

99 99- Moon Goddess' Favorite.

Sebastian: 1

Damn. It was not possible to look at her and *not* squeeze her into my arms and kiss her senselessly.

The *don't-mess-with-me* look she gave me earlier, that alone was enough to make me laugh. However, the way her eyes kept darting to the corner of the room made me confused.

Was she trying to piss Kiara?

Not that I minded it. The head warrior didn't know how to deliver a decent presentation. To me, she was more like a spoiled brat of this pack – good with swords, sure, but with zero filter and not even a dash of brain. 1

When the presentation got over, I leaned back in my chair and let the silence stretch just a second longer than needed.

"Like all other candidates," I started, "From our allied packs, you should be ready to be challenged for your position."

That wiped the smirk off her face.

A flicker of disbelief could be seen in her eyes, "Challenged? With all due respect, Your Highness, no one in our pack can even stand

next to me in terms of skills. I **am the best.**"

She was nothing but an arrogant bitch.

Before she could open that loud mouth again, I let my Alpha aura rise... just enough to silence the room.

It hit her first.

Her body stiffened, lips parted like she wanted to say something, but no sound came out.

Good.

I gave her a cold stare. The kind that made people drop their shit.

"Watch your tone, warrior," I warned her in a low voice that was laced with iciness, "Don't forget who you're talking to."

The edge in my voice might have made her bones rattle because my words landed like a slap across her face. I let my aura loose a little more.

She gulped hard in fear, and I found it funny.

"I... your highness," she quickly bared her neck to show submission. She could feel it now. The weight of my aura was pressing against her chest, making it harder to breathe.

And she knew it.

Everyone seated there knew that she had crossed the line.

My Lycan stirred a little. It didn't like being challenged. It moved forward from inside me like a shadow.

The head warrior fell on her knees, and after that, everyone around us started falling on the floor and knelt before me.

Including the pack Alpha and Beta. And Hunter, too.

Everyone accept *her*.

Phoenix!

For some reason, my Lycan's aura wasn't working on Phoenix.

I could hear my Granma and Tina whimpering in pain behind me, but it didn't affect my beast.

"Y...Your highness..." Alpha Blake managed in between his labored breaths, "Please, forgive... her... she'll be... she'll be careful in the future."

There was a bead of sweat on his forehead that slid down his temple, but he didn't dare to move his hand to wipe it.

I closed my eyes and then inhaled sharply before standing up from my seat slowly, "If you're an Alpha," I could feel my voice cutting through the air, as I started looking at their bowed heads, "Or a Beta, or a head warrior... If you think being the best gives you the right to treat your subjects as

some kind of insects, then I'm sorry. You don't deserve the position!"

And then finally, I lifted off my aura, and it hit the room like a crashing wave.

Chairs creaked, shoulders dropped, and breathing resumed. Kiara nearly stumbled. There were sighs of relief in the room.

I let my gaze pass over each of them one by one... until it landed on her.

Phoenix!

She had shock on her face and confusion, too. The weight that everyone felt in the room, she stayed unaffected by it.

"Ask Phoenix to stay back," I commanded Hunter through the mindlink when everyone got up to leave the room after the meeting.

"My King. It's not appropriate," Hunter said, glancing at Alpha Blake, who was waiting for Phoenix to walk with him.

Asking her to stay back might invite more scandals, and she didn't want that.

"I need to talk to her about the woman she saw," Phoenix was walking ahead without a backward glance.

"Maybe later?" Hunter suggested. The door was about to be closed behind them when I hurriedly called her name.

"Phoenix!"

She stopped but didn't turn around.

"I need to ask you a few questions about this woman, you said..." She slowly moved her head to look over her shoulder, but didn't turn around.

"Not today, Your Highness," she said in a sweet voice, looking ahead, "Not tonight. Maybe tomorrow...or day after tomorrow."

Not today. Not tonight?

She was not only brushing me off but was also asking me silently not to visit her at night.

"No! Please!" My Lycan became restless at the thought of staying away from her. It sent a growl curling up my throat.

I clenched my jaw, trying to control it.

The door got closed after everyone left except Hunter and me. My eyes were still fixed on the door through which she had walked out.

I got up from my seat and walked across the room until I reached the windows. I slipped my hands into my pockets and stood still, staring outside.

With a frown, I turned slightly, not bothering to look back, "Amora, show yourself."

The command echoed through the room, making Hunter surprised. He flinched, his eyes darting towards the empty sofa, "Sebastian...?"

And then...

She appeared.

Right there. Sitting gracefully on the sofa where Phoenix saw her.

Hunter took a step back, his eyes widened, "It can't be... Goddess!"

Amora's gaze snapped to me and then to Hunter, "She saw me," she said this more to herself, "How? I was invisible to everyone?"

Even I didn't know the answer.

"Do you have any explanation for that?" Hunter asked, his voice distant.

Amora squeezed her lips tightly before shaking her head, "No explanation...except that... she might be ... she is Moon Goddess' favorite child."

Amora was a witch. She had to reach out to Phoenix and give me the answers I'd been chasing for the last two years. 1

