

## 31 31- You're Safe

Aurora/Phoenix: 1

"Kiara is so lucky!" A newly turned eighteen-year-old she-wolf said behind me, "With all her skills and this beauty, I'm sure she will steal King Sebastian's heart."

The memories of the palace always brought a different kind of pain. After I faced rejection by my family, those Lycan women snatched my self-respect and my honor.

Everyone here thought my hair got burned in the fire, and thankfully, they never asked for any explanation.

*Why were they still discussing the king?*

I eyed Kiara, who was busy partying and drinking with her friends. Luna Raya was also swaying her hips with the music, but she was at least decent.

Kiara threw this party at a club to celebrate her achievement. Alpha Blake was invited too and was expected to give a short speech.

"I agree," The she-wolf's friend responded, "I heard Luna Raya talking to her. She assured her

that she would talk to her friend Tina Gomez, who is a very good friend of hers and is also King Sebastian's fiancée.

*What?*

I thought I heard them wrong and turned my head to look at them, but they had walked away. Luna Raya was a friend of that evil woman?

My eyes traveled back to Luna Raya, who reached for Kiara and hugged her.

Now I understood why Alpha Blake was so sure about the King's visit. It was because of this friendship.

How would I hide myself from the King?

Even if King Sebastian couldn't recognize me, Luna Tamia and Tina might have a fit if they found out their slave was alive.

*What if they drag me back to the palace?* I shuddered at the thought.

Urgh!

"Hey se\*xy warrior! You, ok?" someone slung an arm around my shoulders and tugged me close.

*Jai.*

The only one who fought with Alpha Blake for not considering me for the head warrior position. If I hadn't intervened, he might have killed him.

He was the only one who didn't even congratulate Kiara.

Jai cocked his head, studying me with quiet interest, "You look stressed, se\*xy warrior. What's going on?" he guided me to a table where we both sat down. A waiter brought us juice, and we both reached out for our glasses.

"What are you worried about?" he asked me before taking a sip. His eyes raked over me above the glass.

I shook my head, and my eyes darted back to the girls who were at some distance, flirting with the bartender. Jai followed my gaze and then got curious.

"Did they bully you? Should I teach them a lesson?"

"What? No!" I punched his ribs playfully. He was serious and kept looking at my face. It was hard to hide myself from him.

"Okay," I gave up with a sigh, "they were

discussing about Royals' visit and in all honesty, I'm not comfortable with it."

When he didn't speak, I sighed again. I never told him about my past. Nobody knew I didn't belong to the Crimson Claw pack.

"Call it intuition," I raised my shoulder casually, "I'm not a fan of royals... It's nothing personal," I explained to him hurriedly, "But to be frank, I guess I'm happy that they didn't make me the head warrior."

"And why is that?" he sounded disappointed.

"I told you. If being ahead warrior means to serve the Royals, then I'm out," I threw my hands up in the air.

"And you think you will be expected to serve the Royals without your consent?"

I didn't mean to offend him, but right now he sounded like William, my brother, who was always there when I used to cry or complain to him about something.

"Phoenix. Why do I feel that you are hiding something... something I should know?" When I stayed quiet, he held my hand that was placed on the table, "I don't want to pressure you, and I'm

all for giving space, but is there something you are not telling me?"

I turned my hand upwards and held his hand to squeeze it. With a tight-lipped smile, I left his hand and started observing my surroundings. At the same time, I tried to swallow the lump in my throat.

In this pack, he was the only one who could notice that something wasn't right with me, just by looking into my eyes above the mask.

"Take more time if you want," he said gently, "But don't let it pent up inside you, sexy warrior," he finished with a wink, and I nodded at him.

Holding hands, we were looking into each other's eyes when I heard Beta Brian's whisper, "Hey, love birds," he was standing close by with warning evident in his voice, "Alpha Blake is busy making a speech, and look at you two. Behave yourselves!"

Jai and I straightened up, trying to avoid eye contact with each other. Brian just scolded us like a teacher, and we were behaving like two teenage kids who were busy talking instead of listening to their teacher.

But I guess Brian wasn't the only one who

noticed it. Luna Raya was also looking at me as if she wanted to kill me.

*What? Can't I hold my best friend's hand?*

Just to make her burn with jealousy, I moved closer to Jai and whispered near his ear, "Should we dance after his boring speech?"

Jai chuckled with a nod, and I laughed, "I don't know why he's fond of delivering speeches. He's such a bummer."

Luna Raya's eyes were glinting dangerously with rage. Maybe she thought every man should focus on no other woman but her.

*Good luck with that, lady. Because this dude is mine.*

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"Did you use that vibrator?" Jai asked me, walking me back to the warrior's block. That itch was back in my palms.

Is it the same healing power?

"I'm asking you something," he nudged his elbow softly against my arm.

I rolled my eyes before responding to him, "Ah, yes. Thank you. You're a sweetheart," I lifted

myself on my toes to kiss his cheek.

"Wow," he placed his hand on his cheek with a dreamy look, "The vibrator must have worked to let me earn this kiss on the cheek."

"Hehe. Maybe..." I glanced at the main door and stopped him from entering it, "Go back to your building, Jai," This time, I couldn't take the risk of taking him with me to the room.

That was where he was attacked last time.

"That's not happening, warrior," he pushed open the door and let me pass through it, "We both know... that attack was on you, not me."

Most of the residents were still out, busy at Kiara's party, so we had the building pretty much to ourselves.

"I'm not putting your life in danger, Jai. If the attack was on me, then let them try it again."

"Except they won't try it again," he was quick enough to turn around and eye me with that gentle expression, "Because she is busy partying."

I cocked up a brow and placed my hand in my denim pants, "She?"

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He nodded with a smirk, "Yeah. Don't forget, I have got my wolf and can easily smell the scents of our pack members. He then leaned forward to kiss my cheek, "Kiara has gotten what she wanted. Now you're safe, buddy." 1

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