

Chapter 724 Rita's Blood

Even though Cole was the fearsome Blaze Wraith—a name that commanded respect and fear across Delta—Elliana still couldn't stop worrying about him.

Sophie had been missing for fifteen years without a single trace, only to resurface now, right when Elliana was about to give birth. To Elliana, it felt too perfectly timed to be a coincidence. Someone had to be pulling the strings.

Back in Podgend, when Elliana and Cole found Victor, there had been hidden figures lurking in the shadows, watching Victor from afar. Elliana couldn't shake the thought that SerpentFang—the group that had taken Sophie—was among them. And now, this sudden kidnapping of Sophie, happening exactly as she was nearing labor... Could it all be a trap, meant to lure Cole away from her side?

Everything seemed connected, like a dangerous puzzle with pieces wrapped in secrets. But right now, there was nothing she could do except focus on staying calm and keeping her babies safe.

Elliana's thoughts drifted to Donovan. Five years ago, he had handed her the leadership of the Star Society, saying he wished to see the world. Then, just like that, he'd vanished.

At that time, everyone else had dismissed her as a "useless, ugly duckling," but Donovan had seen through her disguise. He had risked everything to sneak into the Jones estate, rescued her, trained her, and eventually entrusted her with his life's work—the Star Society.

Elliana felt every clue about Donovan pointed to a deeper connection with her mother... But what kind of bond was it? And when would he finally return to tell her the truth?

The thoughts tangled in her mind until they stirred a restlessness deep within her. The babies inside her seemed to sense it too, kicking and twisting as if sharing her unease.

Realizing this, Elliana closed her eyes and forced herself to breathe. Overthinking wouldn't help. For now, all that mattered was bringing her babies safely into the world.

Days slipped by after Cole's departure, with no word from him.

Elliana was staying at Bolvern Hospital, a quiet and luxurious medical retreat nestled on Bolvern Hill. It was far removed from the city's chaos, known for its calm and privacy, and usually reserved for the wealthy.

Cole had booked the entire facility and flown in his own team of doctors, making Elliana its only patient. Everyone there existed to serve and protect her.

Milton had even moved in, ready to be at her side day or night.

After Cole left, Elliana tried to keep her mind clear. She followed her routines, ate on time, took gentle walks in the garden, and waited patiently for labor to begin.

A whole week passed—and still, there was no word from Cole, no sign of contractions.

Then, one afternoon, a strange package arrived at the hospital, addressed to both Elliana and Milton. No one knew where it came from. A delivery worker had dropped it off and vanished without a trace.

Milton inspected it carefully for safety before opening it. Elliana watched closely, her heart beating faster with each second.

Inside the box was a small glass vial filled with red liquid—blood.

At the sight of it, Elliana's heart jolted violently. Panic surged through her chest, her breathing quickening despite her effort to stay calm. She knew she had to control herself or risk triggering labor too soon.

Her first thought was Cole. Had something bad happened to him? The fear hit her like a blow, stealing her breath.

When it came to the people one loved most, reason always lost to emotion.

Her stomach tightened in pain, and the babies reacted, moving restlessly

in distress.

"Elliana, stay calm," Milton said urgently, rushing to her side. "This is a trap. They want to shake you up, hoping something goes wrong before childbirth. Don't fall for it."

Acknowledging he was right, she took a deep breath and steadied herself. "There's a note. Open it."

Milton unfolded the paper. A single line was written neatly in small, precise letters. "This is Rita's blood."

Rita's blood? Elliana's and Milton's eyes met in alarm. Their gazes fell back to the vial, realization dawning on both faces. Whoever had sent this was plotting something big.

Milton let out a low, angry laugh. "It must be Maxine or Miguel. They're trying to mess with us—to cause chaos. I'm throwing this out right now!"

He reached for the vial, but Elliana stopped him, her tone firm. "No. Whatever their plot is, we can't act rashly. We need to test the blood first."

Without hesitation, she called for Levi and handed him the vial. She trusted no one else with it.

Levi worked quickly and returned three hours later, clutching the report in his hand.

When Levi entered her ward, he hesitated. His mouth opened, but no words came out.

The look on his face told Elliana everything. Something was terribly wrong. "Give me the report," she said, keeping her voice steady though her chest tightened.

But Levi held the papers close, refusing to hand them over. "Elliana... The results are... shocking. You need to prepare yourself. If you can't stay calm, you shouldn't read this."