

Chapter 27

DANIELLE

Aeliana is very quiet.

She hasn't given me a chance to actually know her or pay for her things. Alpha Kingston had given me his card to pay for her things, and I tried several times, but not once has she let me. Not even when I tried to purchase her a gift under the guise of gifting her a wedding present.

Shopping with her has been fun. She has great taste, and she's funny when she wants to be. I suggested we go for lunch after our last store, a wildly insightful lingerie store.

At lunch, she's telling me about her time in Clinshore. She's careful with her words, only giving me the boring stuff. At some point, I overstep and ask about her relationships, and she politely circles around it.

"How did you and Rowan meet?" she asks, picking at her plate. She doesn't appear interested, but she makes an effort at conversation.

"The academy," I say, the memory bringing a smile to my face. "I was visiting my brother, and I bumped into Rowan in their dorms. They were roommates, Him, Alpha Kingston, and my brother."

Aeliana nods, "He's a good man, congratulations. I always hoped he would find someone just as kind and patient, you two seem like an exce —" She gasps.

Our server just tripped and dropped my dessert in her lap. Aeliana rises, and the bowl falls to the floor, instantly breaking into pieces. "Oh, God," I whisper, scared of what could happen.

The server drops to her knees, "I'm sorry, – it was an accident."



"No problem," Aeliana says, her tone calm. "It's okay. It's fine."

"I'm so sorry, Luna Aeliana." The server begs, her voice trembling. Poor girl is shaking at the sight of Aeliana. She must have heard the rumour from the packhouse kitchen. "I-I..."

Aeliana sighs, squatting down. "Hey, it's okay," she tells her, calm still. "Don't touch that. You're going to get hurt. Don't okay?"

"Yes," she nods, sobbing now. "I'm sorry."

"It's fine. Just clean this up." Aeliana rises, "Carefully."

The server leaves, and Aeliana sits once again. I offer her a scarf that we just purchased and she takes it, wiping her leather dress clean.

"Wow, you handled that so well," I tell her, fairly impressed. Not many would be this calm, me included. I would have been angry even if I didn't show it but she didn't even get upset at all.

"It wasn't her fault," she says, dabbing herself clean. "Someone pushed her my way hoping to stain my clothes. At this rate, I will stop eating out."

"What?" I rise, "That's unacceptable, I will have a word with their—"

"Not worth it, Dani." She says, forcing a smile.

I nod, settling back into my seat. "You're being chill about this, weird considering..." I trail off on an unspoken thought.

"That I am mean?" She finishes for. "Lucifer's spawn? Hellish? Oh, I know," she laughs. "I've heard every insult under the sun."

I swallow, suddenly feeling bad that I accepted everyone's opinion about



her. I judged her without knowing, and looking at her now? I fear I might have been wrong. "That's not what I meant."

"It's okay, like I said. I've heard them all talk about me like that. I'm waiting for something new."

"You're funny."

"Sometimes," she says with a small smile.

"So, what did you do back in Clinshore?" I ask, trying to actually know more about her. "I don't know much about you since no one talks about you."

Aeliana frowns, "Sure they do, only the vile stuff."

"You're caught up," I nod. "Got spies here?"

"I wouldn't wish this pack on my enemy," she says, clicking her tongue.

"Come on, Mooncrest isn't so bad, and you're belittling your pack, it's shameful, Luna."