

Chapter 49

"I don't want this marriage."

She reaches forward and takes my ear between her fingers, "Silly girl." She tsks, twisting and squeezing. "Don't you see how good things are? You are living like a princess and I'm living like I birthed a princess, don't ruin this for me, Aeilana Hartley." She warns, letting go of my ear. "Not just me, but your father, your brother.. and your sisters haven't enjoyed any benefits yet, think of Sera. She hasn't even arrived yet."

I couldn't care less about Seraphine and her enjoying the benefits of being the Luna's sister. I haven't enjoyed anything as Luna, I got slapped yesterday for fucks sake. "He doesn't want me, Mom. What do you suppose I do?"

"Wasn't I clear?" She leans in once again. I drop my head on the table, muttering prayers to any God out there who hates embarrassing moments like these. "Liana, look at me. You need to spread your legs, coax him with your pheromones and—"

My head lifts, my gaze immediately catching Luna Estelle approaching and I gasp. "Luna Estelle."

"Luna," Mom swallows. "We were just—"

"Carry on," she waves her off, pulling out a seat for herself. "You are giving her great advice."

I pause, "You too?"

"Yes," she nods, flipping her hair over her shoulder. God, what is happening right now? Am I hallucinating because this is terribly alarming. "Do you think I want an illegitimate grandchild? Of course not

dear, but you're being too slow for my liking." She heavily sighs. "Pandora, do you know? I come here often, and in all my days around this house," she pauses, her eyes shifting to me. "Not once have I scented you on your husband. It's been worrying me."

"Wow," I whisper to myself, genuinely confused by the situation. I had an inkling Mom was bothering Luna Estelle during their hangouts but they're agreeing? Could Kingston and my marriage be their topic of conversation and bonding?

"As I was saying.." Mom begins again.

"Yes, sleep with him." I nod, I heard that. "Thank you, this conversation is uncomfortable and awkward, I would like to move past it."

"Daughter," Luna Estelle coos.

"Please, Luna Es — mom." I correct myself, "Please don't torture me with discussions about my sex life. It's very inappropriate."

"Liana baby, we're just trying to help."

"She's going to be fine, Pandora." Luna Estelle laughs, relaxing in her seat. She's a fast learner, did you see her just now? She called me mom because I told her to do so last time I was here."

"Yes." I nod.

Thankfully, Mom doesn't press further. It births an uncomfortable silence where she stares at me and I stare at her but it is still better than discussing how I need to spread my legs and use my pussy to trap Kingston. Which I will not.

"Oh, there's your husband now," Luna Estelle says. My gaze shifts,

Kingston is walking towards his car with Audrey. "Alpha Kingston," Luna Estelle calls to him. "Hi!"

Mom snarls, "And there's the Leech you need to remove from him."

Leech? I gasp.

The girl whom she has regarded as a daughter for years? "Mom, I thought you loved Audrey."

"I still do," she smiles, waving when Audrey does. "But you're my daughter, I have to put your best interest first."

"Oh, Pandora," Luna Estelle smiles, waving at Audrey. "You're amazing."

I shake my head, this is not a duo I expected, this might be the only thing they have in common. I try not to stare as Kingston approaches us, leaving Audrey to walk to the car alone but she smiles still, how could she not? There's an audience.

"Mrs Hartley, hello." He greets, pausing at a safe distance, right beside his mom. "What brings you here?"

"Nothing, your mother and I were simply passing by and thought we should say hi to you all."

"Oh, thank you," he nods. "That's very thoughtful."

Luna Estelle looks up at him, "Are you going somewhere, son?"

"Yes, I have a pending engagement."

"Oh, don't let us keep you, Alpha Kingston." Mom promptly says. "



Please, go ahead."

He nods, "It was lovely seeing you, Mrs Hartley, Mom.." he trails off, turning without sparing me a second glance. This is normal for me, but the newfound bestie duo at the table don't seem to be okay with it. If I didn't know better I would think they were playing Cupid.

"Wait," His mom says, grabbing him by the shirt.

Kingston pauses, looking down at her with confusion. "Yes?"

"You didn't say goodbye to your wife."

Oh goddess, open the ground and swallow me whole. This is more embarrassing than them talking about my pussy, at least then, Kingston was not available.

His eyes meet mine. "Goodbye, wife."

"Wife?" Luna Estelle winces, her face twisting with genuine disgust. "Whose son are you?"

"Huh?"

"Your father has several pet names for me, all of them sweet."

"Even Gamma Hartley has a petname for me," Mom says.

Luna Estelle hums in approval, I dare down at my pencils. "It's expected of one's husband," she tells him. "Why would you call her wife like she were a stranger you just met?"

"We might as well be strangers," he grumbles.

"I like wife," I swallow. "It's nice, and fun. Right, husband?"



"Right," he nods. "I should get going." He says, trying to leave again but Luna Estelle has her hand fisted in his shirt.

"Kingston," she coos.

"Yes, mom?" He lets out a frustrated grunt. "What is it this time?"

"You are leaving?"

"Trying to," he sighs.

"But you haven't kissed your wife goodbye."

"He doesn't have to," I blurt out. I've been humiliated enough for one day. "He isn't going off to war."

Luna Estelle tsks, "You both are an odd pair, what Newlyweds don't kiss?" She frowns, "I don't think I've seen you kiss since the wedding. A kiss here and there is necessary for a growing relationship."

"You're right, Luna Estelle." Mom nods.

He sighs, says something underneath his breath and moves towards me. I look up at him and he squats beside me, my heart jumps into my throat. The moment his hand touches my face I melt into it, his lips crush onto mine in a swift, furious kiss that ruins my panties. When he pulls away, his gaze holds mine, as if searching for something. "Goodbye, wife." He says, turning to his mom. "Can I go now?" 4

"I don't know," she smiles, his gaze shifting to me. "Can he, Luna Aeilana?"

"Yes." I swallow, my voice suddenly small.

