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Phoenix 1

"Your moves are ... on some next level," I heard Jai saying behind me when I was performing some stunts in the same part of the forest that now seemed like a friend to me.

I didn't respond to his praise. Very slowly, I was losing Jai, and I didn't even know what I had done.

The fact that I met a witch who treated my face was too much for him to bear. He had limited the interaction, and to be honest, it hurts.

Though there was nothing new in this for me. Usually, People showered me with love and their undivided attention, but later used to ditch me easily.

As if I were not a living thing but a piece of trash that they could discard so effortlessly.

He was my best friend for two years, who accepted me the way I was. With the same face that was full of worms.

But now, when I wanted to spread my wings and was looking for a witch to treat me, he was having a problem with it.

He could not digest the fact that Sebastian was

sleeping with me, though he wasn't. We were just sleeping beside each other, just like Jai and I used to do. The only difference was that with time, it was turning into a more romantic type.

The one where you feel giddiness whenever you bump into your crush or your fingers brush...

Jai stepped closer, "Your kicks..." he pointed towards my legs, "They are strong, but you need to focus on the height of your spin."

I wasn't sure if I should say thanks to him.

"Here," he said, stopping in front of me, "Loosen your core, keep your shoulders straight.... And try it like this."

He did a clean spin kick, landing lightly on his feet.

Yeah. It was a nice way to remind me that he used to be a warrior.

"Okay," I said drily.

He huffed a laugh, "Okay? You don't wanna admit it, but being a doctor, my moves are better than yours."

"Oh, please," I rolled my eyes, "My kicks can roll you flat!"

"Oh, yeah?" he smirked, "Show me then."

Just for a moment, it felt like we were still living in old times. When he used to talk to me about every other stuff endlessly.

"Coffee?" he placed his hands in his pockets, and I shrugged.

"Sure,"

He was never this difficult to be with. Then what went wrong?

We were walking by the backyard of the packhouse when we noticed laborers working there.

They were mounting walls made of steel sheets. A warning was also written on those sheets in bold letters.

STAY AWAY FROM THESE WALLS.

I shot Jai a confused look, "What is going on here? Do you know anything about this?" he shrugged as if he also didn't have a clue.

"Let's go for coffee!" he nudged his index finger into my shoulder, "I need to be at the hospital within an hour."

"Excuse me," I said to a worker who was hammering the sheet, "Can you tell me what's going on?"

He raised his sweaty face and wiped it with the back of his hand.

"Alpha Blake asked me to do it," he then placed aside a large sheet, "The king's orders, I guess."

"King's orders?" I whispered and watched Jai, who had started walking towards the exit gate. I was about to go after him when my phone started ringing.

There was an ID by the name of **SK-your man** flashing on the screen. It also had a heart emoji next to it. I never saved anyone's contact details by the name of **SK-your man**.

"Hello?" I asked, baffled, "Who is this?" 1

A familiar voice chuckled, "How many SKs do you know, Kitten?"

"Oh, fu*ck!" I swore loudly, which made Jai stop in his tracks. While on the other end, Sebastian's laughter rang.

"You messed with my phone?" I hissed, half annoyed, "That's personal. Don't you know that?" I wanted to be stern, but he sounded so happy and so relaxed.

"Yeah. Thank your stars I didn't save it by the name 'Darling' or 'Honey' ... umm or ... 'Love of my life'."

"Stop it!" I was horrified by his shameless

suggestions, "Geez.

I suddenly remembered something.

Beta Hunter did mention once that Sebastian bought a Phone for himself so that he could talk to me. At that time, I thought he was just making it up.

Jai continued walking ahead slowly, and I was aware he could hear every word of our convo.

"What are you doing?" I asked him casually, trying to sound unaffected.

"Just some paperwork... for an upcoming meeting..." he sighed into the phone, and I could almost picture him leaning back in his seat, "You?"

"Nothing. Just going to grab some coffee. By the way," I remembered what the worker told me, "Did you order to mount those walls in the backyard? Why?"

"You saw them?" His voice had a darkness to it, low and magnetic... the kind that made people shiver without knowing why.

"Yeah. I live here. Remember?"

"Really?" he teased, "I thought you lived in the trees."

"Shut up and tell me," I whispered into the phone. Saying such rude words to your king so openly wasn't wise.

"I asked them to construct it," he said after a pause, "because daily... every night, Romeo visits his Juliet. A few days back, someone saw him climbing her window. So, I asked everyone to stay away from those walls. No one is allowed to be near those walls. No one is allowed to watch him as he meets his Juliet. Unless she approves... and wants to tell the world. Whenever she is ready..."

He kept speaking into the phone, but now I was no longer moving.

My feet had frozen to the spot.

He did it...

He did it just to meet me?

But why was he going through so much trouble just to talk to me?

Tears welled up in my eyes. I had almost forgotten that he was still on the line.

"Phoenix?" Jai had returned when he saw me standing still, "Are you alright?"

I nodded quickly, wiping my face. Sebastian's voice came through the phone, "You there, Kitten?"

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Without answering him, I cut the call.

"Phoenix," Concern was written all over Jai's face.

"Jai!" I was in a daze, "Why can't people value you when you're with them? They only make efforts for you when you slip away from them."

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