Contract With Alpha Logan by Misha K

Chapter 128

Astrid POV

When **Tracy** offered to "suck his steam off", I froze. Unwarranted jealousy welled inside me like a dense cloud darkening a clear sky. I could feel her arms around his waist, and chill of icy wind wrapped around my heart. Though I was quiet, anger rose inside me. I moved away from them and walked to the counter where I took my tray of food with a smile that was a fragile mask on my face. I returned to my table, rather stormed away from him, my anger hanging like an ominous thunderclap in the air.

I had no idea why I was feeling like this because I had no reason to. Tracy did what she did naturally. She was his girlfriend, and I was nobody.

"Whoa! You look like you've eaten a pill of anger!" Parker commented, adjusting his glasses on his nose.

Briana also looked at me with surprise etched on her face. "You okay, Astrid?" she asked, reaching out for me as she placed her hand on my shoulder.

"Yeah!" I said. Why was I sounding hoarse?

Nate followed me soon and sat opposite me. He looked at me with concern in his eyes. "I heard that convo," he said in a soft voice. "Kael is an asshole, and he uses his charm with **all** the girls out here. You should be careful, Astrid. If you're going to his house to teach him math, you are—'

"I don't want to talk about it," I cut him off curtly. I didn't want to think of Kael or Tracy or anyone else.

Nate became quiet. We all ate our lunch with the three of them talking about school and notes and me just fuming and shoving it all down my throat. I didn't spare a glance at Kael. My anger was mostly directed at myself for feeling so furious about someone I had only known for two days. I needed to gather my shit and gather it fast before it burned me.

As **we** walked out of the cafeteria, I sensed him staring at me, but then I also sensed others staring at me. I tightened the grip on my satchel's strap and steeled myself. I had done nothing wrong. So I put my chin up and walked out.

Rest of the time, school was bearable because Briana had classes with me, and I sat with her. Interestingly, Kael and Toren also attended the same classes.

In the evening when we came to the parking area, I found Kael standing opposite to us, leaning against his black G–class Mercedes along with his brothers and a horde of other students. Our eyes met and a spark of attraction ignited. Nope, I wasn't going there again. I tore my gaze off him with a lot of effort and sat in our car.

Nate shook his head as he started the ignition. "This guy will never learn."

Briana chuckled. "He is the most popular, bad boy, handsome, brawny and all that. Every evening, he takes his minions to his home, where they indulge in every sort of debauchery. What do you exactly expect him to learn? Decency or love?"

Nate barked a laugh. That's true, sis. He and his brothers are highly decadent. In fact, the most debauched thing this town has seen in a long time."

I clenched my teeth, not because I was feeling horrible, but because I didn't

want to react. We reached home, and I made my way to my room immediately. It was 5PM. I took a quick bath and then, after a quick snack, sat down to do my homework. Briana joined me and we exchanged our notes. It felt so nice and family–like that it warmed my chest. We bantered about a lot of things but didn't touch the topic of school, which was a relief.

My phone started buzzing from 7PM onwards. I saw the first call. It was from an unknown number. I picked it up. "Hello?"

"You didn't come," Kael's heavy voice boomed from the other side. It was as if he was barely controlling his anger.

I raked my **hair** with my fingers and grabbed them with my fist. "I'm sorry, but I won't come today. Maybe next time. I am yet to prepare a plan for you." I could practically imagine **Tracy** standing next to him and grinning at my stupidity.

There was a momentary silence in **which** tension built. "You **said** you'd come," he gritted.

"I can't. I have a lot to do." Saying **that,** I cut the phone and tossed it aside. When I looked up, I saw Briana reading me.

"You have to teach him?" she asked, amusedly.

I pursed my lips in frustration. "Principal Henson is kind of forcing me. I don't want to!"

"Girl, if **you** have to teach him, be sure **that** you're **safe.** I don't trust those boys. They are like wolves, ready to attack you. They'll devour you and you won't even come to know until **you're** ruined."

I let out a nervous chuckle. "I am not interested in them, okay? So quit being so worried about it."

Briana took my hand in hers and squeezed it lightly. "I'm just looking out for you."

My chest filled with warmth, and I hugged her. "Thanks sis."

We carried on with our notes after that. My phone buzzed two more times, flashing the same number. I didn't pick it up, but I saved his name. After that, I switched off my phone and focused on more important stuff, which was my studies.

Nate came in and I swear I didn't know that my little cousin was so irritating. He pranked on us by throwing cold water, by shutting us in the room and then by switching off our lights. We were both tossing everything that came our way to keep him at bay. My uncle and aunt ended up shouting at us. The three of us stopped for like two minutes and then resumed. I giggled when I heard my aunt calling us baboons.

It all seemed so normal that I forgot everything about Kael. At dinner, we laughed and joked like a normal family. Uncle Fred talked about him and mom and for the first time I saw him warming up with me. The moment was emotional and etched in my memory forever.

At night when I went to bed, sleep came fast. Past midnight, I jolted awake, the feeling of being watched in the darkness surrounding me, sending shivers down my spine.