

Chapter 46

"Okay," I nod. "Then ask Chef Tanya to prepare a meal for your Luna, something of her tastes, and have it sent here before it gets cold. Tell her it is an order from the Alpha."

Lexie bows, "Right away, Alpha Kingston."

I wait.

Surely Chef Tanya won't refuse a direct order, at least I hope not. An hour late, I go outside the packhouse, pacing from the door to the gates under the pretext of taking a walk. I pace for over two hours and when I finally give up, one of the guards who patrols the Hartley lane shows up with a bag for me.

It's almost midnight, so I have someone wake Lexie and hope Aeliana is still awake. But from what I could see outside, her bedroom light was on which means nothing because she sleeps with the lights on. 1

Lexie plates the meal and rushes to Aeliana's bedroom, I try to walk slowly, but I find myself pacing faster than her. At her door, Lexie pauses, her hands full. I reach forward and knock. "Luna Aeilana?" She calls while I knock twice more. "Luna Aeilana."

I'm about to knock a third time when the door opens, my fist almost knocks her forehead but I pull back. Aeliana pauses, she doesn't appear to have been sleeping but her eyes are puffy and she is very upset. "Lexie, you're getting on my bad side." She says with a frustrated grunt.

"I'm sorry Luna, I—"

"I made her," I say. The poor girl looks scared yet again, and from what I've heard they get on well, I don't intend on ruining that. "I knew you wouldn't open the door had you known it was me."

"I wonder why," she says, glaring at me. Even angry, she sounds

mellifluous.

"I'm sorry about earlier, I didn't mean to hit you. It'll never happen again."

She nods, "Apology denied, and it would be in your best interests to never lay a finger on me because I'm not above court cases and a very public messy divorce."

I nod, stepping forward, she takes a step back so I use the opportunity to get inside. "Lexie, bring the food in."

"I didn't ask for food, or you in my room. Please remove both, Alpha Kingston."

Alpha Kingston.

That stings more than it should. Lexie enters and sets the tray on her bed as she must often do. "I came to eat."

"Here?" She frowns.

"Yes, I want to have a meal with my wife. Lexie, please leave us."

She doesn't, the girl stands right beside Aeliana. "Did you not hear me?"

"I'm to take orders from Luna Aeliana," she says.

My gaze shifts between them, Aeliana appears clueless too. "I'm your Alpha."

"Yes," she nods. "And if Luna Aeliana isn't present I am to obey you as well, like earlier when you asked me to arrange for the meal but you two are here together so that means I should take her order." She says. "I'm sorry Alpha, Luna Estelle trained me to do so."

Unbelievable.



I turn to Aeliana, and her lips curve into a small smile. "You may go, Lexie."

"Thank you, Luna." She bows, finally leaving.

"That's unusual," I mumble to myself.

"So is your presence in my room," Aeliana counters. "Haha, haha, haha, ha." She says, sounding each H a little too hard. 1

"What are you doing?"

"I'm done laughing at the invisible joke this is supposed to be, now please leave."

"I'm not leaving until I eat," I tell her, hoping she joins me.

"Suit yourself," she shrugs, arms crossed over her chest.

"You have to eat with me," I say, sitting at the edge of her bed. "Sit."

She doesn't respond, she turns, checking under her pillows, and sheets. "What are you doing?"

"Hold on, I think I've almost found it."

"Found what?"

"Whatever it is that you're talking to that way, you must have seen a pet cockroach or spider somewhere." She says, still searching.

"Aeilana," She pauses, giving me a what look. She is dead serious too. I guess I have to watch my mouth around her. "Luna Aeliana, would you please take a seat, and eat with me?"

She straightens, "Good boy."

Good boy?



It should offend me but it does the opposite, it actually excites me. 2

"Before I sit with you, please don't come to my room uninvited." She stares, "This is my space, I don't want you ruining it with your stench."

Stench?

"You know what, I tried to do something nice for you and you repay me by calling me musty? Why would you say I stink?"

She frowns, "Because you do."

And there it is, all my efforts wasted. I shouldn't have tried. I don't know if saying I stink is some joke, but I don't find it funny at all. I rise, "Hope you enjoy it."

"You're leaving?"

"Yes!" I snap, already halfway out the door and you know what she does? She laughs. Fucking laughs.



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