

Chapter 6 Peak Stupidity

Amanda's POV:

Beating that arrogant Samson had me glowing with satisfaction.

Thinking about finally getting my little arctic fox made me so happy that I fell asleep grinning.

When I woke up, I heard the four brothers downstairs chatting away.

"Look at this photo—this girl is gorgeous! And the way she drives? Unreal. Honestly, Samson deserved to lose to her."

"Ha! Samson, the guy who never loses, actually lost? That's crazy."

"Man, we forgot to ask her name last night, but Samson already sent people to find out. Shouldn't take long."

While I painted on the last bit of my ugly makeup, I laughed to myself. What a bunch of clueless fools.

As soon as I walked into the room, they all shut up fast. The second their eyes hit my face, they pulled those gagging, about-to-throw-up expressions again.

Good thing my disguise was flawless. If they ever saw my real face, they'd all be tripping over themselves to claim me.

Breakfast was the usual—quiet and awkward—until my phone buzzed with three messages from Theo.

"Boss, guess what? Josh is so shameless—he actually tried to bribe me for your number."

"He'd never imagine the girl he's chasing is living right under his roof."

"Oh, and Samson's digging into you too. Watch your back."

Please. That depended on whether Samson even had the skills to find me.

Speaking of Samson, Friday meant it was his turn to drive me to and from school.

The morning ride was dead silent, and I figured the ride home would be the same.

But after the last bell, Josh came walking out right behind me.

"What are you doing, following me?"

He curled his lip, as if I'd insulted him. "Following you? Don't flatter yourself. Michelle's back—she came with Samson. I'm going to meet her."

Michelle? Who?

Seeing my confusion, Josh grinned. "Michelle grew up with us—she's Midnight Pack's heiress. We're super close. She's been overseas training the past couple of years, but now she's finally home!"

The way he said it was full of admiration. Josh clearly worshiped this girl.

But it didn't matter to me. I'd never even heard of the Midnight Pack.

With a lollipop in my mouth, I strolled over to Samson's car, swung open the door, and saw a woman sitting inside—perfect makeup, head-to-toe designer clothes, long shiny curls.

She had total spoiled princess vibes. This must be Michelle.

She turned first to Josh, greeting him warmly, then gave me a smile. "You must be Amanda, right? I'm Michelle Gill. I grew up playing with Josh and the others. From now on, we're friends. Since you don't know many people in the Eclipse Pack yet, you can always come to me."

I smiled politely back. "Sure."

Josh jumped right in. "Michelle, why bother with her when you've got me? I've missed you so much. You're not leaving again, are you?"

"Nope. I graduated, so I'm staying. I'm planning to study here in the Eclipse Pack."

"For real? Samson, you'd better take good care of Michelle."

I glanced at Samson in the driver's seat. His face stayed blank, and he didn't say a single word as he started the engine and pulled away.

What a strange man. Cold and unreadable, just like me.

But Michelle's little flash of hostility when she looked at me? Oh, I caught that. She'd already marked me as competition.

The second I realized that, I ordered my people to dig into her past. By morning, I found out she hadn't actually graduated.

Her pack's Alpha had just thrown piles of money at the school for a certificate.

Since Midnight Pack and Eclipse Pack were allies, Michelle was supposed to marry Samson to secure her spot.

But then the engagement my grandpa arranged dropped out of nowhere.

I scrolled through her file on my phone until the castle came into view.

All five brothers stood gathered, ready to welcome Michelle home. I couldn't help but let out a sharp laugh. What a bunch of shallow opportunists.

Not wasting another second on their fake smiles, I was about to head upstairs when Michelle's sweet, fake voice drifted after me. "Sorry, Amanda. I didn't even know you were here in the Eclipse Pack until now. I didn't have time to prepare you a gift ... "

Her words were fake enough to choke on, so I kept quiet. Josh, of course, jumped in right away. "Michelle, you don't owe her anything—you barely even know her."

Now that was peak stupidity.

I wasn't in the mood to drag it out. I gave Michelle a polite smile. "It's fine. I'm heading up to rest."

Barely a minute after I got to my room, there was a knock.

I opened the door and found Samson standing there, stone-faced. What the hell was he doing at my door?