## **CHAPTER 43**

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43 Ava: Virgin Heat (III) I don't want to think. I nuzzle my nose into Clayton's neck and breathe him in, hearing Selene growling in the back of my head. "For what?" "For all of it. But for claiming you when you told me no." I can feel his hands brushing against my neck, and pleasure and pain course through me. I can still feel him in my head, but the presence is fading. He sounds puzzled. "It didn't take, though. Why didn't it take?" I shake my head. "I don't know." But I can guess it has something to do with me. Clayton continues to caress my neck. "This looks terrible. Like a wolf tore your neck apart. It looks like I tried to kill you." "Mmm." I'm tired, and trying to ignore the little flares of heat in my abdomen that are trying to come back. My body can't take another round of this. But I want one. "You were a virgin," Clayton continues. He's very talkative after s@x, I guess. 14:57 1/7 43 Ava: Virgin Heal (II) He sounds grim. I finally open one eye to look at him, and he looks furious. "I'm sorry?" "No, I'm sorry. Your first time should have never been like that." His fingers trail through the tangled strands, gently working out the knots. I can't help but lean into his touch, savoring the tenderness, the gentle affection. "I'm so sorry, Ava," he murmurs, his breath warm against my temple. "I never wanted to hurt you like this. I tried so hard to stay away and keep you safe." A pang of guilt twists in my chest at the remorse in his voice. I already know he never meant to hurt me. He did everything he could. "It's okay," I whisper through the roughness in my throat. "I understand." Clayton shakes his head, his fingers continuing their soothing motions. "No, it's not okay. Your first time should have been special, not a frenzied mess driven by instinct and heat." He presses a tender ki\*s to my forehead. "I promise, when this is all over, I'll make it up to you." A flickar of hana immitan within mo at his warda Tho 14:57 – 2/7 43 Ava: Virgin Heat (III) idea of experiencing true intimacy with Clayton, without the haze of heat and desperation clouding our senses, fills me with a longing I can't quite put into words. It's something I'd hoped to find with Lucas. "Just rest now, my love," he murmurs, his fingers trailing down my spine in a featherlight caress. "Let me take care of you." I can feel my heat creeping back into me, desperate for more. His tender affections feed it, and my starving soul. I can't help it when my hips grind down a little on his cock, embedded inside of me. "Clayton." "No, Ava. You need a break." "Clayton," I say again, rubbing harder. I can feel him growing inside of me. Did I say my body couldn't take another round? Because it disagrees. It wants another. A lot of anothers. "Clayton," I whisper into his ear, licking my way down his neck and breathing in his scent. It smells mate-y, in 14:57 43 Ava: Virgin Hoat (ill) a wrong way. I'm reminded of Lucas, and a part of me wants to pull myself away in horror. I've cheated on my fated mate. Another part of me doesn't care. Isn't okay to have this one as my mate? He's gentle and kind. And even if the mating bond didn't take, we can just try again. It's not cheating, Selene interjects. He rejected you. Your mate bond is void. Then why didn't Clayton's claim take? Selene goes silent again. I think she's giving me my privacy. Normally, I'd be frustrated and demand more answers, but I have other concerns on on my mind. I can see Clayton'

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s eyes flare with a hint of yellow. His wolf is there. His wolf must be the one that kept brutalizing my neck. It felt good, though. The pain had pushed me into another plane of pleasure. "Ava." "Mmm?" I nibble where his neck meets his shoulder, as his hands grow a little more insistent. "I came inside of you." 14:57 43 Ava: Virgin Heat (III) "I know." I was there, after all. His hands slide down, kneading my ass, lifting me a little and then slamming me back down, over and over, in an agonizingly slow rhythm. Just enough to build my desire without giving any real relief from it. This isn't enough. "My wolf is demanding that I breed you," he says, and every part of me shivers in delight. "Yes," I say, as Selene groans in my head. You don't want pups, Ava. I probably don't, but my brain and body are united in wanting Clayton to breed me right now. Thankfully, Clayton seems to be more in tune with himself than I am. "I'm so sorry," he whispers, leaning forward to brush his lips against my head. The ki\*s is chaste, in direct contrast to his wandering hands and gently rolling hips. "I promise, I'll take care of you and our pups. You won't want for anything." "Wait, wait-" the reality is starting to catch up to me, just a little. "There's no guarantee I'm pregnant. Right?" BUT 43 Ava: Virgin Hoat (II) "Well-" Well- I grind against him in frustration with his movements, even as I'm telling myself to stop. But I can't. "It's only a probability, right?" I hope I'm not. Shit. I don't even know what I'm going to do if I am. "Not if I can help it," he growls. Selene sighs in my head, but all my misgivings disappear as Clayton's movements become more frantic. His eyes are wild again, his nostrils flaring at my scent. His ki\*s is gentler than I expect, even as his fingers dig into my ass and hips. I know I'm going to be bruised all over by the time this is done. This tickles my brain for some reason. Injuries. Wait. Why am I not hurting from the accident? Oh, you are, Selene mutters. But you're too horny to care right now. Even if you get pregnant with an entire litter of pups! Clayton bites hard enough to draw blood from my lower lip, before suckling it away. "Stop thinking," he 6/7 43 Ava: Virgin Heat (III) orders me in a way that should have me annoyed. Instead, it goes straight down, down, down, right into my pussy as I clamp around him with a moan. The resulting sound that comes out of him does all sorts of things to my insides, and all his gentleness disappears as my heat rises to a fever pitch again. And again. And again. 66 Enjoy the chapters while they're still free- will be uploading several today since I don't want to keep waiting for the premium chapters to take effect!

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