. He will need time to recover from it," I said, and she hugged me and began to cry.

I did not know what to tell her. So I hugged her in return and patted her back.

"You need to take it easy, Stephanie. Crying won't fix him. You need to find the things and people that make him happy and try to surround him with them," I said, and she sighed and bowed.

She looked at me and studied me.

"You will be the Lady of the north soon, Tamia; there are things I need to tell you. Things that I swore to take to my grave but I suspect are part of why all these are happening to my sons," She said, and I was surprised that she was willing to trust me with her secret.

"Are you sure you want to tell me?" I asked her, and she nodded.

“You will be Luna soon and rule by his side. You’re already doing it, and unlike me, your Alpha loves you and gives you freedom. You take part in council discussions and give advice. None of which I was allowed in my time. You give northern women hope, Tamia.” She said and sighed.

“There are things I need to tell for the sake of the Volkov bloodline. You need to know that you have a Volkov growing inside you. You need to know the truth about Maurice and our children..” She said, and my mind went to what Jake had told me.

Was she planning on telling me the truth, or was she planning on deceiving me like she might have deceived her children?

“Does it have anything to do with what is going on?” I asked, and she paused, looking at me. She was contemplating what to tell me. She was sizing me up, and I wasn’t angry at all.

“It might,” she confessed, and I looked at her.

“I will join you in your room in a few minutes. I want to check on Avery. The hallway isn’t as safe as we think; we might have spies lurking about the place,” I linked her, and she nodded at me.

I still could not shake off Lily’s phone conversation. I could not shake off the fact that I knew she wasn’t supposed to have a phone. I couldn’t shake it off. Something was off, and I planned on figuring it out.

Stephanie walked past me, heading to her room while I headed towards the Beta’s wing to see Avery. I would have checked on Linda too, but I knew she and Marcel went on a date.

I got to Avery’s door and knocked.

“It’s open,” I heard Avery say, and I gently let myself in. I saw my friend sitting on a couch and working on an embroidery piece. I looked at the leaf design she was weaving into the fabric and realised that her skill had improved, but she was still marring the fabric.

“Tamia, you and Sylvester missed dinner,” She said, and I nodded and sat beside her.

“How are you feeling?” I asked, and she sighed.

“I feel nervous,” She said, and I wondered why.

“Why?” I asked, and she sighed and put down her supposed artwork, which was more of a cluster and an honest attempt at being creative.

“I have wanted babies for as long, but when Michelle came into our lives, it became a tall dream. Now I found love again. Marcel and I started trying before you and Sylvester got together. Then Linda and Theodore got together,” She said and bowed her head and began to weep.

“Yet I am still waiting in line, Tamia. I waited in line with Max, and I believe that was why Michelle got the best of him, and now here I am with Marcel,” she said, and I moved close to her and rubbed her back.

“Do not be afraid, Avery; it will happen for you, too,” I said, rubbing her back.

“But when?” She asked, and I sighed.

“You should see a doctor to know if anything is wrong and if it can be corrected. That is what I would do,” I said, and she broke the hug and stared at me.

“You are right, Tamia,” She said and held my hand.

“Join me at the hospital tomorrow, please,” She said, and I remembered my conversation with Sylvester about protection and not being on my own.

“I suggest you go with Marcel. It would be best if you handled it together,” I said, and she shook her head.

“I want you to come with me, Tamia. I do not want Marcel. What if something is wrong with me? He will know and might change his mind. I love him, Tamia; I can’t lose him,” She said with genuine fear in her eyes.

“Nothing is the matter with you, Avery. I will speak to Sylvester to let me follow you to the hospital,” I said to ease her mind, and she thanked me.

I tried to counsel her to the best of my ability and decided to leave because I did not want to keep Stephanie waiting.

My actions might have seemed a bit stupid. Whatever Stephanie wanted to tell me must have been serious, so it was wrong to put her on hold, but I knew that whatever she was going to tell me might leave me shellshocked, and I won't be able to check on my friend, so I wanted to get it out of the way before speaking to Stephanie.

I walked still barefooted so people could not hear my footsteps. I took a mental note to do this often. Lily was on my watch list. I needed to know who gave her a phone and who she was communicating with.

I got to Stephanie's door and knocked.

"Please come in, Tamia; I know it is you," She said, and I let myself in.

"Lock the door," She said, and I did as she said and approached her where she sat on the couch in her room.

I went to sit with her, and she smiled at me. I was still wary of her, but I let it be because she was open to me again. There were only two possibilities: to misguide or tell the truth, so I was attentive.

"I am sorry to ask you this question, but I need you to be honest. How did it feel when Leo met his fated?" She asked, and I looked at her. I contemplated answering it, but I knew I had to, or the conversation won't make headway.

"Heartwrenching. My life was over. He was the lead alpha of the East; I had nowhere to go, and no one would want me. I could not leave, so I was there through it all until the north attacked and gave me a chance to escape," I said, and she looked at me stunned.

"Yes, I gave myself as a tribute to leave Leo. We would have subdued the people who attacked us, but I did not want to be the third wheel in their home anymore. They were going to be a family. There was no place for me," I said, and she looked at me worried, but I smiled at her.

"I am glad," I said and placed my hand on my belly. "I found love in the north and everything I ever wanted." I told her, and she smiled.

"Do you know if Leo were Sylvester, then truly you would have nowhere to go? Sylvester is a step up from Leo, but no one is a step up from the Wolf lord. So, in that case, you will be stranded forever, and even if you want to

leave him, it would be impossible. Society won't allow it, your family won't allow it, and your heart and wolf will hold on so tight, and it won't allow it. There is something in us that seeks the dominant male," She said, and I wondered why she was saying such things.

"I didn't call you here to discuss your relationship." She said and sighed. I called you here to discuss mine.

"Something my sons did not know was that their father had a fated," she said, and I exclaimed, pretending not to know so she could give me her version of the story.

"Everyone that knew was sworn to secrecy by Maurice. Her name was Alissa Pavlishchev, and she was from Gad in the western region. Only the people in the council and older western Alphas knew of her." She said.

"Maurice loved me wholeheartedly until he met her. He never slept with anyone. Like Sylvester is with you, my husband was that way with me. Maybe not exactly, but you get the picture," she said, and her eyes welled up in tears.

"I loved Maurice with all my heart, and I thought our lives would be rosy, but I was wrong. He met Alissa and took her as his mistress. My family and the council did not let him claim her because that would insult me, so he slept with her and made me endure unimaginable pain. The woman wasn't a saint, either. They never are. It is not by choice but by design. No fated would want to be a mistress. They see us as taking their space, so they would do anything to replace us fully and not share their mate.

She plotted against me and manipulated my husband.

She was the one that made him start the war frenzy. When my family and part of the council pushed back, Maurice moved to eliminate them to make her Lady and his Luna; I had given up hope. I had Dominic then, and he wasn't an Alpha, so I knew my days with Maurice were numbered. When she got pregnant, I left the estate and returned home with Dominic. Maurice did not look for me. He doted on her and loved her, but he never claimed her. The woman was so wicked that her people refused to come and work in the estate to help her. If you think I am lying, you can investigate. Because of this, Maurice forced me to return and be her midwife. I was maltreated and abused. He would beat me because of her and her lies, and she never ran out of lies. I was tired. If it was a lesser Alpha, I could run, but who would

challenge the wolf lord for my sake? I knew I wouldn't be able to leave until he let me go.

The goddess took pity on me and she died giving birth to her son. Maurice lost his mind. First, he said I poisoned her and had me locked up in a cell, but it was proven that she died of a dangerous case of preeclampsia. I was released and asked to care for the child, but I refused. I told Maurice I would not touch his bastard because that was what the boy was. Maurice felt guilty for locking me up, so he did not try to force me to care for the child. Soon he found out all the lies she told about me. When the boy turned one, Maurice found out he had an Alpha wolf, so he sent him to Grizlo in the north to be cared

for by a small family. Around that time, I was pregnant with Sylvester, but things weren't the same. Although Maurice loved me, the loss of his mate destroyed him, and he found himself drawn to women of the west who looked like her, so he started actively keeping a harem. He conquered the entire west for other reasons but took their women so he could replace Alissa briefly. I handled it well, had Sylvester, and when Maurice found that Sylvester was an Alpha, his love for me increased, and Alissa and her son faded away." She said and looked at me.

"That boy's name is David Pavlishchev. Maurice did not give him his last name because he was a bastard." She concluded, and I was in shock.

"That bastard was why I left here, Tamia. I went to see if I could find out about his whereabouts because he was the only one that would want to kill my sons. He is the only one who will have something to gain from this. Dominic and Sylvester do not know of his existence. I told Dominic yesterday, he didn't take it well. That is why I am telling you this so you can help me tell Sylvester. We need to find David and be sure he isn't behind all this. I do not have proof; I am just speculating, but I know you are good with investigations. I will need you to carry one out for me and figure it out," She said, but I was too dumbfounded to respond.

~Tamia~

Shock could not describe how I felt after Stephanie had told me everything.

I sat on the couch and stared at her, speechless.

“Why are you trusting me with this level of information, Luna Stephanie?” I asked her, and she wiped away her tears.

Going down memory lane was hard for her, and I could see she loved her husband dearly, just like I loved Leo, and I wouldn't have let him go.

To be fair to her, I could understand her predicament, which was why I had to let Devin go when he came to me.

I couldn't be selfish and crush the one person that dared to love me through my pain.

My heart truly belonged to Sylvester. I was lucky.

Stephanie did not have a Sylvester that would sweep her off her feet and rescue her, so she had to deal, but hearing her open up to me like this made me afraid.

I wasn't her best person; in fact, there was friction between us, and I doubted it would change. For her to tell me this meant she was desperate.

I tried to remain calm while I waited for her to respond.

“I think he is behind this, Tamia,” she said and bowed.

“He might feel cheated. He is an Alpha, and he is older than Sylvester. If he weren't a bastard, he would have been the lord of the north. I am sure he knows I am the reason Maurice could not marry his

mother properly,” she said, and I wondered if she was speaking from knowledge and not just a hunch. There was no way she wouldn't know what was going on in this David's mind if she wasn't privy to it.

I looked at her for a bit.

“Are you sure about these things?” I asked her, and she nodded.

“I can't lie about this,” She responded, and I wanted to beg to differ, but I held my tongue.

“You know if I tell Sylvester about this man, he will hunt him down, and there will be no going back from this,” I said and sighed.

“Are you sure he is a threat to my mate?” I asked her, letting her know Sylvester was my first concern, and she nodded. I smiled because I had her right where I wanted her.

“In that case, I need you to come clean about it. Tell me how you are so sure this man is a threat?” I asked her, and she looked at me and nodded her head.

“I do not know how to explain it, Tamia, but I just have a hunch. At least let us find him, and then we will know what to do from there,” She explained, and I understood what she wanted from me.

Stephanie wasn't sure of her hunch, and she knew Sylvester would not have a subtle approach, and his approach could aggravate this David. She wanted me to tell Sylvester about David and make sure he is subtle about it.

“Very well then..” I said, and just then, I heard Sylvester's voice in my head.

“Where are you?” He said, and I knew he had woken up and wondered where I had gone.

I got off the couch and looked at my barefoot.

“On my way back to you, darling,” I linked with him, and he was quiet.

“I have to go back,” I told Stephanie, and she nodded and looked at me.

“I am truly happy for both of you. I know it may not seem so, but I am. I am also begging you not to break his heart, Tamia. Susan left my baby wounded, which is why I have been uptight. Please.” She said and looked at my tummy.

“I am sure you two will make a great family,” She said, and I smiled at her.

“I cannot hurt him, Stephanie, and he knows it. I love him with everything I am, and I have turned my back on everything just to be with him. My love and heart are in his hands. I hope he does not break me,” I said, and she could not speak.

I did not owe her the explanation that I had rejected my fated for his sake. That was to remain between Sylvester and me, but she needed to know that I was in my relationship a hundred per cent, and I did not plan on ever letting my man go.

I hugged her and assured her everything would be alright before leaving her room and heading towards mine. I bumped into Lilly on my way, and she looked at my foot.

One thing I noticed was she was lurking around our corridors too much. I know Sylvester was easy on her, but this wasn't her wing.

"Good Evening, Luna," She said to me, already according me the respect of Luna.

"Hello, Lilly," I said, and she looked at my barefoot.

"Is that because you are pregnant?" She asked me with a tinge of jealousy, and I smiled.

"No, dear, it is so I can sneak around the place unnoticed," I said and walked away from her.

I felt her eyes on me, and I turned to wink at her.

I wanted her relaxed and a little bit on edge simultaneously. She was bound to make mistakes faster when on edge than when relaxed.

"I entered the room and went to bed. Sylvester wrapped his arm around me and kissed my neck.

"The bed was cold," he said, and I turned to look at him.

"Since when did a cold bed start troubling you?" I asked, wanting to laugh.

"When you started sleeping in it, Tamia," He said in his low deep voice, and it made me shiver in a good way. Sylvester knew how to turn me on, and this was one of those.

He came on top, and I knew the night would be longer than expected.

We had breakfast in the morning with our friends, and Sylvester brought up the investigation.

"I will want us to go through the things in late Jenny's house,"

Sylvester said, and Marcel looked at him.

“Have you told the Lawrences about it? Especially Vino. She might be occupying a Babanin seat, but she is still his aunt.” Marcel said, and I was a bit surprised that Jenny was Vino’s aunt, but the name was a dead giveaway. She was Jenny Lawrence; I just thought she was a different Lawrence. In light of this, things were a bit confusing in my head.

“I do not need permission, especially when I am trying to figure out why she was killed,” Sylvester said, and Marcel nodded.

“Sign me up,” Linda said immediately, and Theodore looked a bit pissed at her.

I understood why she committed herself quickly because she knew he would try to stop her because of the pregnancy.

“Are you sure it is the best way to go?” Marcel asked Sylvester, and he nodded.

“I knew my mother wasn’t the target of that attack. Jenny might have been involved in something or known something to be eliminated.” Sylvester said, and Marcel sighed.

“What about the wire transfers that Lily was working on? Does it show any funds leading to or from Jenny? We have to check everything knowing that your father almost wiped them out.” Marcel asked.

“They should lead somewhere,” Marcel added, and I remembered her phone call and contemplated bringing it up.

“All those anonymous transfers lead to the south, and now some are going east. I have asked Lily to take a break. I cannot leave her with a computer unattended, and I want to spend time with Tamia. So I will find another way to trace the transfers,” Sylvester said and touched my hand. He kissed it, making my body shake.

“I am worried that some people are stationing people in the east and west. With what has happened recently, I hope an attack that would be blamed on the north will not ensue. We are yet to understand why the transfers and the people they are going to are anonymous. I can’t shake off the fact that everything is directed at destroying my family. The fact that my father had many enemies does not help matters either. I am thinking of reaching out to the distant Volkovs for help,” He confessed, and I touched his hand.

“Very well, what time do we go to Jenny’s house, and how many of us are going?” Theodore asked. Sylvester smiled and kissed my hand again.

“See it more like a date because we are bringing our mates with us,” he said, and Marcel shook his head.

“Avery and I have a doctor’s appointment this morning,” He said, and Sylvester shrugged.

“Go and return. Pending on what the doctor says will determine whether or not Avery will be coming,” He said, and Marcel nodded and thanked him.

After the serious discussion, we returned to our food, and Sylvester could not keep his hands off my body. He got me all worked up that I might have gone on top of him in that room.

He breathed in my scent and ensured his pinewood scent surrounded me. He nibbled my ears and sucked on my sweet spot.

“My mark will be there soon, darling. You will be truly mine,” He linked me, and a faint moan escaped my lips. The room was a bit blurry, and he was getting me worked up.

“I am already yours,” I linked him back, and I felt his tongue brush through, making my body shiver and the hairs on my skin stand because of the goosebumps his action produced.

“Sylvester..” I moaned, and he placed a grape in my mouth, allowing his finger to enter my mouth. I sucked on it to let him know the work I could do to his cock. He felt it because Knight growled, and Kaira purred in my head.

“You two should get a room,” I heard someone say, but I was too far gone to know who did. It was between Linda and Avery.

We finished breakfast, and Sylvester and I returned to our bedroom.

I was wet and horny, but at the same time, I needed to tell him about Lily.

We entered the room, and he rushed at me, ready to take me. As much as I wasn’t selfish, he had ignited a fire that needed attention, so I let him go to work on my body.

It was a passion-filled morning, and I confessed to all sorts of things.

He made me say something that I wouldn't have on a typical day while hitting the right spot; with his intoxicating scent and the love I felt in my heart, I could promise him the moon, which wasn't mine to give by the way, but I could hypothetically give it to him because he had taken me there and back and he knew it.

We lay on the bed tired, with my head against his chest. I kissed his chest, and he touched my back gently.

I thought of the few times I heard of him while I was in the east.

If anyone told me he would be the love of my life back then, I wouldn't believe them, but the funny part was there was no day that I judged or resented him. It helped me decide to come to the north, and I was glad I did.

"I need to talk to you about something," I said, and he made both of us sit so he could look into my eyes. He looked worried, so I smiled at him to be calm.

"Are the women in the Harem allowed to have cell phones?" I asked him, and he froze.

"I can't let them have cell phones, Tamia; that will defeat the purpose of keeping them in check. They can also betray the north and easily sell information that way," he said, placing his hand on my cheek. He thought I wanted him to give them cell phones. It was cute.

"I know you are a kind woman, but please do not ask me to give them a phone. Please do not ask me to endanger the north." He said, and I shook my head and kissed his hand on my cheek by turning towards it. I used my hand to gently hold his palm against my face and closed my eyes to relish the feeling.

"I need you to act rational and wisely about what I am about to tell you. Promise me you won't lose your shit," I said, and he looked confused.

"Last night, I decided to check on Avery in her wing, so I left barefoot, knowing my attempt to wear something on my feet would wake you up. While I walked down the hallways, I heard a voice. I hid behind the door to listen; it was Lily talking on a phone. She told someone that things were a bit tight and she couldn't get something for the person and that the person should wait until during the all-region game when security is loose," I said, and I saw rage rise

in his eyes. Sylvester looked like he was about to kill someone, and I hoped it was nothing for Lily's sake.

~Sylvester~

I could not believe what Tamia had just told me about Lily.

I was so mad that I knew Knight could emerge.

I looked at my mate, and she did not seem like she was joking.

From the look in her green eyes, it took a lot of effort for her to tell me what she had just divulged.

I raised my hand, patted her head gently, and then kissed her lips. It was more to calm myself down than to tell her I was okay.

I knew I needed to be calm to handle the matter.

Lily was a big problem. If she was betraying me, then I was in trouble because she knew of my investigations, and she was helping me with one of them.

What if she was giving out the information to someone else?

I had always suspected I couldn't trust her, but when she came, she was innocent-looking, and I thought I could have the younger sister I never had.

I revoked her privileges when I heard all the awful things she did to the women in the harem.

I did not want to jump to conclusions, but I wanted to get up and go and find out the truth.

I was about to get up when Tamia stopped me with her hand.

"I have not finished talking to you, darling. Please be calm. I hope there is a rational explanation for what I heard and saw," She said, and I searched her eyes, my soul pleading, hoping that whatever she

needed to tell me next would be easy to digest.

"Here goes," She said and sighed.

“After the incident with Lily, I bumped into your mother.” She said, and I held my tongue. I did not want to say anything that would change the topic.

” She was crying, and she requested to speak to me immediately. Of course, I went to see Avery and then returned to your mother’s room.” She said and squeezed my arm.

“Your mother explained why she left the estate in a hurry that day Dominic was arrested, and what she went to do,” she said.

“According to her, your father had a fated called Lady Alissa Pavlishchev,” She continued, and I exclaimed. Tamia just nodded gradually and continued what she was saying.

“Your father accepted his fated and made your mother share. She did not have you then, and when the woman was pregnant, your mother left with Dominic. Things happened, and your mother was asked to return to care for her. All the while, he tried to divorce your mother, but her family was too important for him to divorce her successfully, so he started conquering the council families and the west. He wanted to own the world and be powerful enough to overthrow the council and marry this woman. According to your mother, the woman was evil and did many mean things. Eventually, she died giving birth to her son. This was relieving to your mother, but that was the beginning of your father growing his harem and getting involved with the women in the harem. He only went for women of western descent because they reminded him of his fated. Your father realised the boy was an Alpha, so he tried to get your mother to take care of the baby, but she said no, so he sent the boy to be cared for. She got pregnant with you, and everything became rosy after she gave birth to you, and he discovered you were an Alpha too.” She said and searched my eyes for emotions, but I made sure there was nothing in them so she would have the confidence to tell me the rest.

“When your mother left, it wasn’t an act of defiance, but to find David Pavlishchev, your half-brother, because she believed he might be the culprit. He has so much to gain if anything happens to either of you,” she said, and I knew she was right.

“Did my mother tell you his last known location?” I asked, and she shook her head.

“Very well, I will handle it,” I said, and she smiled.

She laid down a bit, and I held her in bed until she fell asleep.

It was time to go to the only part of the mansion I never visit. The Harem. I linked Theodore to meet me there with two women from my staff.

I kept my anger under control and moved swiftly.

When I got to the common hall of the harem, the entire place was silent. I had never visited there since the women had been brought. The last I was there was when we were actively involved with the former women in the harem before I let all of them go.

Marcel, Theodore and I threw orgies there and partied all night long. Thinking of the life I led back then; I was ashamed of myself and grateful that Tamia brought meaning and love back into my life because Susan left with everything, and I was nothing but an empty shell.

Most of the ladies were looking at me seductively, and I ignored them. My eyes searched and found Lily, who smiled at me.

I motioned her to come to me, and she approached eagerly.

“Take me to your bedroom,” I said, and I heard some women gasp. I knew what they were thinking, but I did not owe anyone any explanation.

We waited for Theodore to join us before leaving. I could see the giddiness in Lily’s eyes, and I remained silent.

“I hope Luna Tamia won’t be mad about this Alpha. I do not want to anger luna,” She said with a sly tone, and I wanted to hit her, but I controlled myself. If what Tamia said checked out, she would have betrayed me beyond repair. I was holding my temper.

“What is going on?” Theodore linked me.

“Be attentive,” was all I could manage, and he was silent.

We got to Lily’s room which she shared with two other girls, and I entered.

The room was beautifully furnished, and three beds were placed in it. Beside each bed was a vanity table. It looked like a luxurious hostel, which was the point, and Lilly stood with her head bowed.

I knew what she was thinking, and she began to undo her tunic to confirm my suspicion. I could feel her joy and expectation. I had never given her the sign that I wanted anything sensual with her, but I knew it was a fantasy in her head, and it almost cost me my relationship with Tamia.

“Keep your clothes on,” I ordered quietly. She looked confused but nodded.

“I am at your service, Alpha,” She said with her head bowed.

“Where is your bed?” I asked, and she eagerly pointed to the bed close to the wall. I linked the women that came with us to search through her things.

Lily became apprehensive immediately.

“What is going on, Alpha?” She said, looking worried.

“Hold her, Theodore,” I told my Gamma, and he did as I had said.

“Where is the phone, Lily?” I asked her and her eyes widened.

“Do not bother lying because people told me you have one. Where did you put it?” I asked her, and she bowed her head and began to sob.

“Where is it!” I yelled, feeling my anger bubbling to the surface at the realisation that there was indeed a phone and Tamia was right.

“Inside the mattress under my bed,” She confessed. The women lifted her mattress, and there the phone was.

They brought it to me, and it had no number and no messages, but the call log had an anonymous caller on it. The person was wise to hide their caller identity when calling.

“How did you get this?” I asked her calmly, and she sobbed. I tried to hold my temper because I knew I could kill her.

“What have you given them?” I asked her, and she continued to cry.

“Answer me!” I yelled with my authority, and she shook.

She struggled and broke away from Theodore and went on her knees.

“I am sorry, Alpha. I am sorry. They promised I would go home but threatened they would wipe my family out if I did not comply,” she said without answering my question.

“Do not test my patience, Lily. What did you give them, and who were you speaking to?” I asked her, and she began to sob.

“They did not give me a name. Sometimes it was a woman and sometimes a man,” She said, and I grabbed her neck and squeezed.

“What did you give them?” I asked, angry.

“Sylvester?” I heard Tamia’s voice in my head, and I cursed under my breath because I wasn’t expecting her to be awake.

“Sylvester?” I heard her voice again, and I released Lilly’s neck.

“Yes, darling, I am in Lily’s room; you are right,” I said, and she did not reply. I knew she was on her way.

“What did you give them?”

“Banking details, signatures, royal seals, envelopes, and I placed a backdoor on your computer to help them monitor what you were doing,” She said quickly, and I slapped her.

She fell to the ground. I was enraged.

Chapter 57 - The Destiny of a Heart-broken Luna

~Tamia~

Dominic locked himself in his room for three days after we returned from the council hearing.

I knew it was shame and fear.

Somehow the man did not expect that to happen to him.

I believed realising that he could easily lose his life woke him up.

I wondered how his relationship with Larry would be henceforth.

I knew the council was working against the Volkovs, but we needed to find out who the mastermind was and why, so I decided to start from the beginning.

I went to Sylvester's office, and he was deep in thought, concentrating on the documents on his desk. Realising some people were actively working against him put him on edge.

Initially, it was based on speculation, but now it was apparent.

Whoever threatened Bryce was either the mastermind or part of the clique.

I looked at him and realised he needed a break.

I had to clear my throat for him to realise I had entered his office. It was either he was far away in his mind or so used to my scent that he did not think I had come in. Either way, he looked up and smiled at me.

"Hey," he said, and I smiled and looked at him.

"I want to talk to you, but first, let's go horse riding. I want to go back to the cliff where I can see the alpiners," I said, and he smiled at me, but his eyes looked tired.

"How about we do that tomorrow, darling? I am busy. Besides, it would be best if you weren't riding in your condition; I will drive the jeep there. Maybe have a picnic?" he asked, and I laughed.

"But I am allowed to ride you..." I said, and his wolf flashed

"I want us to go now; you need a break, Sylvester. It would help if you unwound so you can think straight. Everyone is going crazy. Marcel and Theodore look like you. Dominic has locked himself inside his room, and your mother is confused. We all need a break, and I want to take it now, with you, at the cliff." I insisted, and he closed the file on his desk and put it away in a silver safe.

It amazes me how comfortable the northerners were around Silver. They trained with it and used it as storage for essential things. It was mid-bugging.

The silver was not in the same space as him but was enclosed in an iron cupboard to prevent it from weakening the people in the room.

Sylvester followed me to the room, and I was glad he listened.

We returned to our bedroom to change our outfits.

“What did you want to tell me other than going to the cliff?” He said, and I smiled at him while I changed into something comfortable.

“I think we should send proper investigators to search Jenny’s house and go through her belongings. Avery, Linda and I can lead it. There are specific things that I am looking for that the people we send might miss, and we are bored sitting doing nothing,” I said, and he was silent; then he went to sit on the bed and started unbuttoning his shirt.

The sight of his bare chest might stop us from making it to the cliff because I was already getting turned on by his stripping gesture alone.

“What are you looking for?” he asked.

“Journals, notes, emails, scribbles, objects...things that can tell a story,” I said, and he took off his shirt, flexing his muscles.

He was so hot that I could no longer concentrate on what I was doing.

I wanted to run my fingers against his chest and feel his muscles. He was mine, all mine, and I wanted him.

“Sylvester,” I asked him, drooling over the sight of his body. He looked at me with a question in his eyes.

“What a hot body you have,” I said to him, and he laughed.

We both laughed; just like that, his spirit was lifted, and his mood was lighter.

“The better to seduce you with, my dear,” He said, and we both laughed because I was playing the role of little red, and he was my big bad wolf.

I could not handle my hormones anymore.

We could talk about Jenny after. But the cliff would have to wait for another day. I went to straddle him on the bed and opened my shirt.

“You need to finish the talk, darling. The wolf desires to eat little red riding hood. Unlike her, I am willing to be devoured,” I said, and he gently touched my tits and sucked them gently in his mouth, swirling his tongue on them.

They were sensitive and hard, and I moaned. I wanted more, something was starving in me, and I needed him to satisfy it.

“I will eat you until you beg me to stop,” he said with a low growl and flipped me unto the bed.

He kissed my neck and nibbled my ears, sucking the lobe and breathing into it. I had goosebumps all over, and my pussy was clenching violently.

“Oh, Sylvester. Please,” I pleaded with him.

My body craved him, aching for his touch, tongue, and cock. My core was aching for release.

He worshipped my body with his mouth and travelled down, sucking and licking my skin, leaving a trail of ecstasy, anticipation, need, desire and want. I dug my nails into the sheet, anticipating him.

“Sylvester,” I moaned, and he kissed my lips but avoided my clit. He was teasing me.

“Ahhh,” I moaned from anticipation and lack of patience.

“I need it now,” I said, trying to press my thighs together to ease the ache.

“Tell me what you want, Tamia,” He growled lowly.

“I want you to eat me until I can take no more, then fuck me until I come all over you,” I said, moaning and writhing under him.

I wasn't a shy woman, and now he knew. I could be vocal when I wanted, and I wanted those things and more.

“Now, Sylvester,” I said, my pussy dripping and anticipating his attention and care.

“Prove to me that you are my big bad wolf,” I said, and he growled and dug in.

He licked my knob and travelled down my slit to my pussy.

“Ahhhhhhhh, Sylvester,” I cried.

I was extra sensitive, and he knew it.

“Do not cum until I tell you to,” He ordered, and I nodded, waiting to see how long I could hold out against his skilful tongue. His skill was unparalleled.

“Sylvester,” I cried, wanting to cum so he could bury himself in me. I wanted to feel his skin against mine. I wanted to wrap myself in his scent.

He worked on me until I could no longer take it.

“Please, Alpha...” I moaned, and he growled with satisfaction.

“Cum,” he linked me.

I released and felt the climax ripple through my veins.

My nerves tingled, and my hair was probably standing.

I felt like my spirit was going to jump out on me, and I stretched, then began to crumble from the over- sensitivity of my clit that he refused to let go of.

Sylvester placed his finger in me, kneaded my walls sweetly, then placed himself in and began to pump.

He pounded into me like a beast. Stretching my walls and satisfying my need for him. Everything was heightened, and I was enjoying it.

I dug my nails into his skin and took it all.

Placing my legs over his shoulder and kneeling between my legs, he pumped viciously, going all the way in.

I saw his teeth elongate and his claws grow out, meaning he was enjoying himself. Knight was trying to take over, and I wanted him to.

He pumped and fought a claim. I shattered all over him, feeling liquid sip out of me. Sylvester finally came and lay by my side. I could see that he was relieved, and I was satiated.

“So you want to play detective?” he said. After we had laid down for forty minutes, I nodded.

“I, too, believe we will find something out in Jenny’s place. Hence why I sealed and guarded her house after her death,” he confessed, and I squealed at him.

“But I can’t let you go there with the ladies,” He said, and I frowned at him. He sat up and sighed.

“You are my life, Tamia. I have never been this much in love in my entire existence, and people know. They know you are my weakness. They know how much I love you because I do not hide it. I can’t, even if I want to,” he said and bowed.

“After what happened with Dominic, I realised people are out to get me and hurt me. They can only hurt me by hurting you and our baby. We will be parents soon, Tamia. I want you protected at all costs. I know you will do an excellent job, tell my men what to look for, and they will bring it, but I can’t let my wife out of my sight,” He said and bent to kiss my lower belly.

“I have wanted this all my life. A mate that genuinely loves my family and me. Now that I have you, I can’t be careless, Tamia. Please. Do not push it. These people are dangerous. They took Bryce’s

pregnant mate. I am not saying you are weak or can’t defend yourself, but they are cunning and unknown. There is nothing more difficult than fighting the unknown,” he said and touched my hand.

“Please, my love, do not argue with me on this one,” he pleaded and kissed my hand.

“I want you to instruct my men, and they will do as you have requested. Share your thoughts with Theodore and Marcel, but I won’t let you play detective. If you are bored, think of something to do for the All-regional games that does not involve you participating in the sports activities,” He said. I knew he needed me to say yes. He was genuinely afraid, and I could see it. So I nodded.

“Basically, what I need are journals, notes however insignificant. If I can’t go, at least let Theodore or Marcel lead the search. Finding these items isn’t the only important thing. How and where they are found matters. It can say a lot and give us more information than the items themselves,” I said, and he sighed.

“Very well, we will all go there. I will not let you out of my sight, Tamia. I won’t.” he said, and laid back down and pulled me close. He sucked on my sweet spot gently.

“I won’t survive if I lose you. If anything ever happens to you, my darling, I will become the Dark Alpha,” he said, and as much as it sounded like a joke, I knew he was serious.

We both fell asleep, and I woke up in the night.

It was nine at night, so I decided to walk to Avery’s wing to check on her. She had been depressed lately, and I knew it was because of my pregnancy.

I knew she feared something was wrong with her, just like I was. I was sure she was alright and would happen soon, but I needed to ensure she was okay.

I left my room barefooted so I don’t wake Sylvester. He was sleeping peacefully, and he needed the rest.

While I walked down the halls barefooted, causing me to have stealth, I heard someone whispering on the phone. I did not like eavesdropping, but these were dangerous times, so I leaned closer to listen.

“It is too tight right now; I can’t get it for you. You will have to wait and let things loosen up a bit. Maybe during the games,” A voice that sounded like Lily said. Then I heard her hang up and approach, so I hid behind a door. She walked out of the corner she was hiding and looked about to be sure the coast was clear before leaving.

I knew women from the harem were not allowed phones, and Sylvester never told me she had special privileges. Whatever she was doing, she was up to no good, and I wondered what she was asked to procure that would need to be done during the games when the security wasn’t so tight anymore. I planned on telling Sylvester and having the woman investigated. She was scornful and might try to hurt us for it.

I walked and bumped into Stephanie, the last person I wanted to see.

~Tamia~

Stephanie did not look well. Her eyes were swollen, and her hands were shaking. It was clear that she had been crying.

I wanted to ignore her, but I couldn't. I knew Sylvester wouldn't, so I decided to show some concern.

"Are you alright?" I asked, and she looked at me and shook her head.

"I am not, Tamia. Everything is falling apart. Dominic won't come out of his room. He said he feels like a nobody. I have tried to talk him out of it, but he is too ashamed to let himself mingle," She said, and I nodded.

"You need to give him time, Stephanie. He had a near-death experience. If Bryce had not confessed, he might have been dead by now. He will need time to recover from it," I said, and she hugged me and began to cry.

I did not know what to tell her. So I hugged her in return and patted her back.

"You need to take it easy, Stephanie. Crying won't fix him. You need to find the things and people that make him happy and try to surround him with them," I said, and she sighed and bowed.

She looked at me and studied me.

"You will be the Lady of the north soon, Tamia; there are things I need to tell you. Things that I swore to take to my grave but I suspect are part of why all these are happening to my sons," She said, and I was surprised that she was willing to trust me with her secret.

"Are you sure you want to tell me?" I asked her, and she nodded.

"You will be Luna soon and rule by his side. You're already doing it, and unlike me, your Alpha loves you and gives you freedom. You take part in council discussions and give advice. None of which I was allowed in my time. You give northern women hope, Tamia." She said and sighed.

"There are things I need to tell for the sake of the Volkov bloodline. You need to know that you have a Volkov growing inside you. You need to know the

truth about Maurice and our children..” She said, and my mind went to what Jake had told me.

Was she planning on telling me the truth, or was she planning on deceiving me like she might have deceived her children?

“Does it have anything to do with what is going on?” I asked, and she paused, looking at me. She was contemplating what to tell me. She was sizing me up, and I wasn’t angry at all.

“It might,” she confessed, and I looked at her.

“I will join you in your room in a few minutes. I want to check on Avery. The hallway isn’t as safe as we think; we might have spies lurking about the place,” I linked her, and she nodded at me.

I still could not shake off Lily’s phone conversation. I could not shake off the fact that I knew she wasn’t supposed to have a phone. I couldn’t shake it off. Something was off, and I planned on figuring it out.

Stephanie walked past me, heading to her room while I headed towards the Beta’s wing to see Avery. I would have checked on Linda too, but I knew she and Marcel went on a date.

I got to Avery’s door and knocked.

“It’s open,” I heard Avery say, and I gently let myself in. I saw my friend sitting on a couch and working on an embroidery piece. I looked at the leaf design she was weaving into the fabric and realised that her skill had improved, but she was still marring the fabric.

“Tamia, you and Sylvester missed dinner,” She said, and I nodded and sat beside her.

“How are you feeling?” I asked, and she sighed.

“I feel nervous,” She said, and I wondered why.

“Why?” I asked, and she sighed and put down her supposed artwork, which was more of a cluster and an honest attempt at being creative.

“I have wanted babies for as long, but when Michelle came into our lives, it became a tall dream. Now I found love again. Marcel and I started trying before you and Sylvester got together. Then Linda and Theodore got together,” She said and bowed her head and began to weep.

“Yet I am still waiting in line, Tamia. I waited in line with Max, and I believe that was why Michelle got the best of him, and now here I am with Marcel,” she said, and I moved close to her and rubbed her back.

“Do not be afraid, Avery; it will happen for you, too,” I said, rubbing her back.

“But when?” She asked, and I sighed.

“You should see a doctor to know if anything is wrong and if it can be corrected. That is what I would do,” I said, and she broke the hug and stared at me.

“You are right, Tamia,” She said and held my hand.

“Join me at the hospital tomorrow, please,” She said, and I remembered my conversation with Sylvester about protection and not being on my own.

“I suggest you go with Marcel. It would be best if you handled it together,” I said, and she shook her head.

“I want you to come with me, Tamia. I do not want Marcel. What if something is wrong with me? He will know and might change his mind. I love him, Tamia; I can’t lose him,” She said with genuine fear in her eyes.

“Nothing is the matter with you, Avery. I will speak to Sylvester to let me follow you to the hospital,” I said to ease her mind, and she thanked me.

I tried to counsel her to the best of my ability and decided to leave because I did not want to keep Stephanie waiting.

My actions might have seemed a bit stupid. Whatever Stephanie wanted to tell me must have been serious, so it was wrong to put her on hold, but I knew that whatever she was going to tell me might leave me shellshocked, and I won’t be able to check on my friend, so I wanted to get it out of the way before speaking to Stephanie.

I walked still barefooted so people could not hear my footsteps. I took a mental note to do this often. Lily was on my watch list. I needed to know who gave her a phone and who she was communicating with.

I got to Stephanie's door and knocked.

"Please come in, Tamia; I know it is you," She said, and I let myself in.

"Lock the door," She said, and I did as she said and approached her where she sat on the couch in her room.

I went to sit with her, and she smiled at me. I was still wary of her, but I let it be because she was open to me again. There were only two possibilities: to misguide or tell the truth, so I was attentive.

"I am sorry to ask you this question, but I need you to be honest. How did it feel when Leo met his fated?" She asked, and I looked at her. I contemplated answering it, but I knew I had to, or the conversation won't make headway.

"Heartwrenching. My life was over. He was the lead alpha of the East; I had nowhere to go, and no one would want me. I could not leave, so I was there through it all until the north attacked and gave me a chance to escape," I said, and she looked at me stunned.

"Yes, I gave myself as a tribute to leave Leo. We would have subdued the people who attacked us, but I did not want to be the third wheel in their home anymore. They were going to be a family. There was no place for me," I said, and she looked at me worried, but I smiled at her.

"I am glad," I said and placed my hand on my belly. "I found love in the north and everything I ever wanted." I told her, and she smiled.

"Do you know if Leo were Sylvester, then truly you would have nowhere to go? Sylvester is a step up from Leo, but no one is a step up from the Wolf lord. So, in that case, you will be stranded forever, and even if you want to leave him, it would be impossible. Society won't allow it, your family won't allow it, and your heart and wolf will hold on so tight, and it won't allow it. There is something in us that seeks the dominant male," She said, and I wondered why she was saying such things.

“I didn’t call you here to discuss your relationship.” She said and sighed. I called you here to discuss mine.

“Something my sons did not know was that their father had a fated,” she said, and I exclaimed, pretending not to know so she could give me her version of the story.

“Everyone that knew was sworn to secrecy by Maurice. Her name was Alissa Pavlishchev, and she was from Gad in the western region. Only the people in the council and older western Alphas knew of her.” She said.

“Maurice loved me wholeheartedly until he met her. He never slept with anyone. Like Sylvester is with you, my husband was that way with me. Maybe not exactly, but you get the picture,” she said, and her eyes welled up in tears.

“I loved Maurice with all my heart, and I thought our lives would be rosy, but I was wrong. He met Alissa and took her as his mistress. My family and the council did not let him claim her because that would insult me, so he slept with her and made me endure unimaginable pain. The woman wasn’t a saint, either. They never are. It is not by choice but by design. No fated would want to be a mistress. They see us as taking their space, so they would do anything to replace us fully and not share their mate.

She plotted against me and manipulated my husband.

She was the one that made him start the war frenzy. When my family and part of the council pushed back, Maurice moved to eliminate them to make her Lady and his Luna; I had given up hope. I had Dominic then, and he wasn’t an Alpha, so I knew my days with Maurice were numbered. When she got pregnant, I left the estate and returned home with Dominic. Maurice did not look for me. He doted on her and loved her, but he never claimed her. The woman was so wicked that her people refused to come and work in the estate to help her. If you think I am lying, you can investigate. Because of this, Maurice forced me to return and be her midwife. I was maltreated and abused. He would beat me because of her and her lies, and she never ran out of lies. I was tired. If it was a lesser Alpha, I could run, but who would challenge the wolf lord for my sake? I knew I wouldn’t be able to leave until he let me go.

The goddess took pity on me and she died giving birth to her son. Maurice lost his mind. First, he said I poisoned her and had me locked up in a cell, but it was proven that she died of a dangerous case of preeclampsia. I was

released and asked to care for the child, but I refused. I told Maurice I would not touch his bastard because that was what the boy was. Maurice felt guilty for locking me up, so he did not try to force me to care for the child. Soon he found out all the lies she told about me. When the boy turned one, Maurice found out he had an Alpha wolf, so he sent him to Grizlo in the north to be cared

for by a small family. Around that time, I was pregnant with Sylvester, but things weren't the same. Although Maurice loved me, the loss of his mate destroyed him, and he found himself drawn to women of the west who looked like her, so he started actively keeping a harem. He conquered the entire west for other reasons but took their women so he could replace Alissa briefly. I handled it well, had Sylvester, and when Maurice found that Sylvester was an Alpha, his love for me increased, and Alissa and her son faded away." She said and looked at me.

"That boy's name is David Pavlishchev. Maurice did not give him his last name because he was a bastard." She concluded, and I was in shock.

"That bastard was why I left here, Tamia. I went to see if I could find out about his whereabouts because he was the only one that would want to kill my sons. He is the only one who will have something to gain from this. Dominic and Sylvester do not know of his existence. I told Dominic yesterday, he didn't take it well. That is why I am telling you this so you can help me tell Sylvester. We need to find David and be sure he isn't behind all this. I do not have proof; I am just speculating, but I know you are good with investigations. I will need you to carry one out for me and figure it out," She said, but I was too dumbfounded to respond.

~Tamia~

Shock could not describe how I felt after Stephanie had told me everything.

I sat on the couch and stared at her, speechless.

"Why are you trusting me with this level of information, Luna Stephanie?" I asked her, and she wiped away her tears.

Going down memory lane was hard for her, and I could see she loved her husband dearly, just like I loved Leo, and I wouldn't have let him go.

To be fair to her, I could understand her predicament, which was why I had to let Devin go when he came to me.

I couldn't be selfish and crush the one person that dared to love me through my pain.

My heart truly belonged to Sylvester. I was lucky.

Stephanie did not have a Sylvester that would sweep her off her feet and rescue her, so she had to deal, but hearing her open up to me like this made me afraid.

I wasn't her best person; in fact, there was friction between us, and I doubted it would change. For her to tell me this meant she was desperate.

I tried to remain calm while I waited for her to respond.

"I think he is behind this, Tamia," she said and bowed.

"He might feel cheated. He is an Alpha, and he is older than Sylvester. If he weren't a bastard, he would have been the lord of the north. I am sure he knows I am the reason Maurice could not marry his

mother properly," she said, and I wondered if she was speaking from knowledge and not just a hunch. There was no way she wouldn't know what was going on in this David's mind if she wasn't privy to it.

I looked at her for a bit.

"Are you sure about these things?" I asked her, and she nodded.

"I can't lie about this," She responded, and I wanted to beg to differ, but I held my tongue.

"You know if I tell Sylvester about this man, he will hunt him down, and there will be no going back from this," I said and sighed.

"Are you sure he is a threat to my mate?" I asked her, letting her know Sylvester was my first concern, and she nodded. I smiled because I had her right where I wanted her.

“In that case, I need you to come clean about it. Tell me how you are so sure this man is a threat?” I asked her, and she looked at me and nodded her head.

“I do not know how to explain it, Tamia, but I just have a hunch. At least let us find him, and then we will know what to do from there,” She explained, and I understood what she wanted from me.

Stephanie wasn't sure of her hunch, and she knew Sylvester would not have a subtle approach, and his approach could aggravate this David. She wanted me to tell Sylvester about David and make sure he is subtle about it.

“Very well then..” I said, and just then, I heard Sylvester's voice in my head.

“Where are you?” He said, and I knew he had woken up and wondered where I had gone.

I got off the couch and looked at my barefoot.

“On my way back to you, darling,” I linked with him, and he was quiet.

“I have to go back,” I told Stephanie, and she nodded and looked at me.

“I am truly happy for both of you. I know it may not seem so, but I am. I am also begging you not to break his heart, Tamia. Susan left my baby wounded, which is why I have been uptight. Please.” She said and looked at my tummy.

“I am sure you two will make a great family,” She said, and I smiled at her.

“I cannot hurt him, Stephanie, and he knows it. I love him with everything I am, and I have turned my back on everything just to be with him. My love and heart are in his hands. I hope he does not break me,” I said, and she could not speak.

I did not owe her the explanation that I had rejected my fated for his sake. That was to remain between Sylvester and me, but she needed to know that I was in my relationship a hundred per cent, and I did not plan on ever letting my man go.

I hugged her and assured her everything would be alright before leaving her room and heading towards mine. I bumped into Lilly on my way, and she looked at my foot.

One thing I noticed was she was lurking around our corridors too much. I know Sylvester was easy on her, but this wasn't her wing.

"Good Evening, Luna," She said to me, already according me the respect of Luna.

"Hello, Lilly," I said, and she looked at my barefoot.

"Is that because you are pregnant?" She asked me with a tinge of jealousy, and I smiled.

"No, dear, it is so I can sneak around the place unnoticed," I said and walked away from her.

I felt her eyes on me, and I turned to wink at her.

I wanted her relaxed and a little bit on edge simultaneously. She was bound to make mistakes faster when on edge than when relaxed.

"I entered the room and went to bed. Sylvester wrapped his arm around me and kissed my neck.

"The bed was cold," he said, and I turned to look at him.

"Since when did a cold bed start troubling you?" I asked, wanting to laugh.

"When you started sleeping in it, Tamia," He said in his low deep voice, and it made me shiver in a good way. Sylvester knew how to turn me on, and this was one of those.

He came on top, and I knew the night would be longer than expected.

We had breakfast in the morning with our friends, and Sylvester brought up the investigation.

"I will want us to go through the things in late Jenny's house,"

Sylvester said, and Marcel looked at him.

"Have you told the Lawrences about it? Especially Vino. She might be occupying a Babanin seat, but she is still his aunt." Marcel said, and I was a bit surprised that Jenny was Vino's aunt, but the name was a dead giveaway.

She was Jenny Lawrence; I just thought she was a different Lawrence. In light of this, things were a bit confusing in my head.

“I do not need permission, especially when I am trying to figure out why she was killed,” Sylvester said, and Marcel nodded.

“Sign me up,” Linda said immediately, and Theodore looked a bit pissed at her.

I understood why she committed herself quickly because she knew he would try to stop her because of the pregnancy.

“Are you sure it is the best way to go?” Marcel asked Sylvester, and he nodded.

“I knew my mother wasn’t the target of that attack. Jenny might have been involved in something or known something to be eliminated.” Sylvester said, and Marcel sighed.

“What about the wire transfers that Lily was working on? Does it show any funds leading to or from Jenny? We have to check everything knowing that your father almost wiped them out.” Marcel asked.

“They should lead somewhere,” Marcel added, and I remembered her phone call and contemplated bringing it up.

“All those anonymous transfers lead to the south, and now some are going east. I have asked Lily to take a break. I cannot leave her with a computer unattended, and I want to spend time with Tamia. So I will find another way to trace the transfers,” Sylvester said and touched my hand. He kissed it, making my body shake.

“I am worried that some people are stationing people in the east and west. With what has happened recently, I hope an attack that would be blamed on the north will not ensue. We are yet to understand why the transfers and the people they are going to are anonymous. I can’t shake off the fact that everything is directed at destroying my family. The fact that my father had many enemies does not help matters either. I am thinking of reaching out to the distant Volkovs for help,” He confessed, and I touched his hand.

“Very well, what time do we go to Jenny’s house, and how many of us are going?” Theodore asked. Sylvester smiled and kissed my hand again.

“See it more like a date because we are bringing our mates with us,” he said, and Marcel shook his head.

“Avery and I have a doctor’s appointment this morning,” He said, and Sylvester shrugged.

“Go and return. Pending on what the doctor says will determine whether or not Avery will be coming,” He said, and Marcel nodded and thanked him.

After the serious discussion, we returned to our food, and Sylvester could not keep his hands off my body. He got me all worked up that I might have gone on top of him in that room.

He breathed in my scent and ensured his pinewood scent surrounded me. He nibbled my ears and sucked on my sweet spot.

“My mark will be there soon, darling. You will be truly mine,” He linked me, and a faint moan escaped my lips. The room was a bit blurry, and he was getting me worked up.

“I am already yours,” I linked him back, and I felt his tongue brush through, making my body shiver and the hairs on my skin stand because of the goosebumps his action produced.

“Sylvester..” I moaned, and he placed a grape in my mouth, allowing his finger to enter my mouth. I sucked on it to let him know the work I could do to his cock. He felt it because Knight growled, and Kaira purred in my head.

“You two should get a room,” I heard someone say, but I was too far gone to know who did. It was between Linda and Avery.

We finished breakfast, and Sylvester and I returned to our bedroom.

I was wet and horny, but at the same time, I needed to tell him about Lily.

We entered the room, and he rushed at me, ready to take me. As much as I wasn’t selfish, he had ignited a fire that needed attention, so I let him go to work on my body.

It was a passion-filled morning, and I confessed to all sorts of things.

He made me say something that I wouldn’t have on a typical day while hitting the right spot; with his intoxicating scent and the love I felt in my heart, I could

promise him the moon, which wasn't mine to give by the way, but I could hypothetically give it to him because he had taken me there and back and he knew it.

We lay on the bed tired, with my head against his chest. I kissed his chest, and he touched my back gently.

I thought of the few times I heard of him while I was in the east.

If anyone told me he would be the love of my life back then, I wouldn't believe them, but the funny part was there was no day that I judged or resented him. It helped me decide to come to the north, and I was glad I did.

"I need to talk to you about something," I said, and he made both of us sit so he could look into my eyes. He looked worried, so I smiled at him to be calm.

"Are the women in the Harem allowed to have cell phones?" I asked him, and he froze.

"I can't let them have cell phones, Tamia; that will defeat the purpose of keeping them in check. They can also betray the north and easily sell information that way," he said, placing his hand on my cheek. He thought I wanted him to give them cell phones. It was cute.

"I know you are a kind woman, but please do not ask me to give them a phone. Please do not ask me to endanger the north." He said, and I shook my head and kissed his hand on my cheek by turning towards it. I used my hand to gently hold his palm against my face and closed my eyes to relish the feeling.

"I need you to act rational and wisely about what I am about to tell you. Promise me you won't lose your shit," I said, and he looked confused.

"Last night, I decided to check on Avery in her wing, so I left barefoot, knowing my attempt to wear something on my feet would wake you up. While I walked down the hallways, I heard a voice. I hid behind the door to listen; it was Lily talking on a phone. She told someone that things were a bit tight and she couldn't get something for the person and that the person should wait until during the all-region game when security is loose," I said, and I saw rage rise in his eyes. Sylvester looked like he was about to kill someone, and I hoped it was nothing for Lily's sake.

~Sylvester~

I could not believe what Tamia had just told me about Lily.

I was so mad that I knew Knight could emerge.

I looked at my mate, and she did not seem like she was joking.

From the look in her green eyes, it took a lot of effort for her to tell me what she had just divulged.

I raised my hand, patted her head gently, and then kissed her lips. It was more to calm myself down than to tell her I was okay.

I knew I needed to be calm to handle the matter.

Lily was a big problem. If she was betraying me, then I was in trouble because she knew of my investigations, and she was helping me with one of them.

What if she was giving out the information to someone else?

I had always suspected I couldn't trust her, but when she came, she was innocent-looking, and I thought I could have the younger sister I never had.

I revoked her privileges when I heard all the awful things she did to the women in the harem.

I did not want to jump to conclusions, but I wanted to get up and go and find out the truth.

I was about to get up when Tamia stopped me with her hand.

"I have not finished talking to you, darling. Please be calm. I hope there is a rational explanation for what I heard and saw," She said, and I searched her eyes, my soul pleading, hoping that whatever she

needed to tell me next would be easy to digest.

"Here goes," She said and sighed.

"After the incident with Lily, I bumped into your mother." She said, and I held my tongue. I did not want to say anything that would change the topic.

"She was crying, and she requested to speak to me immediately. Of course, I went to see Avery and then returned to your mother's room." She said and squeezed my arm.

"Your mother explained why she left the estate in a hurry that day Dominic was arrested, and what she went to do," she said.

"According to her, your father had a fated called Lady Alissa Pavlishchev," She continued, and I exclaimed. Tamia just nodded gradually and continued what she was saying.

"Your father accepted his fated and made your mother share. She did not have you then, and when the woman was pregnant, your mother left with Dominic. Things happened, and your mother was asked to return to care for her. All the while, he tried to divorce your mother, but her family was too important for him to divorce her successfully, so he started conquering the council families and the west. He wanted to own the world and be powerful enough to overthrow the council and marry this woman. According to your mother, the woman was evil and did many mean things. Eventually, she died giving birth to her son. This was relieving to your mother, but that was the beginning of your father growing his harem and getting involved with the women in the harem. He only went for women of western descent because they reminded him of his fated. Your father realised the boy was an Alpha, so he tried to get your mother to take care of the baby, but she said no, so he sent the boy to be cared for. She got pregnant with you, and everything became rosy after she gave birth to you, and he discovered you were an Alpha too." She said and searched my eyes for emotions, but I made sure there was nothing in them so she would have the confidence to tell me the rest.

"When your mother left, it wasn't an act of defiance, but to find David Pavlishchev, your half-brother, because she believed he might be the culprit. He has so much to gain if anything happens to either of you," she said, and I knew she was right.

"Did my mother tell you his last known location?" I asked, and she shook her head.

"Very well, I will handle it," I said, and she smiled.

She laid down a bit, and I held her in bed until she fell asleep.

It was time to go to the only part of the mansion I never visit. The Harem. I linked Theodore to meet me there with two women from my staff.

I kept my anger under control and moved swiftly.

When I got to the common hall of the harem, the entire place was silent. I had never visited there since the women had been brought. The last I was there was when we were actively involved with the former women in the harem before I let all of them go.

Marcel, Theodore and I threw orgies there and partied all night long. Thinking of the life I led back then; I was ashamed of myself and grateful that Tamia brought meaning and love back into my life because Susan left with everything, and I was nothing but an empty shell.

Most of the ladies were looking at me seductively, and I ignored them. My eyes searched and found Lily, who smiled at me.

I motioned her to come to me, and she approached eagerly.

“Take me to your bedroom,” I said, and I heard some women gasp. I knew what they were thinking, but I did not owe anyone any explanation.

We waited for Theodore to join us before leaving. I could see the giddiness in Lily’s eyes, and I remained silent.

“I hope Luna Tamia won’t be mad about this Alpha. I do not want to anger luna,” She said with a sly tone, and I wanted to hit her, but I controlled myself. If what Tamia said checked out, she would have betrayed me beyond repair. I was holding my temper.

“What is going on?” Theodore linked me.

“Be attentive,” was all I could manage, and he was silent.

We got to Lily’s room which she shared with two other girls, and I entered.

The room was beautifully furnished, and three beds were placed in it. Beside each bed was a vanity table. It looked like a luxurious hostel, which was the point, and Lilly stood with her head bowed.

I knew what she was thinking, and she began to undo her tunic to confirm my suspicion. I could feel her joy and expectation. I had never given her the sign

that I wanted anything sensual with her, but I knew it was a fantasy in her head, and it almost cost me my relationship with Tamia.

“Keep your clothes on,” I ordered quietly. She looked confused but nodded.

“I am at your service, Alpha,” She said with her head bowed.

“Where is your bed?” I asked, and she eagerly pointed to the bed close to the wall. I linked the women that came with us to search through her things.

Lily became apprehensive immediately.

“What is going on, Alpha?” She said, looking worried.

“Hold her, Theodore,” I told my Gamma, and he did as I had said.

“Where is the phone, Lily?” I asked her and her eyes widened.

“Do not bother lying because people told me you have one. Where did you put it?” I asked her, and she bowed her head and began to sob.

“Where is it!” I yelled, feeling my anger bubbling to the surface at the realisation that there was indeed a phone and Tamia was right.

“Inside the mattress under my bed,” She confessed. The women lifted her mattress, and there the phone was.

They brought it to me, and it had no number and no messages, but the call log had an anonymous caller on it. The person was wise to hide their caller identity when calling.

“How did you get this?” I asked her calmly, and she sobbed. I tried to hold my temper because I knew I could kill her.

“What have you given them?” I asked her, and she continued to cry.

“Answer me!” I yelled with my authority, and she shook.

She struggled and broke away from Theodore and went on her knees.

“I am sorry, Alpha. I am sorry. They promised I would go home but threatened they would wipe my family out if I did not comply,” she said without answering my question.

“Do not test my patience, Lily. What did you give them, and who were you speaking to?” I asked her, and she began to sob.

“They did not give me a name. Sometimes it was a woman and sometimes a man,” She said, and I grabbed her neck and squeezed.

“What did you give them?” I asked, angry.

“Sylvester?” I heard Tamia’s voice in my head, and I cursed under my breath because I wasn’t expecting her to be awake.

“Sylvester?” I heard her voice again, and I released Lilly’s neck.

“Yes, darling, I am in Lily’s room; you are right,” I said, and she did not reply. I knew she was on her way.

“What did you give them?”

“Banking details, signatures, royal seals, envelopes, and I placed a backdoor on your computer to help them monitor what you were doing,” She said quickly, and I slapped her.

She fell to the ground. I was enraged.

Chapter 58 - The Destiny of a Heart-broken Luna

~Tamia~

Stephanie did not look well. Her eyes were swollen, and her hands were shaking. It was clear that she had been crying.

I wanted to ignore her, but I couldn’t. I knew Sylvester wouldn’t, so I decided to show some concern.

“Are you alright?” I asked, and she looked at me and shook her head.

"I am not, Tamia. Everything is falling apart. Dominic won't come out of his room. He said he feels like a nobody. I have tried to talk him out of it, but he is too ashamed to let himself mingle," She said, and I nodded.

"You need to give him time, Stephanie. He had a near-death experience. If Bryce had not confessed, he might have been dead by now. He will need time to recover from it," I said, and she hugged me and began to cry.

I did not know what to tell her. So I hugged her in return and patted her back.

"You need to take it easy, Stephanie. Crying won't fix him. You need to find the things and people that make him happy and try to surround him with them," I said, and she sighed and bowed.

She looked at me and studied me.

"You will be the Lady of the north soon, Tamia; there are things I need to tell you. Things that I swore to take to my grave but I suspect are part of why all these are happening to my sons," She said, and I was surprised that she was willing to trust me with her secret.

"Are you sure you want to tell me?" I asked her, and she nodded.

"You will be Luna soon and rule by his side. You're already doing it, and unlike me, your Alpha loves you and gives you freedom. You take part in council discussions and give advice. None of which I was allowed in my time. You give northern women hope, Tamia." She said and sighed.

"There are things I need to tell for the sake of the Volkov bloodline. You need to know that you have a Volkov growing inside you. You need to know the truth about Maurice and our children.." She said, and my mind went to what Jake had told me.

Was she planning on telling me the truth, or was she planning on deceiving me like she might have deceived her children?

"Does it have anything to do with what is going on?" I asked, and she paused, looking at me. She was contemplating what to tell me. She was sizing me up, and I wasn't angry at all.

"It might," she confessed, and I looked at her.

“I will join you in your room in a few minutes. I want to check on Avery. The hallway isn’t as safe as we think; we might have spies lurking about the place,” I linked her, and she nodded at me.

I still could not shake off Lily’s phone conversation. I could not shake off the fact that I knew she wasn’t supposed to have a phone. I couldn’t shake it off. Something was off, and I planned on figuring it out.

Stephanie walked past me, heading to her room while I headed towards the Beta’s wing to see Avery. I would have checked on Linda too, but I knew she and Marcel went on a date.

I got to Avery’s door and knocked.

“It’s open,” I heard Avery say, and I gently let myself in. I saw my friend sitting on a couch and working on an embroidery piece. I looked at the leaf design she was weaving into the fabric and realised that her skill had improved, but she was still marring the fabric.

“Tamia, you and Sylvester missed dinner,” She said, and I nodded and sat beside her.

“How are you feeling?” I asked, and she sighed.

“I feel nervous,” She said, and I wondered why.

“Why?” I asked, and she sighed and put down her supposed artwork, which was more of a cluster and an honest attempt at being creative.

“I have wanted babies for as long, but when Michelle came into our lives, it became a tall dream. Now I found love again. Marcel and I started trying before you and Sylvester got together. Then Linda and Theodore got together,” She said and bowed her head and began to weep.

“Yet I am still waiting in line, Tamia. I waited in line with Max, and I believe that was why Michelle got the best of him, and now here I am with Marcel,” she said, and I moved close to her and rubbed her back.

“Do not be afraid, Avery; it will happen for you, too,” I said, rubbing her back.

“But when?” She asked, and I sighed.

“You should see a doctor to know if anything is wrong and if it can be corrected. That is what I would do,” I said, and she broke the hug and stared at me.

“You are right, Tamia,” She said and held my hand.

“Join me at the hospital tomorrow, please,” She said, and I remembered my conversation with Sylvester about protection and not being on my own.

“I suggest you go with Marcel. It would be best if you handled it together,” I said, and she shook her head.

“I want you to come with me, Tamia. I do not want Marcel. What if something is wrong with me? He will know and might change his mind. I love him, Tamia; I can’t lose him,” She said with genuine fear in her eyes.

“Nothing is the matter with you, Avery. I will speak to Sylvester to let me follow you to the hospital,” I said to ease her mind, and she thanked me.

I tried to counsel her to the best of my ability and decided to leave because I did not want to keep Stephanie waiting.

My actions might have seemed a bit stupid. Whatever Stephanie wanted to tell me must have been serious, so it was wrong to put her on hold, but I knew that whatever she was going to tell me might leave me shellshocked, and I won’t be able to check on my friend, so I wanted to get it out of the way before speaking to Stephanie.

I walked still barefooted so people could not hear my footsteps. I took a mental note to do this often. Lily was on my watch list. I needed to know who gave her a phone and who she was communicating with.

I got to Stephanie’s door and knocked.

“Please come in, Tamia; I know it is you,” She said, and I let myself in.

“Lock the door,” She said, and I did as she said and approached her where she sat on the couch in her room.

I went to sit with her, and she smiled at me. I was still wary of her, but I let it be because she was open to me again. There were only two possibilities: to misguide or tell the truth, so I was attentive.

“I am sorry to ask you this question, but I need you to be honest. How did it feel when Leo met his fated?” She asked, and I looked at her. I contemplated answering it, but I knew I had to, or the conversation won’t make headway.

“Heartwrenching. My life was over. He was the lead alpha of the East; I had nowhere to go, and no one would want me. I could not leave, so I was there through it all until the north attacked and gave me a chance to escape,” I said, and she looked at me stunned.

“Yes, I gave myself as a tribute to leave Leo. We would have subdued the people who attacked us, but I did not want to be the third wheel in their home anymore. They were going to be a family. There was no place for me,” I said, and she looked at me worried, but I smiled at her.

“I am glad,” I said and placed my hand on my belly. “I found love in the north and everything I ever wanted.” I told her, and she smiled.

“Do you know if Leo were Sylvester, then truly you would have nowhere to go? Sylvester is a step up from Leo, but no one is a step up from the Wolf lord. So, in that case, you will be stranded forever, and even if you want to leave him, it would be impossible. Society won’t allow it, your family won’t allow it, and your heart and wolf will hold on so tight, and it won’t allow it. There is something in us that seeks the dominant male,” She said, and I wondered why she was saying such things.

“I didn’t call you here to discuss your relationship.” She said and sighed. I called you here to discuss mine.

“Something my sons did not know was that their father had a fated,” she said, and I exclaimed, pretending not to know so she could give me her version of the story.

“Everyone that knew was sworn to secrecy by Maurice. Her name was Alissa Pavlishchev, and she was from Gad in the western region. Only the people in the council and older western Alphas knew of her.” She said.

“Maurice loved me wholeheartedly until he met her. He never slept with anyone. Like Sylvester is with you, my husband was that way with me. Maybe not exactly, but you get the picture,” she said, and her eyes welled up in tears.

“I loved Maurice with all my heart, and I thought our lives would be rosy, but I was wrong. He met Alissa and took her as his mistress. My family and the council did not let him claim her because that would insult me, so he slept with her and made me endure unimaginable pain. The woman wasn’t a saint, either. They never are. It is not by choice but by design. No fated would want to be a mistress. They see us as taking their space, so they would do anything to replace us fully and not share their mate.

She plotted against me and manipulated my husband.

She was the one that made him start the war frenzy. When my family and part of the council pushed back, Maurice moved to eliminate them to make her Lady and his Luna; I had given up hope. I had Dominic then, and he wasn’t an Alpha, so I knew my days with Maurice were numbered. When she got pregnant, I left the estate and returned home with Dominic. Maurice did not look for me. He doted on her and loved her, but he never claimed her. The woman was so wicked that her people refused to come and work in the estate to help her. If you think I am lying, you can investigate. Because of this, Maurice forced me to return and be her midwife. I was maltreated and abused. He would beat me because of her and her lies, and she never ran out of lies. I was tired. If it was a lesser Alpha, I could run, but who would challenge the wolf lord for my sake? I knew I wouldn’t be able to leave until he let me go.

The goddess took pity on me and she died giving birth to her son. Maurice lost his mind. First, he said I poisoned her and had me locked up in a cell, but it was proven that she died of a dangerous case of preeclampsia. I was released and asked to care for the child, but I refused. I told Maurice I would not touch his bastard because that was what the boy was. Maurice felt guilty for locking me up, so he did not try to force me to care for the child. Soon he found out all the lies she told about me. When the boy turned one, Maurice found out he had an Alpha wolf, so he sent him to Grizlo in the north to be cared

for by a small family. Around that time, I was pregnant with Sylvester, but things weren’t the same. Although Maurice loved me, the loss of his mate destroyed him, and he found himself drawn to women of the west who looked like her, so he started actively keeping a harem. He conquered the entire west

for other reasons but took their women so he could replace Alissa briefly. I handled it well, had Sylvester, and when Maurice found that Sylvester was an Alpha, his love for me increased, and Alissa and her son faded away." She said and looked at me.

"That boy's name is David Pavlishchev. Maurice did not give him his last name because he was a bastard." She concluded, and I was in shock.

"That bastard was why I left here, Tamia. I went to see if I could find out about his whereabouts because he was the only one that would want to kill my sons. He is the only one who will have something to gain from this. Dominic and Sylvester do not know of his existence. I told Dominic yesterday, he didn't take it well. That is why I am telling you this so you can help me tell Sylvester. We need to find David and be sure he isn't behind all this. I do not have proof; I am just speculating, but I know you are good with investigations. I will need you to carry one out for me and figure it out," She said, but I was too dumbfounded to respond.

~Tamia~

Shock could not describe how I felt after Stephanie had told me everything.

I sat on the couch and stared at her, speechless.

"Why are you trusting me with this level of information, Luna Stephanie?" I asked her, and she wiped away her tears.

Going down memory lane was hard for her, and I could see she loved her husband dearly, just like I loved Leo, and I wouldn't have let him go.

To be fair to her, I could understand her predicament, which was why I had to let Devin go when he came to me.

I couldn't be selfish and crush the one person that dared to love me through my pain.

My heart truly belonged to Sylvester. I was lucky.

Stephanie did not have a Sylvester that would sweep her off her feet and rescue her, so she had to deal, but hearing her open up to me like this made me afraid.

I wasn't her best person; in fact, there was friction between us, and I doubted it would change. For her to tell me this meant she was desperate.

I tried to remain calm while I waited for her to respond.

"I think he is behind this, Tamia," she said and bowed.

"He might feel cheated. He is an Alpha, and he is older than Sylvester. If he weren't a bastard, he would have been the lord of the north. I am sure he knows I am the reason Maurice could not marry his

mother properly," she said, and I wondered if she was speaking from knowledge and not just a hunch. There was no way she wouldn't know what was going on in this David's mind if she wasn't privy to it.

I looked at her for a bit.

"Are you sure about these things?" I asked her, and she nodded.

"I can't lie about this," She responded, and I wanted to beg to differ, but I held my tongue.

"You know if I tell Sylvester about this man, he will hunt him down, and there will be no going back from this," I said and sighed.

"Are you sure he is a threat to my mate?" I asked her, letting her know Sylvester was my first concern, and she nodded. I smiled because I had her right where I wanted her.

"In that case, I need you to come clean about it. Tell me how you are so sure this man is a threat?" I asked her, and she looked at me and nodded her head.

"I do not know how to explain it, Tamia, but I just have a hunch. At least let us find him, and then we will know what to do from there," She explained, and I understood what she wanted from me.

Stephanie wasn't sure of her hunch, and she knew Sylvester would not have a subtle approach, and his approach could aggravate this David. She wanted me to tell Sylvester about David and make sure he is subtle about it.

"Very well then.." I said, and just then, I heard Sylvester's voice in my head.

“Where are you?” He said, and I knew he had woken up and wondered where I had gone.

I got off the couch and looked at my barefoot.

“On my way back to you, darling,” I linked with him, and he was quiet.

“I have to go back,” I told Stephanie, and she nodded and looked at me.

“I am truly happy for both of you. I know it may not seem so, but I am. I am also begging you not to break his heart, Tamia. Susan left my baby wounded, which is why I have been uptight. Please.” She said and looked at my tummy.

“I am sure you two will make a great family,” She said, and I smiled at her.

“I cannot hurt him, Stephanie, and he knows it. I love him with everything I am, and I have turned my back on everything just to be with him. My love and heart are in his hands. I hope he does not break me,” I said, and she could not speak.

I did not owe her the explanation that I had rejected my fated for his sake. That was to remain between Sylvester and me, but she needed to know that I was in my relationship a hundred per cent, and I did not plan on ever letting my man go.

I hugged her and assured her everything would be alright before leaving her room and heading towards mine. I bumped into Lilly on my way, and she looked at my foot.

One thing I noticed was she was lurking around our corridors too much. I know Sylvester was easy on her, but this wasn't her wing.

“Good Evening, Luna,” She said to me, already according me the respect of Luna.

“Hello, Lilly,” I said, and she looked at my barefoot.

“Is that because you are pregnant?” She asked me with a tinge of jealousy, and I smiled.

“No, dear, it is so I can sneak around the place unnoticed,” I said and walked away from her.

I felt her eyes on me, and I turned to wink at her.

I wanted her relaxed and a little bit on edge simultaneously. She was bound to make mistakes faster when on edge than when relaxed.

“I entered the room and went to bed. Sylvester wrapped his arm around me and kissed my neck.

“The bed was cold,” he said, and I turned to look at him.

“Since when did a cold bed start troubling you?” I asked, wanting to laugh.

“When you started sleeping in it, Tamia,” He said in his low deep voice, and it made me shiver in a good way. Sylvester knew how to turn me on, and this was one of those.

He came on top, and I knew the night would be longer than expected.

We had breakfast in the morning with our friends, and Sylvester brought up the investigation.

“I will want us to go through the things in late Jenny’s house,”

Sylvester said, and Marcel looked at him.

“Have you told the Lawrences about it? Especially Vino. She might be occupying a Babanin seat, but she is still his aunt.” Marcel said, and I was a bit surprised that Jenny was Vino’s aunt, but the name was a dead giveaway. She was Jenny Lawrence; I just thought she was a different Lawrence. In light of this, things were a bit confusing in my head.

“I do not need permission, especially when I am trying to figure out why she was killed,” Sylvester said, and Marcel nodded.

“Sign me up,” Linda said immediately, and Theodore looked a bit pissed at her.

I understood why she committed herself quickly because she knew he would try to stop her because of the pregnancy.

“Are you sure it is the best way to go?” Marcel asked Sylvester, and he nodded.

“I knew my mother wasn’t the target of that attack. Jenny might have been involved in something or known something to be eliminated.” Sylvester said, and Marcel sighed.

“What about the wire transfers that Lily was working on? Does it show any funds leading to or from Jenny? We have to check everything knowing that your father almost wiped them out.” Marcel asked.

“They should lead somewhere,” Marcel added, and I remembered her phone call and contemplated bringing it up.

“All those anonymous transfers lead to the south, and now some are going east. I have asked Lily to take a break. I cannot leave her with a computer unattended, and I want to spend time with Tamia. So I will find another way to trace the transfers,” Sylvester said and touched my hand. He kissed it, making my body shake.

“I am worried that some people are stationing people in the east and west. With what has happened recently, I hope an attack that would be blamed on the north will not ensue. We are yet to understand why the transfers and the people they are going to are anonymous. I can’t shake off the fact that everything is directed at destroying my family. The fact that my father had many enemies does not help matters either. I am thinking of reaching out to the distant Volkovs for help,” He confessed, and I touched his hand.

“Very well, what time do we go to Jenny’s house, and how many of us are going?” Theodore asked. Sylvester smiled and kissed my hand again.

“See it more like a date because we are bringing our mates with us,” he said, and Marcel shook his head.

“Avery and I have a doctor’s appointment this morning,” He said, and Sylvester shrugged.

“Go and return. Pending on what the doctor says will determine whether or not Avery will be coming,” He said, and Marcel nodded and thanked him.

After the serious discussion, we returned to our food, and Sylvester could not keep his hands off my body. He got me all worked up that I might have gone on top of him in that room.

He breathed in my scent and ensured his pinewood scent surrounded me. He nibbled my ears and sucked on my sweet spot.

“My mark will be there soon, darling. You will be truly mine,” He linked me, and a faint moan escaped my lips. The room was a bit blurry, and he was getting me worked up.

“I am already yours,” I linked him back, and I felt his tongue brush through, making my body shiver and the hairs on my skin stand because of the goosebumps his action produced.

“Sylvester..” I moaned, and he placed a grape in my mouth, allowing his finger to enter my mouth. I sucked on it to let him know the work I could do to his cock. He felt it because Knight growled, and Kaira purred in my head.

“You two should get a room,” I heard someone say, but I was too far gone to know who did. It was between Linda and Avery.

We finished breakfast, and Sylvester and I returned to our bedroom.

I was wet and horny, but at the same time, I needed to tell him about Lily.

We entered the room, and he rushed at me, ready to take me. As much as I wasn't selfish, he had ignited a fire that needed attention, so I let him go to work on my body.

It was a passion-filled morning, and I confessed to all sorts of things.

He made me say something that I wouldn't have on a typical day while hitting the right spot; with his intoxicating scent and the love I felt in my heart, I could promise him the moon, which wasn't mine to give by the way, but I could hypothetically give it to him because he had taken me there and back and he knew it.

We lay on the bed tired, with my head against his chest. I kissed his chest, and he touched my back gently.

I thought of the few times I heard of him while I was in the east.

If anyone told me he would be the love of my life back then, I wouldn't believe them, but the funny part was there was no day that I judged or resented him. It helped me decide to come to the north, and I was glad I did.

“I need to talk to you about something,” I said, and he made both of us sit so he could look into my eyes. He looked worried, so I smiled at him to be calm.

“Are the women in the Harem allowed to have cell phones?” I asked him, and he froze.

“I can’t let them have cell phones, Tamia; that will defeat the purpose of keeping them in check. They can also betray the north and easily sell information that way,” he said, placing his hand on my cheek. He thought I wanted him to give them cell phones. It was cute.

“I know you are a kind woman, but please do not ask me to give them a phone. Please do not ask me to endanger the north.” He said, and I shook my head and kissed his hand on my cheek by turning towards it. I used my hand to gently hold his palm against my face and closed my eyes to relish the feeling.

“I need you to act rational and wisely about what I am about to tell you. Promise me you won’t lose your shit,” I said, and he looked confused.

“Last night, I decided to check on Avery in her wing, so I left barefoot, knowing my attempt to wear something on my feet would wake you up. While I walked down the hallways, I heard a voice. I hid behind the door to listen; it was Lily talking on a phone. She told someone that things were a bit tight and she couldn’t get something for the person and that the person should wait until during the all-region game when security is loose,” I said, and I saw rage rise in his eyes. Sylvester looked like he was about to kill someone, and I hoped it was nothing for Lily’s sake.

~Sylvester~

I could not believe what Tamia had just told me about Lily.

I was so mad that I knew Knight could emerge.

I looked at my mate, and she did not seem like she was joking.

From the look in her green eyes, it took a lot of effort for her to tell me what she had just divulged.

I raised my hand, patted her head gently, and then kissed her lips. It was more to calm myself down than to tell her I was okay.

I knew I needed to be calm to handle the matter.

Lily was a big problem. If she was betraying me, then I was in trouble because she knew of my investigations, and she was helping me with one of them.

What if she was giving out the information to someone else?

I had always suspected I couldn't trust her, but when she came, she was innocent-looking, and I thought I could have the younger sister I never had.

I revoked her privileges when I heard all the awful things she did to the women in the harem.

I did not want to jump to conclusions, but I wanted to get up and go and find out the truth.

I was about to get up when Tamia stopped me with her hand.

"I have not finished talking to you, darling. Please be calm. I hope there is a rational explanation for what I heard and saw," She said, and I searched her eyes, my soul pleading, hoping that whatever she

needed to tell me next would be easy to digest.

"Here goes," She said and sighed.

"After the incident with Lily, I bumped into your mother." She said, and I held my tongue. I did not want to say anything that would change the topic.

"She was crying, and she requested to speak to me immediately. Of course, I went to see Avery and then returned to your mother's room." She said and squeezed my arm.

"Your mother explained why she left the estate in a hurry that day Dominic was arrested, and what she went to do," she said.

"According to her, your father had a fated called Lady Alissa Pavlishchev," She continued, and I exclaimed. Tamia just nodded gradually and continued what she was saying.

"Your father accepted his fated and made your mother share. She did not have you then, and when the woman was pregnant, your mother left with Dominic. Things happened, and your mother was asked to return to care for

her. All the while, he tried to divorce your mother, but her family was too important for him to divorce her successfully, so he started conquering the council families and the west. He wanted to own the world and be powerful enough to overthrow the council and marry this woman. According to your mother, the woman was evil and did many mean things. Eventually, she died giving birth to her son. This was relieving to your mother, but that was the beginning of your father growing his harem and getting involved with the women in the harem. He only went for women of western descent because they reminded him of his fated. Your father realised the boy was an Alpha, so he tried to get your mother to take care of the baby, but she said no, so he sent the boy to be cared for. She got pregnant with you, and everything became rosy after she gave birth to you, and he discovered you were an Alpha too.” She said and searched my eyes for emotions, but I made sure there was nothing in them so she would have the confidence to tell me the rest.

“When your mother left, it wasn’t an act of defiance, but to find David Pavlishchev, your half-brother, because she believed he might be the culprit. He has so much to gain if anything happens to either of you,” she said, and I knew she was right.

“Did my mother tell you his last known location?” I asked, and she shook her head.

“Very well, I will handle it,” I said, and she smiled.

She laid down a bit, and I held her in bed until she fell asleep.

It was time to go to the only part of the mansion I never visit. The Harem. I linked Theodore to meet me there with two women from my staff.

I kept my anger under control and moved swiftly.

When I got to the common hall of the harem, the entire place was silent. I had never visited there since the women had been brought. The last I was there was when we were actively involved with the former women in the harem before I let all of them go.

Marcel, Theodore and I threw orgies there and partied all night long. Thinking of the life I led back then; I was ashamed of myself and grateful that Tamia

brought meaning and love back into my life because Susan left with everything, and I was nothing but an empty shell.

Most of the ladies were looking at me seductively, and I ignored them. My eyes searched and found Lily, who smiled at me.

I motioned her to come to me, and she approached eagerly.

“Take me to your bedroom,” I said, and I heard some women gasp. I knew what they were thinking, but I did not owe anyone any explanation.

We waited for Theodore to join us before leaving. I could see the giddiness in Lily’s eyes, and I remained silent.

“I hope Luna Tamia won’t be mad about this Alpha. I do not want to anger luna,” She said with a sly tone, and I wanted to hit her, but I controlled myself. If what Tamia said checked out, she would have betrayed me beyond repair. I was holding my temper.

“What is going on?” Theodore linked me.

“Be attentive,” was all I could manage, and he was silent.

We got to Lily’s room which she shared with two other girls, and I entered.

The room was beautifully furnished, and three beds were placed in it. Beside each bed was a vanity table. It looked like a luxurious hostel, which was the point, and Lilly stood with her head bowed.

I knew what she was thinking, and she began to undo her tunic to confirm my suspicion. I could feel her joy and expectation. I had never given her the sign that I wanted anything sensual with her, but I knew it was a fantasy in her head, and it almost cost me my relationship with Tamia.

“Keep your clothes on,” I ordered quietly. She looked confused but nodded.

“I am at your service, Alpha,” She said with her head bowed.

“Where is your bed?” I asked, and she eagerly pointed to the bed close to the wall. I linked the women that came with us to search through her things.

Lily became apprehensive immediately.

“What is going on, Alpha?” She said, looking worried.

“Hold her, Theodore,” I told my Gamma, and he did as I had said.

“Where is the phone, Lily?” I asked her and her eyes widened.

“Do not bother lying because people told me you have one. Where did you put it?” I asked her, and she bowed her head and began to sob.

“Where is it!” I yelled, feeling my anger bubbling to the surface at the realisation that there was indeed a phone and Tamia was right.

“Inside the mattress under my bed,” She confessed. The women lifted her mattress, and there the phone was.

They brought it to me, and it had no number and no messages, but the call log had an anonymous caller on it. The person was wise to hide their caller identity when calling.

“How did you get this?” I asked her calmly, and she sobbed. I tried to hold my temper because I knew I could kill her.

“What have you given them?” I asked her, and she continued to cry.

“Answer me!” I yelled with my authority, and she shook.

She struggled and broke away from Theodore and went on her knees.

“I am sorry, Alpha. I am sorry. They promised I would go home but threatened they would wipe my family out if I did not comply,” she said without answering my question.

“Do not test my patience, Lily. What did you give them, and who were you speaking to?” I asked her, and she began to sob.

“They did not give me a name. Sometimes it was a woman and sometimes a man,” She said, and I grabbed her neck and squeezed.

“What did you give them?” I asked, angry.

“Sylvester?” I heard Tamia’s voice in my head, and I cursed under my breath because I wasn’t expecting her to be awake.

“Sylvester?” I heard her voice again, and I released Lilly’s neck.

“Yes, darling, I am in Lily’s room; you are right,” I said, and she did not reply. I knew she was on her way.

“What did you give them?”

“Banking details, signatures, royal seals, envelopes, and I placed a backdoor on your computer to help them monitor what you were doing,” She said quickly, and I slapped her.

She fell to the ground. I was enraged.

Chapter 59 - The Destiny of a Heart-broken Luna

~Tamia~

Shock could not describe how I felt after Stephanie had told me everything.

I sat on the couch and stared at her, speechless.

“Why are you trusting me with this level of information, Luna Stephanie?” I asked her, and she wiped away her tears.

Going down memory lane was hard for her, and I could see she loved her husband dearly, just like I loved Leo, and I wouldn’t have let him go.

To be fair to her, I could understand her predicament, which was why I had to let Devin go when he came to me.

I couldn’t be selfish and crush the one person that dared to love me through my pain.

My heart truly belonged to Sylvester. I was lucky.

Stephanie did not have a Sylvester that would sweep her off her feet and rescue her, so she had to deal, but hearing her open up to me like this made me afraid.

I wasn’t her best person; in fact, there was friction between us, and I doubted it would change. For her to tell me this meant she was desperate.

I tried to remain calm while I waited for her to respond.

“I think he is behind this, Tamia,” she said and bowed.

“He might feel cheated. He is an Alpha, and he is older than Sylvester. If he weren’t a bastard, he would have been the lord of the north. I am sure he knows I am the reason Maurice could not marry his

mother properly,” she said, and I wondered if she was speaking from knowledge and not just a hunch. There was no way she wouldn’t know what was going on in this David’s mind if she wasn’t privy to it.

I looked at her for a bit.

“Are you sure about these things?” I asked her, and she nodded.

“I can’t lie about this,” She responded, and I wanted to beg to differ, but I held my tongue.

“You know if I tell Sylvester about this man, he will hunt him down, and there will be no going back from this,” I said and sighed.

“Are you sure he is a threat to my mate?” I asked her, letting her know Sylvester was my first concern, and she nodded. I smiled because I had her right where I wanted her.

“In that case, I need you to come clean about it. Tell me how you are so sure this man is a threat?” I asked her, and she looked at me and nodded her head.

“I do not know how to explain it, Tamia, but I just have a hunch. At least let us find him, and then we will know what to do from there,” She explained, and I understood what she wanted from me.

Stephanie wasn’t sure of her hunch, and she knew Sylvester would not have a subtle approach, and his approach could aggravate this David. She wanted me to tell Sylvester about David and make sure he is subtle about it.

“Very well then..” I said, and just then, I heard Sylvester’s voice in my head.

“Where are you?” He said, and I knew he had woken up and wondered where I had gone.

I got off the couch and looked at my barefoot.

“On my way back to you, darling,” I linked with him, and he was quiet.

“I have to go back,” I told Stephanie, and she nodded and looked at me.

“I am truly happy for both of you. I know it may not seem so, but I am. I am also begging you not to break his heart, Tamia. Susan left my baby wounded, which is why I have been uptight. Please.” She said and looked at my tummy.

“I am sure you two will make a great family,” She said, and I smiled at her.

“I cannot hurt him, Stephanie, and he knows it. I love him with everything I am, and I have turned my back on everything just to be with him. My love and heart are in his hands. I hope he does not break me,” I said, and she could not speak.

I did not owe her the explanation that I had rejected my fate for his sake. That was to remain between Sylvester and me, but she needed to know that I was in my relationship a hundred per cent, and I did not plan on ever letting my man go.

I hugged her and assured her everything would be alright before leaving her room and heading towards mine. I bumped into Lilly on my way, and she looked at my foot.

One thing I noticed was she was lurking around our corridors too much. I know Sylvester was easy on her, but this wasn't her wing.

“Good Evening, Luna,” She said to me, already according me the respect of Luna.

“Hello, Lilly,” I said, and she looked at my barefoot.

“Is that because you are pregnant?” She asked me with a tinge of jealousy, and I smiled.

“No, dear, it is so I can sneak around the place unnoticed,” I said and walked away from her.

I felt her eyes on me, and I turned to wink at her.

I wanted her relaxed and a little bit on edge simultaneously. She was bound to make mistakes faster when on edge than when relaxed.

"I entered the room and went to bed. Sylvester wrapped his arm around me and kissed my neck.

"The bed was cold," he said, and I turned to look at him.

"Since when did a cold bed start troubling you?" I asked, wanting to laugh.

"When you started sleeping in it, Tamia," He said in his low deep voice, and it made me shiver in a good way. Sylvester knew how to turn me on, and this was one of those.

He came on top, and I knew the night would be longer than expected.

We had breakfast in the morning with our friends, and Sylvester brought up the investigation.

"I will want us to go through the things in late Jenny's house,"

Sylvester said, and Marcel looked at him.

"Have you told the Lawrences about it? Especially Vino. She might be occupying a Babanin seat, but she is still his aunt." Marcel said, and I was a bit surprised that Jenny was Vino's aunt, but the name was a dead giveaway. She was Jenny Lawrence; I just thought she was a different Lawrence. In light of this, things were a bit confusing in my head.

"I do not need permission, especially when I am trying to figure out why she was killed," Sylvester said, and Marcel nodded.

"Sign me up," Linda said immediately, and Theodore looked a bit pissed at her.

I understood why she committed herself quickly because she knew he would try to stop her because of the pregnancy.

"Are you sure it is the best way to go?" Marcel asked Sylvester, and he nodded.

“I knew my mother wasn’t the target of that attack. Jenny might have been involved in something or known something to be eliminated.” Sylvester said, and Marcel sighed.

“What about the wire transfers that Lily was working on? Does it show any funds leading to or from Jenny? We have to check everything knowing that your father almost wiped them out.” Marcel asked.

“They should lead somewhere,” Marcel added, and I remembered her phone call and contemplated bringing it up.

“All those anonymous transfers lead to the south, and now some are going east. I have asked Lily to take a break. I cannot leave her with a computer unattended, and I want to spend time with Tamia. So I will find another way to trace the transfers,” Sylvester said and touched my hand. He kissed it, making my body shake.

“I am worried that some people are stationing people in the east and west. With what has happened recently, I hope an attack that would be blamed on the north will not ensue. We are yet to understand why the transfers and the people they are going to are anonymous. I can’t shake off the fact that everything is directed at destroying my family. The fact that my father had many enemies does not help matters either. I am thinking of reaching out to the distant Volkovs for help,” He confessed, and I touched his hand.

“Very well, what time do we go to Jenny’s house, and how many of us are going?” Theodore asked. Sylvester smiled and kissed my hand again.

“See it more like a date because we are bringing our mates with us,” he said, and Marcel shook his head.

“Avery and I have a doctor’s appointment this morning,” He said, and Sylvester shrugged.

“Go and return. Pending on what the doctor says will determine whether or not Avery will be coming,” He said, and Marcel nodded and thanked him.

After the serious discussion, we returned to our food, and Sylvester could not keep his hands off my body. He got me all worked up that I might have gone on top of him in that room.

He breathed in my scent and ensured his pinewood scent surrounded me. He nibbled my ears and sucked on my sweet spot.

“My mark will be there soon, darling. You will be truly mine,” He linked me, and a faint moan escaped my lips. The room was a bit blurry, and he was getting me worked up.

“I am already yours,” I linked him back, and I felt his tongue brush through, making my body shiver and the hairs on my skin stand because of the goosebumps his action produced.

“Sylvester..” I moaned, and he placed a grape in my mouth, allowing his finger to enter my mouth. I sucked on it to let him know the work I could do to his cock. He felt it because Knight growled, and Kaira purred in my head.

“You two should get a room,” I heard someone say, but I was too far gone to know who did. It was between Linda and Avery.

We finished breakfast, and Sylvester and I returned to our bedroom.

I was wet and horny, but at the same time, I needed to tell him about Lily.

We entered the room, and he rushed at me, ready to take me. As much as I wasn't selfish, he had ignited a fire that needed attention, so I let him go to work on my body.

It was a passion-filled morning, and I confessed to all sorts of things.

He made me say something that I wouldn't have on a typical day while hitting the right spot; with his intoxicating scent and the love I felt in my heart, I could promise him the moon, which wasn't mine to give by the way, but I could hypothetically give it to him because he had taken me there and back and he knew it.

We lay on the bed tired, with my head against his chest. I kissed his chest, and he touched my back gently.

I thought of the few times I heard of him while I was in the east.

If anyone told me he would be the love of my life back then, I wouldn't believe them, but the funny part was there was no day that I judged or resented him. It helped me decide to come to the north, and I was glad I did.

“I need to talk to you about something,” I said, and he made both of us sit so he could look into my eyes. He looked worried, so I smiled at him to be calm.

“Are the women in the Harem allowed to have cell phones?” I asked him, and he froze.

“I can’t let them have cell phones, Tamia; that will defeat the purpose of keeping them in check. They can also betray the north and easily sell information that way,” he said, placing his hand on my cheek. He thought I wanted him to give them cell phones. It was cute.

“I know you are a kind woman, but please do not ask me to give them a phone. Please do not ask me to endanger the north.” He said, and I shook my head and kissed his hand on my cheek by turning towards it. I used my hand to gently hold his palm against my face and closed my eyes to relish the feeling.

“I need you to act rational and wisely about what I am about to tell you. Promise me you won’t lose your shit,” I said, and he looked confused.

“Last night, I decided to check on Avery in her wing, so I left barefoot, knowing my attempt to wear something on my feet would wake you up. While I walked down the hallways, I heard a voice. I hid behind the door to listen; it was Lily talking on a phone. She told someone that things were a bit tight and she couldn’t get something for the person and that the person should wait until during the all-region game when security is loose,” I said, and I saw rage rise in his eyes. Sylvester looked like he was about to kill someone, and I hoped it was nothing for Lily’s sake.

~Sylvester~

I could not believe what Tamia had just told me about Lily.

I was so mad that I knew Knight could emerge.

I looked at my mate, and she did not seem like she was joking.

From the look in her green eyes, it took a lot of effort for her to tell me what she had just divulged.

I raised my hand, patted her head gently, and then kissed her lips. It was more to calm myself down than to tell her I was okay.

I knew I needed to be calm to handle the matter.

Lily was a big problem. If she was betraying me, then I was in trouble because she knew of my investigations, and she was helping me with one of them.

What if she was giving out the information to someone else?

I had always suspected I couldn't trust her, but when she came, she was innocent-looking, and I thought I could have the younger sister I never had.

I revoked her privileges when I heard all the awful things she did to the women in the harem.

I did not want to jump to conclusions, but I wanted to get up and go and find out the truth.

I was about to get up when Tamia stopped me with her hand.

"I have not finished talking to you, darling. Please be calm. I hope there is a rational explanation for what I heard and saw," She said, and I searched her eyes, my soul pleading, hoping that whatever she

needed to tell me next would be easy to digest.

"Here goes," She said and sighed.

"After the incident with Lily, I bumped into your mother." She said, and I held my tongue. I did not want to say anything that would change the topic.

"She was crying, and she requested to speak to me immediately. Of course, I went to see Avery and then returned to your mother's room." She said and squeezed my arm.

"Your mother explained why she left the estate in a hurry that day Dominic was arrested, and what she went to do," she said.

"According to her, your father had a fated called Lady Alissa Pavlishchev," She continued, and I exclaimed. Tamia just nodded gradually and continued what she was saying.

"Your father accepted his fated and made your mother share. She did not have you then, and when the woman was pregnant, your mother left with Dominic. Things happened, and your mother was asked to return to care for

her. All the while, he tried to divorce your mother, but her family was too important for him to divorce her successfully, so he started conquering the council families and the west. He wanted to own the world and be powerful enough to overthrow the council and marry this woman. According to your mother, the woman was evil and did many mean things. Eventually, she died giving birth to her son. This was relieving to your mother, but that was the beginning of your father growing his harem and getting involved with the women in the harem. He only went for women of western descent because they reminded him of his fated. Your father realised the boy was an Alpha, so he tried to get your mother to take care of the baby, but she said no, so he sent the boy to be cared for. She got pregnant with you, and everything became rosy after she gave birth to you, and he discovered you were an Alpha too.” She said and searched my eyes for emotions, but I made sure there was nothing in them so she would have the confidence to tell me the rest.

“When your mother left, it wasn’t an act of defiance, but to find David Pavlishchev, your half-brother, because she believed he might be the culprit. He has so much to gain if anything happens to either of you,” she said, and I knew she was right.

“Did my mother tell you his last known location?” I asked, and she shook her head.

“Very well, I will handle it,” I said, and she smiled.

She laid down a bit, and I held her in bed until she fell asleep.

It was time to go to the only part of the mansion I never visit. The Harem. I linked Theodore to meet me there with two women from my staff.

I kept my anger under control and moved swiftly.

When I got to the common hall of the harem, the entire place was silent. I had never visited there since the women had been brought. The last I was there was when we were actively involved with the former women in the harem before I let all of them go.

Marcel, Theodore and I threw orgies there and partied all night long. Thinking of the life I led back then; I was ashamed of myself and grateful that Tamia

brought meaning and love back into my life because Susan left with everything, and I was nothing but an empty shell.

Most of the ladies were looking at me seductively, and I ignored them. My eyes searched and found Lily, who smiled at me.

I motioned her to come to me, and she approached eagerly.

“Take me to your bedroom,” I said, and I heard some women gasp. I knew what they were thinking, but I did not owe anyone any explanation.

We waited for Theodore to join us before leaving. I could see the giddiness in Lily’s eyes, and I remained silent.

“I hope Luna Tamia won’t be mad about this Alpha. I do not want to anger luna,” She said with a sly tone, and I wanted to hit her, but I controlled myself. If what Tamia said checked out, she would have betrayed me beyond repair. I was holding my temper.

“What is going on?” Theodore linked me.

“Be attentive,” was all I could manage, and he was silent.

We got to Lily’s room which she shared with two other girls, and I entered.

The room was beautifully furnished, and three beds were placed in it. Beside each bed was a vanity table. It looked like a luxurious hostel, which was the point, and Lilly stood with her head bowed.

I knew what she was thinking, and she began to undo her tunic to confirm my suspicion. I could feel her joy and expectation. I had never given her the sign that I wanted anything sensual with her, but I knew it was a fantasy in her head, and it almost cost me my relationship with Tamia.

“Keep your clothes on,” I ordered quietly. She looked confused but nodded.

“I am at your service, Alpha,” She said with her head bowed.

“Where is your bed?” I asked, and she eagerly pointed to the bed close to the wall. I linked the women that came with us to search through her things.

Lily became apprehensive immediately.

“What is going on, Alpha?” She said, looking worried.

“Hold her, Theodore,” I told my Gamma, and he did as I had said.

“Where is the phone, Lily?” I asked her and her eyes widened.

“Do not bother lying because people told me you have one. Where did you put it?” I asked her, and she bowed her head and began to sob.

“Where is it!” I yelled, feeling my anger bubbling to the surface at the realisation that there was indeed a phone and Tamia was right.

“Inside the mattress under my bed,” She confessed. The women lifted her mattress, and there the phone was.

They brought it to me, and it had no number and no messages, but the call log had an anonymous caller on it. The person was wise to hide their caller identity when calling.

“How did you get this?” I asked her calmly, and she sobbed. I tried to hold my temper because I knew I could kill her.

“What have you given them?” I asked her, and she continued to cry.

“Answer me!” I yelled with my authority, and she shook.

She struggled and broke away from Theodore and went on her knees.

“I am sorry, Alpha. I am sorry. They promised I would go home but threatened they would wipe my family out if I did not comply,” she said without answering my question.

“Do not test my patience, Lily. What did you give them, and who were you speaking to?” I asked her, and she began to sob.

“They did not give me a name. Sometimes it was a woman and sometimes a man,” She said, and I grabbed her neck and squeezed.

“What did you give them?” I asked, angry.

“Sylvester?” I heard Tamia’s voice in my head, and I cursed under my breath because I wasn’t expecting her to be awake.

“Sylvester?” I heard her voice again, and I released Lilly’s neck.

“Yes, darling, I am in Lily’s room; you are right,” I said, and she did not reply. I knew she was on her way.

“What did you give them?”

“Banking details, signatures, royal seals, envelopes, and I placed a backdoor on your computer to help them monitor what you were doing,” She said quickly, and I slapped her.

She fell to the ground. I was enraged.

Chapter 60 - The Destiny of a Heart-broken Luna

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