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Phoenix: 1

Luna Raya was watching me carefully, and it was too hard not to let my emotions show on my face.

I didn't want to be hopeful about something that would give me disappointment in the end. Still, a part of me wished that she was telling the truth.

"Didn't you know it was a curse?" she asked me.

"How can you say that?" I leaned ahead and placed my palms on her desk, "Nobody ever told me that it was a curse. It was supposed to be a medical condition," She didn't respond to my question and took some time.

"Strange," she looked at the ceiling and closed her eyes with a sarcastic smirk, "Jai is treating you, and he never told you that a medicine might not be able to cure it?" 1

Oh. So she wanted to poison my heart against Jai. Good move, Raya.

But my secret happiness was short-lived. She opened her eyes and clicked her tongue inside her cheek, "If you don't believe me, why don't you go to a trustworthy witch. Our pack's witch left quietly one night, without giving us any





reason. We usually go to neighboring pack witches."

I stared hard at her face and found nothing but sincerity. Still ...

I wasn't a fool to trust her. Just yesterday, she discarded me like I meant nothing. And now, if she was suddenly trying to act like a well-wisher, then she was either hiding something, or she thought I was too naïve to see through her game.

However, I made it a point to go see a witch. Someone neutral. Someone who couldn't trick me.

I shuddered at all the thoughts and sat back in my seat, "Umm... about Kiara..."

"Don't worry about her," she told me softly and started reading something on her laptop screen, "You're safe."

"I know I'm safe, Luna Raya," I said without hesitation, "It's something else that's bothering me, and I think you should know."

This time, she did give me the attention I wanted.

Jai stayed on my mind for the whole evening. I didn't want to trust Luna Raya, but the way Jai



was behaving after my return was really odd.

Or maybe I started noticing it recently.

If his bond with Luna Raya was nothing, then why did he never mention it to me? Why did he never tell me that my face didn't need medical assistance? An expert witch could come up with something to break the curse.

As it was getting darker, I didn't bother to change into my sleeping attire, nor did I remove my mask. I smiled to myself when I heard a slight tapping on my window.

"Here you are," I held the window for him and then closed it after he had jumped into my room, "As a king, don't you have any duties towards your kingdom?" I turned to the wall to give him some privacy, "How conveniently you leave that official tour and pay me this night visit as if I'm your girlfriend."

He rounded me and stood in front of me. Thank Goddess, he was wearing his shorts now.

Still, his muscular body was enough to make my insides squirm.

"Did you miss me?" he asked me quietly, and I saw something flashing in his eyes.

Longing.

I shifted my gaze, not able to look into his golden



ones anymore.

"I... I... was thinking... about you," I finished awkwardly.

"Look at me when you say this," his hand gripped my chin gently and forced me to look up.

Suddenly, it was too warm in here.

"I said, look at me," he whispered softly.

"I... I think I am..." I whispered back and tried to laugh it off.

His eyes held mine, and I felt nervousness attacking my senses.

"I need to kiss you, Phoenix," he murmured, his thumb tracing the edge of my mask. The mere touch was enough to make my inner thighs clench tighter.

I had just turned twenty-one and was still a virgin. No one ever touched me. My vibrator was the only one that stayed there to satisfy me.

He was the first man who wanted me. Who never seemed to have any problem with my mask.

Mask!

My eyes flew open.

He didn't know how scary I looked. Just like a zombie.



"Y... You're insane," I said weakly.

"I know," he smiled, then leaned down slowly and carefully, waiting for a reaction from me. At this point, I didn't know what to say... or what to do. Because this man was asking for my consent.

I swallowed hard, mentally getting ready to get rejected by him. After all, I was used to all those rejections.

But why did it hurt like this if I was used to it?

He waited, and when I couldn't hold his gaze, I closed my eyes. I knew what it meant. It meant I had consented to it.

I felt his lips pressing against my jaw, right where the mask ended. A simple touch of his soft lips sent shivers down my spine.

What would I do if he decided to make love to me someday?

Not able to control it, my hands found his naked chest for support.

"Phoenix," I opened my eyes when I felt his hot breath against my face, "I want to take it further if you're ready to offer me..."

I thought I heard him wrong. What was he saying?

"Sebastian..."



"If this is all you can give me right now, I'll take it. I'll wait for more until you are ready."

His words melted something inside me.

I let my forehead rest against his bare chest and let out a shaky sigh, "I ... I don't know what you're doing to me."

At last, I admitted a fraction of my feelings.

Oh Goddess. Please don't let him hurt me. If he is same as Mateo, then please remove him from my life.

"And I don't know what you are doing to my Lycan," his arms wrapped around my waist, pulling me gently into him, "It wants you."

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