

Claimed by the Alpha's Love - Love Demands Real Courage Author: Michael Anderson 131

Chapter 131

Tori's POV:

< 17%

I sat in Lucas's spacious study, engrossed in an ancient tome on Lunar phate.

Sunlight streamed through the windows, and the faint scent of cedar lingered in the air, reminding me of him.

It had been three days since he'd left for the northern territory dispute, but the temporary mark he'd placed on my neck before departing still sent waves of warmth and comfort through me.

I found myself unconsciously tracing it with my fingertips.

My phone rang, interrupting my thoughts. I glanced at the unfamiliar number on the screen, hesitated for a second, then answered.

Hello, am I speaking with Ms. Sullivan? Tori Sullivan?" a woman's voice inquired.

Yes, this is the. May I ask who's calling? I straightened in my seat, setting the book aside.

I'm from the Lunar phase Institute. Her voice carried undisguised excitement. "First, congratulations on winning first place in last week's competition. Your performance was truly remarkable."

"Thank you," I responded, curious about her purpose.

I'm calling to ask if you're available to come to the institute today to complete your registration paperwork. As the first-place winner, we'd like to get you officially enrolled as soon as possible."

My heart skipped a beat. Morgan had mentioned that first-place winners might get direct entry into the institute, but I hadn't truly believed it

would happen.

Today? Yes, I can make it," I replied, trying to sound composed despite my excitement.

In the afternoon, I arrived at the Lunar Phase Institute thirty minutes early

The modern building cluster with its white marble façade gleamed brilliantly in the sunlight. I took a deep breath to calm my nerves before approaching the main entrance.

Just as I was about to push the door open, an elegant silver haired elderly woman approached from another direction

Dressed in a gray-blue suit, her bearing was regal and refined-unmistakably a member of high society.

When our eyes met, she suddenly halted, her expression flashing with emotions I couldn't decipher—shock, disbelief, and perhaps longing?

“Child...” she stepped forward with trembling hands, gently grasping my wrist as her voice quavered with emotion. Your eyes those silver

eyes...

I stood frozen, unsure how to respond. Her reaction was so intense, as if she'd seen a ghost

1/2

20:13 Thu, Feb 12 3 GO

Chapter 131

“Ms. Olivia!” A female voice broke the strange moment as a middle-aged female approached. “Are you alright?”

The silver-haired woman—Olivia—seemed to collect herself, slowly releasing my hand, though her gaze remained fixed on me.

“I'm fine, Mary,” she composed herself, though the turbulence in her eyes remained evident. “I just... met a special guest.”

Mary turned to me with an apologetic smile. “Please forgive. This is Olivia Sullivan.”

< 17%

At the mention of her name, I immediately understood—this was William Sullivan's mother. The resemblance was clear in their refined features

and dignified bearing.

“She sometimes... Mary hesitated, lowering her voice, ‘mistakes young women your age for someone else. It happens occasionally.”

A memory surfaced in my mind-Morgan telling me about William Sullivan’s tragedy, how his daughter had died young years ago.

Understanding washed over me. The intensity in Olivia’s gaze, the trembling hands reaching for me... she had momentarily seen her lost granddaughter in me.

“It’s perfectly all right,” I said softly, offering Olivia a gentle smile. I’m Tom Sullivan. I’m here for the institute’s entrance registration.”

Olivia’s eyes glistened with tears. “William was also gifted with lunar calculations, you know.

Her voice trembled slightly. “If my granddaughter had lived... she would have been just as talented as you are now.”

The raw emotion in her voice made my chest tighten.

“That’s very kind of you to say,” I replied, feeling my cheeks warm with embarrassment at the unexpected praise. “I should probably head inside now. The registration committee will be waiting.”

Mary gently guided Olivia aside, allowing me to pass.

Comments

1

Write Comments

< SHARE

Editorial board

Editorial Board: Our editorial team works behind the scenes to refine each chapter, maintain consistency, and deliver the best reading experience.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters. Tap the middle of the screen to reveal Reading Options.

**Claimed by the Alpha's Love - Love Demands Real
Courage Author: Michael Anderson 132**

Chapter 132

As I walked toward the registration hall, I could still feel Olivia's silver eyes following me.

* 17%0

An hour later, after completing the extensive paperwork and preliminary skills assessment, I emerged from the institute's main hall, mentally

exhausted but satisfied.

To my surprise, Olivia Sullivan was still in the grand lobby, seated elegantly on a bench near the fountain.

When she spotted me, she rose.

"Ms. Sullivan-Tori," she called, approaching with a warm smile. "I hope your registration went well?"

"Yes, thank you," I replied, genuinely surprised she had waited. "Everything is in order."

"I know this might seem forward," Olivia said, her voice softer now, more personal, "but I feel a strange connection with you. Would you do me the honor of visiting my home for tea? The Sullivan estate isn't far from here."

The invitation caught me off guard. Tea with the matriarch of one of the four founding packs? It seemed surreal, yet the genuine emotion in her eyes made it impossible to refuse.

"I'd be honored, Mrs. Sullivan," I said with a slight bow of my head.

Her face brightened immediately. "Wonderful! My car is waiting outside."

As Olivia walked ahead to speak with her driver, I quickly pulled out my phone to text Lucas.

Going to visit Olivia Sullivan's home for tea. She invited me after my institute registration. Should be back by evening.

His response came almost immediately, making me wonder if he'd been waiting for my message:

Be careful. Call me if anything feels off.

No demand to avoid going. No controlling questions about why I'd accepted. Just simple concern for my safety. The trust implied in those few words made me smile as I slipped my phone back into my pocket and join Olivia in the car.

The car stopped before an estate-the legendary Sullivan Manor.

The elegant Georgian mansion with its white columns and silver gray stonework exuded both history and refinement.

'Come, dear,' Olivia said, taking my hand with surprising familiarity as we entered. 'Let me show you around.'

She led me through the manor with pride. Unlike the more modern, sometimes cold aesthetic of the Grayson estate, the Sullivan home felt warm and lived in despite its grandeur.

After the tour, we settled in a sunlit living room where a tea service awaited.

Olivia disappeared briefly, returning with a leather-bound photo album clutched to her chest.

"I hope you don't mind indulging an old woman," she said with a self-deprecating smile as she sat beside me on the sofa. 'It's not often I have

1/2

20:13 Thu, Feb 12 GO

Chapter 132

someone to chat with these days. Most people are too busy or too intimidated to simply sit and talk."

17%

"I don't mind at all," I assured her, waving away her concerns. "It's my honor to be here."

Olivia's eyes softened as she opened the album.

"This was my granddaughter, Luna," she said, pointing to a photo of a smiling baby with startling silver eyes-eyes remarkably similar to my

own.

I suddenly understood Olivia's intense reaction when she'd first seen me.

“She’s beautiful,” I said softly, studying the happy infant surrounded by love. “If she were still alive today, she must have led such a blessed life,

with a family that loved her so deeply.”

Olivia nodded, blinking back tears. She would have been about your age now. William adored her. We all did.”

When Olivia turned to the last page, my heart nearly stopped.

There, a beautiful young woman with delicate features and gentle eyes held a three-month-old infant, both smiling at the camera.

Something about her smile triggered a peculiar sensation in my chest—a bittersweet ache that expanded and filled my heart. I couldn’t explain why, but the image resonated within me on a level that felt almost... familiar.

“Who... who is that?” I struggled to ask, pointing at the woman.

Comments

1

Write Comments

<SHARE

Editorial board

Editorial Board: Our editorial team works behind the scenes to refine each chapter, maintain consistency, and deliver the best reading experience.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters. Tap the middle of the screen to reveal Reading Options.

Claimed by the Alpha's Love - Love Demands Real Courage Author: Michael Anderson 133

Chapter 133

Tori’s POV:

Olivia’s silver eyes misted as she gazed at the photograph

“That was Susan, William’s wife,” her voice caught, “After we lost Luna in that terrible accident, Susan couldn’t bear the pain. She moved to the edge of the territory, isolating herself in a small cottage. She rarely sees a one now, sometimes not even William.”

Seeing the pain etched across Olivia’s face, I quickly changed the subject, gesturing toward a beautiful crystal vase on the side table

This piece is extraordinary-is it a family heirloom?

My diversion worked.

Olivia smiled gratefully and launched into a story about the vase being a wedding gift from the Shepherd Pack. She was just laughing at a memory of William nearly breaking it during a childhood game when the doorbell chimed

“That must be Betty,” she said, rising from her seat. My daughter. She drops by occasionally to check on me.

I quickly pieced together the family connections in my mind.

“She must be William’s sister. That would make her Matthew and Megan Howard’s mother.

I followed her to the foyer where a slender woman with honey-blond hair and warm amber eyes waited

She appeared to be in her mid-forties, dressed in casual elegance that spoke of understated wealth

“Well, I heard Mother laughing the moment I walked in. I thought something wonderful must have happened,” she said.

Though she wore a smile, her eyes held a sense of superiority and detachment when they landed on me.

Olivia’s smile hadn’t yet faded when she saw Betty.

She introduced me enthusiastically, “This is Tori Sullivan, the little girl I met at the Lamar Research Institute.

“Tori, this is my daughter, Betty Howard. You can call her Betty,” Olivia continued warmly.

I rose from my seat and greeted her politely, “Hello, Mrs. Howard.”

Betty gave me a cold glance without acknowledging my greeting.

She addressed Olivia directly, 'Mother, you shouldn't bring strangers home casually. Have you forgotten what happened over twenty years ago? Your kindness in rescuing that person led to Williams family being torn apart.'

Betty's words caused Olivia's expression to change abruptly. 'Why bring that up out of nowhere?' she said, her voice tight

After a pause, she added firmly, 'Tori is nothing like that person.'

Betty looked at me and gave a cold smile. 'You can never truly know someone by appearances alone. Wasn't Frost also gentle and sweet

1/2

20:14 Thu, Feb 12 3 GO

Chapter 133

natured back then?'

At the mention of past events, the enthusiasm on Olivia's face dimmed noticeably.

Just then, a servant announced dinner was ready.

217%8

Olivia suppressed her displeasure and took my hand. 'Come, let's go eat.'

As we walked toward the dining room, I could feel Betty's hostile gaze boring into my back.

I glanced over my shoulder, catching the flash of suspicion and resentment in her eyes before she quickly masked it with a polite smile.

I wondered if I had somehow offended her without realizing it, or if her animosity stemmed from something deeper-perhaps protectiveness

toward Olivia or lingering pain from whatever had happened with this mysterious "Frost" person.

After dinner, I politely mentioned that I should be heading back.

Though Olivia was clearly reluctant to see me leave, she didn't insist I stay since it was getting late. Instead, she arranged for her driver to take

me home.

“Please visit again, Tori,” she said, clasping my hands in hers. “It’s been a pleasure having you.”

When we reached Moon Light Plaza, I asked the driver to stop.

‘I can manage from here, thank you,’ I told him, climbing out of the luxury sedan.

Once the car pulled away, I called Jack.

Within minutes, his black SUV appeared in front of me.

On the drive back to Lucas’s residence, I gazed out at Moonhaven’s glittering nightscape, my thoughts returning to Olivia Sullivan.

The way she looked at me, mistaking me for her granddaughter, then dissolving into tears-it stirred something deep within me.

That kind of profound, enduring familial love was something I feared I would never experience myself.

Hannah had said my mother had caused the death of my father’s child with his wife. If that was true, then my father must hate me... and my paternal grandmother likely would too.

Comments

R Visitor

they even have the same last name already they weren’t subtle about it

7 days ago

1

< SHARE

Editorial board

Editorial Board: Our editorial team works behind the scenes to refine each chapter, maintain consistency, and deliver the best reading experience.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters. Tap the middle of the screen to reveal Reading Options.

The thought left a hollow feeling in my chest.

Back at the residence, I took a shower and settled into bed. Tossing and turning, unable to sleep

Two hours later, my heart leapt in my chest as I recognized the distinctive sound of Lucas's car.

A wave of excitement washed over me, surprising in its intensity.

Without thinking, I slipped out of bed, suddenly eager to see him after the strange and emotionally draining day.

Without thinking, I slipped out of bed and padded to the door of the master suite, waiting in the dimly lit hallway.

When Lucas appeared at the top of the stairs, fatigue evident in the set of his broad shoulders, he paused at the sight of me.

"You're still awake," he observed, his voice low and intimate in the quiet house.

I nodded, suddenly feeling foolish for standing outside his door like this.

"I heard your car," I explained lamely.

His lips curved into a smile that transformed his entire face, softening the hard angles and lighting his eyes with warmth. "Were you waiting for me, little wolf?"

The gentleness in his voice made my heart skip.

"Yes," I admitted, surprising myself with my honesty.

In one fluid motion, Lucas stepped forward and drew me into his arms. I felt his chest rise with a deep breath as he held me close.

'I missed you too,' he murmured against my hair, the vibration of his voice sending a pleasant shiver down my spine.

I allowed myself to relax against him, realizing how much I'd needed this connection after such a confusing day.

Without warning, he carried me back to my room and gently laid me on the bed, pulling the covers over me.

'Get to sleep,' he said softly, his eyes unreadable in the darkness. Then he turned off the light and went to the bathroom, closing the door quietly behind him.

I lay in bed, listening to the sound of running water from the shower.

The rhythmic patter had an almost hypnotic effect, and I felt myself drifting toward sleep. Just as my eyelids grew heavy, the water stopped, jolting me back to awareness.

Minutes later, I noticed a silhouette on the balcony.

Lucas stood with his back to me, moonlight outlining his powerful frame as he brought a cigarette to his lips.

Months ago, I might have found the image irresistibly attractive. But now, felt a strange twist of concern. The thought of his lungs filling with

1/2

20:14 Thu, Feb 12 GO.

Chapter 134

smoke bothered me in a way I couldn't fully explain.

Before I could talk myself out of it, I slipped from the bed and padded across the cool floor to the balcony.

Without a word, I reached up and gently took the cigarette from between his lips.

"That's not good for you," I said softly, extinguishing it against the railing

A smile played at the corners of his mouth as he gazed down at me, amusement dancing in his eyes.

"And what do you suggest I do instead?"

My heart hammered in my chest as he leaned closer, his intention clear.

< 17:1

When his lips met mine, the kiss was gentle at first, then deepening as his arms wrapped around me. I melted against him, all thoughts of sleep forgotten as heat rushed through me.

Lucas's eyes had darkened, and his hands settled at my waist, drawing me closer again. The intensity between us built like an aggregating storm.

Just as his lips brushed mine again, my phone rang shrilly from the bedside table.

I nearly jumped out of my skin at the sudden intrusion.

"Ignore it," Lucas murmured against my jaw.

But the caller ID showed my grandmother's number, and at this hour, it couldn't be good news.

"I have to take this," I whispered apologetically, stepping back from his embrace. "Grandma? What's wrong?"

Her panicked voice came through clearly: "Tori, Anna is missing. We can't find her anywhere."

Comments

R Visitor

they even have the same last name already. they weren't subtle about it

7 days ago

1

< SHARE

1 Comments >

Claimed by the Alpha's Love

Chapter 135

Tori's POV:

17%

My grandmother's trembling voice turned my blood to ice.

"What happened? When?" My voice sounded foreign to my own ears, higher and strained with rising panic.

Lucas tensed beside me, his body instantly alert.

His hand moved to my lower back—steady, grounding, a silent promise of support.

"She was playing at the suburban park near the old amusement grounds, Eileen's voice cracked. "Janet stepped away to take a call—just for a

minute, she swears. When she turned back, Anna was gone. The police-

Suddenly, I heard Eileen's voice change, filled with joyful relief.

"Anna!" she exclaimed, her tone transforming from despair to delight.

I could hear muffled voices in the background, then Eileen returned to the phone.

"Tori, Andrew just brought her home! He says he spotted a stranger leading Anna away near the park. She was crying, so he intervened and took the man to the police station before bringing Anna back to us."

I exhaled deeply, my entire body sagging with relief.

"Thank goodness," I whispered, my voice shaky. "Please tell Andrew I'm incredibly grateful. *

After a few more reassurances that Anna was truly safe, I ended the call and turned to Lucas, whose face remained tense with concern.

“Anna is okay,” I told him, my voice still unsteady. “Andrew found her with a stranger and intervened. He’s brought her home safely.

Lucas’s expression softened slightly. He pulled me into his arms, one hand cradling the back of my head.

“You should rest,” he murmured against my hair. “It’s late.”

Too exhausted to argue, I let him guide me back to the bedroom.

The emotional whiplash had left me drained, and I fell asleep almost instantly in Lucas’s protective embrace, his warmth a shield against the night’s terrors.

The next morning, I was awakened by my phone’s insistent ringing.

Groggily reaching for it, I saw Eileen’s name on the screen.

“Grandma? Is everything okay with Anna?” I asked immediately, sitting up

“Anna is fine, dear, but... her voice shifted. “The police questioned that man Andrew apprehended. Tori, he confessed that Hannah paid him to take Anna.”

1/2

20:14 Thu, Feb 12 G

Chapter 135

17%

“I can’t believe she would do something so heartless. Anna is just a child! five years old! And she had the nerve to arrange her kidnapping!”

I held the phone slightly away from my ear as Eileen’s rage poured through

Her normally gentle voice had transformed into something I’d rarely heard before.

After her outburst, her voice broke, and I could hear her crying.

“Tori, she did this to force you to withdraw your lawsuit against that Price girl. She prioritized her stepdaughter over her own flesh and blood. How could I have raised such a heartless creature? What kind of mother does this?”

The pain in her voice mirrored the ache in my chest.

Despite everything Hannah had done to me, hearing my grandmother’s distress was almost worse.

“Grandma, please don’t cry,” I said softly, my own emotions churning. After a pause, I asked the question weighing on my mind: “What do you

want to do about this?”

I worried that despite everything, Eileen might hesitate to take legal action against her own daughter. The bonds of motherhood ran deep, even

when betrayed.

“We absolutely must hold her accountable,” Eileen stated with surprising firmness. “If we don’t, who knows what she might do next? For Anna’s sake, we can’t let this go unpunished!”

Alexander’s POV:

The ringing of my phone interrupted my concentration.

It was Martha, our housekeeper, her normally composed voice now tight with urgency that immediately set my wolf on edge.

“Mr. Price, there’s an emergency. Law enforcers have taken Mrs. Sullivan to the detention center.

My pen snapped between my fingers. “What?”

Comments

**Claimed by the Alpha's Love - Love Demands Real
Courage Author: Michael Anderson 136**

Claimed by the Alpha's Love

Chapter 136

17% 2

Twenty minutes later, I was striding through the sterile corridors of the Moonhaven Enforcement Facility. The scent of anxiety and dominance permeated the air.

“Your wife is being held on charges of conspiracy to abduct,” explained Malcolm Reed, my attorney.

His voice carried the practiced calm of someone accustomed to delivering bad news to wealthy clients. ‘She allegedly hired two rogues to capture a little girl named Anna.’

“Anna? My stomach tightened. “Why would Hannah do something so foolish?”

Malcolm’s expression remained professionally neutral. According to the preliminary investigation, it was an attempt to pressure your stepdaughter, Tori Sullivan, into withdrawing her testimony in the Morris case.”

I closed my eyes, feeling a headache building.

This couldn’t come at a worse time, I muttered, my face turning livid with anger.

Thanks to Fiona becoming Ethan’s mate, our family had enjoyed elevated status in Moonhaven’s social circles. Many envied our connection to the powerful Grayson pack.

But now? After Fiona’s scandal, I couldn’t attend a business gathering without sensing the smirks and hearing the whispered comments. Everyone was speculating whether the Graysons would discard her once she delivered the pup.

And now Hannah was arrested. Our reputation would be in tatters.

‘Find a way to get her released immediately,’ I instructed Malcolm. “I’ll call my mother-in-law.”

I stepped away for privacy and dialed Eileen.

The conversation went exactly as I expected – her voice cold, her position unyielding. She wanted Hannah to face consequences.

I took a deep drag from my cigarette, exhaling slowly. Time for emotional leverage.

“Mother, did you know that several weeks ago, Hannah miscarried? She almost died on the operating table.”

Silence greeted my revelation.

I continued, pressing my advantage. "Her body hasn't been the same since. If you insist on pursuing this case against her, I fear the emotional strain might be too much for her weakened condition.

A heavy silence hung on the line. I could almost see Eileen's internal struggle – her anger at Hannah's actions battling with maternal instinct.

"Fine, she finally conceded, her voice softer than before. "I won't pursue charges from our side. "

I exhaled in relief, thanking her before ending the call. With the victim's family dropping charges, Hannah's release should be straightforward.

Yet three days later, she remained in detention.

1/2

20:14 Thu, Feb 12 G

Chapter 136

"I don't understand," I confronted Malcolm. "They aren't pressing charges. Why is she still being held?"

< 17%

"Someone with significant influence is applying pressure," he explained carefully. "The enforcement officials are deliberately dragging their feet."

It didn't take a genius to figure out who.

My last resort was calling Tori directly. Her voice was guarded when she answered.

"I had nothing to do with Hannah's detention," she stated before I could fully explain.

"Can't you at least talk to Alpha Lucas? After all, she hasn't had time to do anything yet." I pressed. "Despite everything, she's still your

mother."

"I'm sorry, Alexander. This is out of my hands." Her tone was final, making it clear she had no intention of intervening.

That evening, frustration drove me to the bottom of several whiskey glasses at the Silver Moon Lounge. The room spun slightly as I made my way to the exit, colliding with someone in the dimly lit hallway.

“Excuse me,” a feminine voice murmured.

I blinked through my alcohol haze, staring at a face that knocked the air from my lungs.

Auburn hair, green eyes, and that small birthmark near her left eyebrow – he could have been my first mate’s twin.

“Evelyn?” I whispered, reaching out unsteadily.

The woman tilted her head, a coquettish smile playing on her lips. “You’ve had too much to drink, handsome. I’m not your Evelyn.

Comments

1

Write Comments

Editorial board

Editorial Board: Our editorial team works behind the scenes to refine each chapter, maintain consistency, and deliver the best reading experience.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters. Tap the middle of the screen to reveal Reading Options.

Claimed by the Alpha's Love - Love Demands Real Courage Author: Michael Anderson 137

Chapter 137

Tori's POV:

< 17%9

I hung up the phone.

Alexander’s desperate plea to intervene in Hannah’s detention echoed in my mind.

Grandma Eileen once said she would drop the charges against Hannah-for family peace, she'd said. I'd assumed that would be the end of it, that Hannah would walk free while justice remained elusive. But somehow Hannah remained in custody.

Lucas must still be pulling strings behind the scenes.

I couldn't even count how many times he'd stepped in to help me now-the visible interventions alone were numerous, and I suspected there were countless others I knew nothing about.

His protection extended far beyond what I could see, like an invisible shield around my life.

Taking a deep breath, I descended the stairs, needing movement to process everything that had happened.

The hardwood was cool beneath my bare feet, grounding me in the present moment.

I'd been so consumed by the phone call that I hadn't registered the faint sounds coming from the kitchen or the savory aroma wafting through

the air.

I froze at the bottom of the stairs. Lucas was home? I'd assumed he'd still be at the office handling the pack business.

He stood at the counter, his broad back to me, sleeves rolled up to reveal muscular forearms as he chopped something with practiced efficiency.

The sight was so unexpected that I simply stared.

Lucas Grayson-the most powerful Alpha in Moonhaven, the cold, commanding businessman-was cooking in his kitchen.

I found myself walking across the kitchen and wrapping my arms around his waist from behind, pressing my cheek against his broad back. The warmth of his body seeped through his shirt, and I felt rather than heard a soft chuckle.

"Someone's hungry," he said, his voice a low rumble that vibrated against my cheek.

'Not really, 1- My stomach chose that exact moment to betray me with a loud, undignified growl

I groaned, burying my face deeper into his back to hide my embarrassment

Lucas laughed, a rare, genuine sound that made my heart flutter.

He turned in my arms, still holding the wooden spoon in one hand as he zed down at me with amusement dancing in his eyes.

His lips brushed mine in a feather-light kiss that ended too quickly,

“Food’s almost ready,” he murmured, his voice warm. ‘Go sit over there while I finish up.”

1/2

20:14 Thu, Feb 12 GO

Chapter 137

X17%

I perched on the stool, watching as he returned to his task. His movements were fluid and confident-not the awkward attempts of someone

rarely in a kitchen, but the practiced motions of someone who knew exactly what he was doing.

‘I didn’t know you could cook, I admitted, resting my chin in my palm.

“There’s a lot you don’t know about me yet,” he replied without turning. But we have time.”

Those simple words-we have time-sent an unexpected warmth through my chest. The casual certainty with which he included me in his future

still felt surreal.

He placed a steaming mug before me. “Drink this. It’ll help with the stress

The tea smelled of lavender and chamomile, with something else I couldn’t identify. I took a cautious sip, surprised by its pleasant, slightly

sweet taste.

“It’s a special blend,” he explained, noticing my expression. “Contains herb particularly effective for Omegas. Helps balance emotions after

trauma.”

I blinked at him. “You keep Omega-specific tea in your house?”

“I ordered it for you after our first meeting.” His admission was matter-of-fact, as though stocking his home with items specifically for my biology was the most natural thing in the world.

“So you’ve had designs on me since we first met?” I asked, half-teasing but also genuinely curious.

Comments

B1

Write Comments

<SHARE

2/2

20:14 Thu, Feb 12 GO.

Claimed by the Alpha’s Love

Editorial board

Editorial Board: Our editorial team works behind the scenes to refine each chapter, maintain consistency, and deliver the best reading experience.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters. Tap the middle of the screen to reveal Reading Options.

Claimed by the Alpha's Love - Love Demands Real Courage Author: Michael Anderson 138

Chapter 138

Lucas’s eyes met mine, intense and unwavering.

¥917%日

“Yes,” he admitted without a trace of shame. “From the moment I saw you at that bus stop, I knew. Fated mates, Tori. My wolf recognized you

immediately.”

A frown formed between my brows. “But I didn’t feel...” My voice trailed off as realization dawned.

Of course, I hadn't felt the connection. Tracy, my wolf, had been so damaged during those four years in Silver Fang. The suppressants, the

isolation, the trauma.

Understanding softened Lucas's expression. He reached across the counter and took my hand, his thumb gently stroking my palm.

"It doesn't matter," he said quietly. "One way or another, I would have found you, Tori."

His words settled around me like a warm blanket, both comforting and overwhelming.

I had no response that seemed adequate, so I simply nodded and sipped my tea in silence, watching him prepare what appeared to be a complete nutritional meal-lean protein, vegetables, and a complex carb.

Nothing too heavy but substantial enough to restore energy.

When he finally set a plate before me, the presentation was as perfect as any upscale restaurant. "Eat," he said simply.

I took a tentative bite, and my eyes widened in surprise.

The flavors exploded across my tongue-perfectly seasoned, expertly cooked, with a complexity I hadn't expected.

"Lucas, this is incredible," I said between bites, genuinely impressed. "I had no idea you could cook like this."

He leaned against the counter, arms crossed, watching me with quiet pleasure.

"As long as you enjoy it, that's all that matters," he replied, his voice soft but carrying that unmistakable Alpha satisfaction of providing for his

mate,

After finishing our meal, I moved to collect the dishes. "I should clean up or cooked."

Lucas caught my wrist gently. "This is not your job. Go upstairs, take a hot shower. Relax."

I hesitated, feeling guilty about not contributing. He had done all the cooking while I just sat there, and now he wanted to clean up too? Washing dishes was the least I could do.

Lucas caught my hesitation and a slow, knowing smile spread across his face

“What’s wrong? Would you prefer I join you while you shower?” he suggested, his voice dropping to a provocative tone.

Heat rushed to my face, and I nearly dropped the plate I was holding.

1-no-that’s not- I stammered, then promptly turned and fled upstairs his deep chuckle following me across the room.

1/2

20:14 Thu, Feb 12 G

Chapter 138

< 17%

Upstairs, under the hot spray of the shower, I tried to process the strange domesticity of the moment we’d just shared. It felt... natural. As though we’d been doing this dance for years instead of days.

As steam clouded around me, I allowed myself a dangerous thought: what this could last? This wish, once a distant impossibility, was

growing stronger with each moment spent in his presence.

Twenty minutes later, I descended the stairs, hair still damp.

The sound of Lucas’s voice drifted from the living room, low and measured I paused, towel in hand, realizing he was on the phone.

“Just because you’ve just returned to Moonhaven and lost your previous connections doesn’t mean you start from scratch. It’s normal to find it challenging at first, Lucas said, his voice deep and rich.

He held his phone in one hand, his other elbow resting casually on the edge of the table. His long legs were crossed at the ankles, his posture

relaxed yet commanding.

As he spoke, his deep eyes flicked up to meet mine.

From his mention of ‘just returned to Moonhaven,’ I deduced he was speaking to Vivienne-Lucas’s first love in Morgan’s words.

Comments

1

Write Comments

<SHARE

Editorial board

Editorial Board: Our editorial team works behind the scenes to refine each chapter, maintain consistency, and deliver the best reading experience.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters. Tap the middle of the screen to reveal Reading Options.

Claimed by the Alpha's Love - Love Demands Real Courage Author: Michael Anderson 139

Chapter 139

Tori's POV:

< 17%8

A knot formed in my stomach, tight and uncomfortable.

'No, I understand your frustration,' Lucas continued, his expression softening slightly. 'But rebuilding your network will take time.'

A feminine laugh tinkled through the speaker, loud enough for me to hear

'I don't want to stay outside Moonhaven, Lucas, Vivienne's voice carried a playful, almost childish whine that made my teeth clench. 'There

are people I want to see here.'

Tracy, my wolf, stirred restlessly within me, a low growl building in our shared consciousness.

She's trying to get close to our mate, she warned, and I couldn't disagree.

Before I could analyze my actions, I was walking toward Lucas, driven by an unfamiliar possessiveness. His eyes tracked my approach, one

eyebrow rising slightly in question.

I didn't stop until I stood directly before him. Then, without hesitation, I leaned down and pressed my lips against his.

Lucas stiffened for a fraction of a second before his free arm wrapped around my waist, pulling me onto his lap. He deepened the kiss, his response immediate and hungry.

I heard Vivienne's voice still chattering from the phone, now pressed against the arm of the chair.

"I was just kidding, Vivienne said, breaking the silence with a light laugh.

"Could you introduce me to Dylan Freeman? I heard he's quite influential in the Freeman Pack. It would help me establish-

Lucas broke our kiss just long enough to growl, "I'll call you back, before tossing the phone onto the nearby table without waiting for her

response.

His attention returned fully to me, his hand coming up to cradle my face,

"What was that for?" he asked, his thumb tracing my cheekbone.

I made a small sound of discontent, glancing at the abandoned phone. Si seemed very... familiar with you."

A slow smile spread across Lucas's face, satisfaction gleaming in his eyes ealous, Little Wolf?

"No,' I lied, but the slight rumble in my chest betrayed me.

Lucas chuckled, the sound vibrating through his chest again it min. "Youve nothing to worry about, he murmured, his lips brushing my temple. "You're the only one I care about."

The conviction in his voice soothed something wild and territorial within me. I settled against him, savoring the warmth and security of his

embrace.

1/3

20:14 Thu, Feb 12 GO

Chapter 139

In the afternoon, Lucas went to handle Pack business.

17%

I arrived at the Lunar Phase Research Institute to familiarize myself with my new workspace.

The sleek glass building reflected the afternoon sun, its modern architecture a stark contrast to the traditional stone structures surrounding it.

As evening approached, I gathered my things and headed toward the exit.

Just as I was about to leave, a familiar figure caught my eye. Olivia Sullivan stood near the entrance, silver hair gleaming under the fading

daylight.

When she spotted me, her eyes lit up.

“Tori!” she called, approaching with surprising agility for her age. “What a pleasant coincidence.”

“Mrs. Sullivan,” I greeted her with genuine warmth. Since our last meeting I’d felt an inexplicable closeness to the elderly woman that I

couldn’t quite explain.

“Please, you can call me Olivia,” she insisted, taking my hands in hers. “Were you heading home? Perhaps you’d join me for dinner instead? There’s a wonderful little restaurant nearby.”

I hesitated briefly. The invitation was unexpected, but something about her earnest expression made it impossible to refuse. I nodded, “I’d be

honored.”

The restaurant she chose was clearly exclusive, catering to high-ranking wolves. Olivia ordered confidently, selecting dishes specifically formulated for Omega nutritional needs.

While we waited for our meal, I noticed Olivia studying me with increasing warmth in her gaze.

“No wonder I liked you at first glance,” she said suddenly, reaching across the table to take my hand in hers. “You remind me a bit of William

when he was young.”

Just as we were speaking, the server approached our table. “Mrs. Sullivan, you have a visitor.”

A woman glided toward us, draped in deep purple silk that complemented her olive skin. Her dark hair fell in perfect waves past her shoulders, and her eyes—a rich brown that seemed almost burgundy in the restaurant’s dim lighting—assessed me with undisguised curiosity.

“Grandma Olivia, darling,” she said, her voice melodic and refined. “I thought I recognized your car outside.”

“Charlotte! Olivia’s face brightened further. “What perfect timing. Please, join us.”

Charlotte settled gracefully into the chair beside Olivia, her movements fluid like water. She turned those penetrating eyes toward me.

“Charlotte, this is Tori Sullivan. It’s quite a coincidence that she shares the same surname as me.” Olivia introduced. “Tori, meet Charlotte Shepherd, William and Susan’s adopted daughter.”

“Please, call me Lottie,” she offered with a smile that didn’t quite reach her eyes. “All my friends do.”

“It seems you’ve found yourself a new friend, Olivia,” Charlotte observed, a hint of mischief in her tone. “Should I be jealous that you’ve forgotten your old ones?”

2/3

20:14 Thu, Feb 12 GO

Chapter 139

Olivia chuckled. “Never, dear.”

4≥17%售

She reached out affectionately and tapped Charlotte’s forehead. “You’re always trying to make me smile. If your grandmother Diana knew, she’d

certainly be jealous.”

I glanced between them, noting their easy familiarity.

“She wouldn’t be jealous at all,” Charlotte said, looping her arm through Olivia’s and resting her head against the older woman’s shoulder.

“Grandmother is always happy when you show me affection, Olivia.”

Their closeness made me feel like an outsider witnessing a private family moment. I shifted slightly in my seat, unsure whether I should excuse

myself.

“Grandmother Diana is here too, in a private room next door,” Charlotte continued, straightening up. “Would you like to join us, Olivia?”

I noticed an immediate change in Olivia’s expression.

“No, I think not,” she said quietly. “Seeing me would only remind her of unpleasant memories.”

The sudden tension in the air was palpable.

Comments

61

Write Comments

<SHARE

Editorial board

Editorial Board: Our editorial team works behind the scenes to refine each chapter, maintain consistency, and deliver the best reading experience.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters. Tap the middle of the screen to reveal Reading Options.

Claimed by the Alpha's Love - Love Demands Real Courage Author: Michael Anderson 140

Chapter 140

Tori’s POV:

3.17%

Charlotte nodded with understanding, then excused herself to return to her maternal grandmother's private room, leaving me alone with Olivia

once more.

As soon as Charlotte disappeared from sight, Olivia's shoulders relaxed slightly.

"I'm sorry you had to witness that awkwardness, dear," she said, her silver eyes focusing on me again. "Some wounds never truly heal, even after

decades.

"It's alright, I assured her, curiosity piquing despite my better judgment. You mentioned unpleasant memories?"

Olivia sighed, gently placing her teacup on the saucer.

The delicate clink seemed abnormally loud in the quiet private dining room.

"I suppose it's not really a secret," she said, her silver eyes taking on a distant look. "I suppose I can tell you."

I leaned forward slightly, drawn in by her willingness to share.

"Over twenty years ago, my son William and Susan Shepherd were in a terrible car accident on the night. Both were critically injured." Olivia's fingers traced the rim of her teacup. "Their daughter, little Luna, didn't survive."

My chest tightened at the raw pain still evident in her voice after all these years.

"When they regained consciousness," Olivia continued, "Susan was... different. Consumed by grief. She accused William of infidelity, claimed he had a secret child with another woman. She demanded a divorce immediately."

I found myself holding my breath, the tragedy unfolding like a dark fairytale.

The accusation of infidelity caught me off guard-in my few interactions with William Sullivan, he'd struck me as honorable and principled. He didn't seem like the type of man who would betray his mate.

Olivia was still continuing.

"The Shepherd family was outraged by these accusations. They severed ties with us completely, vowed never to associate with Sullivans again."

Her expression hardened. "As if my son hadn't lost enough that night-his aughter, his mate-they took away his extended pack bonds too."

"But you still see each other at council meetings,' I said, recalling what Mgan had told me about the four founding packs.

Olivia nodded. 'Our packs are too intertwined in Moonhaven's foundation completely separate. Pack business continues regardless of personal grievances. The Elder Council requires us to maintain civility, at east in public.'

She took another sip of her tea before continuing. "Twenty years is a longime. Even the deepest wounds scab over eventually. We attend each other's major ceremonies now, exchange formal pleasantries. But the trust's gone."

'And Charlotte?' I asked, remembering the elegant woman who had just left us.

1/3

20:14 Thu, Feb 12 GO

Chapter 140

K17%

Olivia's expression softened slightly.

"Charlotte was adopted by Diana Shepherd-Susan's mother-shortly after the accident. Diana hoped bringing a child into their home might help Susan emerge from her grief."

She shook her head sadly. "But Susan couldn't accept it. She withdrew from pack life, kept herself isolated in the mountain territories, rarely

seeing anyone.

"Charlotte always tried to be the bridge between our families."

"Is that likely to happen?" I ventured.

"Who knows?" Olivia sighed. "The Sullivan lineage has faced its challenges. My daughter Betty has two children-Matthew and Megan. Matthew is content with his medical career and shows no interest in pack leadership. Megan loses herself in her music."

"William has positioned Charlotte as the most suitable successor," Olivia continued. "And with Susan being the Shepherd family's only daughter, Charlotte might stand to

inherit leadership of both packs eventually. William believes this dual inheritance might finally heal the rift between

our families.”

I nodded, trying to absorb the labyrinthine complexities of pack politics and family business.

Olivia sighed, visibly pulling herself from the depths of memory.

She waved her hand dismissively, a gentle smile replacing her somber expression.

“Listen to me rambling on about ancient history,” she chuckled. “That’s the trouble with getting old. What’s past is past; we must look toward

the future.”

She leaned forward, her tone shifting to something lighter. “Speaking of the future, I hear you and Lucas Grayson have become quite close. Is

that true?”

I felt heat rise to my cheeks. ‘We’re... getting to know each other.’

Her expression grew serious. “His temporary mark is still visible on your neck, child. I hope you’re being careful.

My hand instinctively rose to touch the spot where Lucas had left his mark I hadn’t realized it was still visible to others.

‘An Alpha’s mark is powerful, especially for a young Omega,’ she cautioned I don’t mean to pry, but these things shouldn’t be taken lightly

“We’re not rushing into anything, I assured her, though my heart quickened at the memory of his lips against my skin.

“Good.” Olivia reached across the table to pat my hand. Child, a permanent mark is a lifelong commitment. You both should consider it carefully.”

The genuine concern in her voice touched something deep inside me.

My phone vibrated in my pocket, breaking the moment.

“Excuse me, I murmured, checking the screen.

Lucas’s name flashed, sending a flutter through my stomach.

2/3

2014 Thu, Feb 12 % ca.

Chapter 140

Go ahead, Glieta smiled knowing I'll get some dessert while you wait

I stepped into the hallway for a moment, wondering if he was?

421744

Tori's face: deep orange sent a pleasant shiver down my spine. When he called the man in, he was sad

In having dinner with Olivia Sallinen, I explained. We can't offer as much as work and the mid

Again? He sounded surprised, then ducked. I've seen you're quite good with the elder

His teasing tone made me smile despite myself. To not like that. She tends

Tagad he said, his voice warning. Then, I have a pack dinner meeting and that will pay
are when you're finished

and he'll drive you home

Hism. The casual way he returned to his place as my home mate something when
sloom in my dies.

I will! I promised softly

Good girl I'll see you later tonight, ten

After we hung up, I stood in the hallway for a moment, processing the happiness during
incite me

"Sosa? A strange, somewhat weathered voice suddenly came from behind me

I caught a glimpse of my reflection in the hallway's glass wall-and behind it, an elderly
woman who somehow approached without my

noticing

Her eyes held an eager, hopeful gaze mixed with cautious uncertainty

Comments

61

Write Comments

<< SHARE

Editorial board

Editorial Board: Our editorial team works behind the scenes to refine each chapter, maintain consistency, and deliver the best reading experience.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters. Tap the middle of the screen to reveal Reading Options.