

205 205- Afraid Of My Future

Tina: 1

Why didn't I realize that she was just so stupid? 1

"You've got to be kidding me," I snapped through the mindlink, "You think I care about that stupid title right now?"

I wish I could block the mindlink because now she was getting on my nerves.

"Then you tell me. Why aren't you helping me?" she shot back, and I could hear accusation in her voice, "You're supposed to be on my side, Tina! Tell Sebastian **right now** that he can't lock me up like a criminal! Whatever I did, it was because of you and him."

"Because of me?" I left the bed in anger, "Don't pin this on me, Tamia. You were supposed to be sensible. Who asked you to attack that bitch blindly?" I realized I was now shouting.

All the pent-up anger was coming out.

"Don't say that!" she barked, her rage was spilling like fire, "I know why you're doing this. You want to rule the kingdom all alone. That's why you sidelined me."

Was she...

Why was she uttering such nonsense?

I gritted my teeth to control my rage, "Stop this nonsense, Tania. You have no idea what I'm dealing with right now."

"Wow! What are you dealing with?" she sneered, "Right now you must be sitting in your comfortable bed while I'm stuck here like a prisoner."

My gaze fell on my reflection while looking at the mirror that was mounted on the wall, and I was horrified to find one or two tiny holes near my jaw.

I could feel my heart sinking.

What was happening?

Were the worms eating it up?

Whom should I call for help?

What if the witch couldn't reverse it?

Oh, Goddess! What happened to my face overnight?

"Are you even listening, or have you turned deaf?" Tamia's roar was now messing with my head.

My hands clenched so tight my nails dug into my palms, "You have no idea what I'm going through, lady!" I tried to control my teary voice, "So just...

Shut up!"

"You are a disappointment, Tina and I..."

She was barking more when I decided to close the mindlink abruptly and sighed. Oh, Goddess. I didn't want to stay here anymore.

I didn't want the throne. I had no desire to marry Sebastian.

I just wanted my face back.

Sebastian King might be worthy of my attention and love. But at the cost of my beauty? 1

Never!

I plopped on the bed and buried my face in my hands. My body was trembling as silent sobs escaped my mouth.

The shame, the anger, the fear.

I couldn't fight it anymore.

For the first time, I felt helpless. Ironically, I didn't have any friends whom I could confide in.

I didn't know how long I kept crying, but then I raised my face when a knock came at the door.

I wiped my eyes quickly and sat up.

Father?

Hope flickered in my chest.



But when the door opened, it wasn't him.

It was *her*!

Phoenix Black.

She stepped inside with the same arrogance that was part of her personality. Her presence always made my blood boil.

Her eyes scanned the room, taking in the messiness before landing on me. The crinkle around her eyes told me the bitch was smiling.

"Hello, Tina," She said in a sweet mocking tone,
"How are you?"

Fury made me choke on my breath, "Are you here to ask me *that*?" I slowly got up from the bed, "What the hell are you doing here?"

"Relax!" she closed the door behind her and then shrugged, "I'm sorry... I have to close the door, or the whole palace might die of the foul smell. Hehe."

Look who's talking! Has she forgotten that she looks the same behind that mask?

I wish I could break her teeth.

My hand curled into fists, "Get out before I forget that you're King's favorite wh*ore."

She tilted her head, her eyes still creased due to the constant smile, "Come on," she almost sang

the words, "Don't be so dramatic. I'm not here to fight."

"Then why are you here?" I snapped.

I wish I could transform into my wolf and kill her. But that meant to take another sin... another crime in my name. First, I needed to treat my face. 1

She was carefully observing me, and then suddenly she started walking towards me, "To give you something that always belonged to you."

Belonged to me?

I frowned, "What nonsense are you..."

She reached into her pocket and pulled out a small pack, "Here it is," there was a teasing glint in her eyes.

It was a small gift, wrapped in a colorful, glossy gift sheet. I held it with uncertainty and looked into her eyes, trying to decide if she was using some sort of trick on me.

If she was setting a trap for me.

"Go ahead," she said softly, "Open it."

"What if a frog jumps out of it?" My wolf said in fear, and I wanted to hit her in the head. Was she seriously scared of a frog?

Was she forgetting that we had Alpha blood in

our veins?

With a deep breath, I tore the wrapping slowly, which revealed a small velvet box, ideal for placing a watch or a bracelet.

Was she gifting me a bracelet?

I raised my eyes to watch her for a moment and then flipped the lid open.

For a second, my mind went blank. I felt the air leaving my lungs.

What the...

Against the black velvet lay a black mask. A similar kind of mask that she used to wear.

I looked up at Phoenix. The light in her eyes was dancing with mock amusement.

"See. How thoughtful I was," she chuckled, "Hope you like it," she raised her one shoulder.

I felt my throat tightening. What did she think of me?

I was not some stray she-wolf. I was the daughter of an alpha, and my powerful father would never give up on me.

"How dare..."

She raised her hand and shook her head, "Don't thank me, Tina," she cut in, "You gave me pain once... I'm only returning the favour."

I gave her pain?

Returning the favor?

Was she drunk? 1

I wasn't aware when she decided to turn and leave my room. The mask I was holding seemed to be made of fire.

"Seems like you will be the future Phoenix of the palace," My wolf said mockingly.

"Shut up!" I tried to be angry at her, but I couldn't. My voice was choked by my tears.

My hands were shaking, and for the first time in my life, I was truly afraid of my future.

What if my father couldn't fix it?