

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 251[1,143 words]

Frey spoke up with an angry tone.

“How did you say that? He loved her. But she was the one who cheated on him.”

ave her a fake smile as she continued,

Ava gave

“One day he went out of the pack. She was waiting for his return at **the** same **time** she was busy with her studies. A boy was assisting her in this. He took her to his dorm and acted to help her. Later, he drugged her, tried to...”

She paused, lowered her gaze, and **said**,

“She had **no** idea about his **intentions** because she was **unconscious**. He gave her an appearance that was indescribable. When her boyfriend returned, he found her in that boy’s room. Do you know what he did?”

Ava cast a glance at Ian, who seemed frozen. She smiled sadly and muttered,

“He betrayed her and her love by not trusting her. In a situation when she needed his support the most, he left her. He refused to listen to her and was only interested in ending their relationship. He never intended to be with her in the first place. Otherwise, why did he not look into the matter? Shouldn’t he have captured the boy. **and** punished him instead of accusing her? How ruthlessly he broke her heart and **abandoned** her in that boy’s room to suffer alone.”

Everyone gasped and turned their gaze to Ian. His face was a mask of confusion and shock. He raised his brows, unable to conceal his expression any longer.

His lips were slightly open. He seemed to be in disbelief about what he was hearing. Anyone could see the gears turning in his head as he tried to make sense of everything.

The rest of the group **was** silent, waiting to see what Ian would **do** next. The tension in the room was so thick that a knife could cut through it.

A flicker of anger spread in his eyes like he was **mad** at himself. His jaw started to clench as he almost broke eye contact with Ava

“If she truly loved that boy, why did she abandon the pack?” Ronald Solace questioned.

“She could have waited for him to calm down and clear the misunderstanding,” said Ronald, speaking on behalf of his best friend.

Ava shifted her gaze to Ronald.

“Who told you that she did not wait?” That boy left the pack **again** for his work. She waited for days for his return even after he broke up with her. She cried all day and night, calling him. He never received her calls, making the days for her worse. She later learned that he was getting married to another girl. That was the time she realized that he had moved on a few days. She could not keep waiting for him. She did not want to see him with someone else. Although she had lost all of her self-respect in front of him, she could not lose herself by seeing him with another girl. She wanted to leave the place where she could only escape from their memories. She decided to leave the pack and never returned. Before leaving, she apologized to her family and requested that they not look for her. She cut off **contact** with everyone because she wanted to live alone for a while. She wanted to start **a** new life without love, betrayal, or heartbreak. She did what she thought; she found a new pack, a new life, and maybe **a** new partner who was more loyal than her ex-boyfriend.”

She did not look at lan after finishing the story to see how he reacted. She did not even want to know if he had believed in her finally. **She** cast a direct look at Dane, attempting to gauge his emotions.

+25 BONUS

Dane’s eyes were gentle. He raised his hand and caressed her hair.

That girl was incredibly brave. Her new partner must be very lucky.”

She did not respond, only listened to him.

“You have told enough of the story. Let us take In some fresh air. Not going to play this game anymore.”

His tenderness warmed Ava’s heart. Having told everyone her side, she was feeling, emotional on the inside. But with **Dane**, she felt confident.

With him, she got to her feet. She gazed at her friends, who looked upset after listening to her story. They gave her an upset smile, feeling proud that their friend had moved after struggling in that relationship.

Ava and Dane walked out of the lounge area, moving toward the bar. They ordered drinks and began talking to one another.

With his hands clenched into fists, lan’s eyes followed them

His friends were still **in** a state of shock. They had no idea how badly they had mistaken Ava. They realized this today.

Ereya looked puzzled. She could not believe that Ava had to go through this. As a woman, hearing this was disheartening. She was not a villain who would take pleasure in another woman's demise. She used to believe that Ava cheated on Ian and that she was a bad woman. However after hearing her side of the story, she felt sorry for

her. T

Something came to mind as she slowly turned her head to face the man sitting next to her.

If she was so upset, imagine how guilty this man felt on the inside!

Looking at his perplexed expression, she raised her hand and grabbed the sleeve of his jacket.

"Jan," she let out in a soft tone.

Ian jumped up from the couch. He had a fierce expression on his face. He stormed out of the area, needing some fresh air to clear up his mind.

It was hard to assume where he wanted to go. However, regardless of where he **went**, it was likely that his mind would keep playing over everything that Ava had said a short while ago.

Tonight, she shared what was on her mind, what had happened in the past, and what he had never understood. She had clarified all his misunderstandings, leaving him with a guilt he could never escape.

He walked out of the hall but did not intend to leave yet. The dim yellow light illuminated the colorful wall as he walked to the corner of the hall **and** stood there.

A fresh wave of guilt and anger tensed his muscles.

In a fit of rage, he abruptly turned around and punched the wall. He felt a wave of pain as blood oozed out of his knuckles, leaving him in a vulnerable state.#

However, with the pain that was beginning to rise in his chest, it was nothing in comparison. Tonight, he put his faith in her words, which caused his heart to hurt. He trusted her without question.

"I can not believe I was so blind!"

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An Intense wave of agony and excruciating pain began to consume Ian. He leaned back against the wall and closed his eyes. His knuckles were aching, and his eyes were still closed. He looked in chaos.

Anyone who witnessed him in this state of rage could only hope he never opened his eyes again.

It was then that Ian's thoughts returned to the day that he had seen Ava in Robin's room.

He recalled how that day she appeared surprised to see him. When he came angrily toward her, she was shocked. It was clear that she did not comprehend the reason he was upset with her. The memory of the surprise in her eyes when she saw herself wearing the shirt and the hickeys around her neck, was still fresh in his **mind**.

She was crying while saying that she did not know anything. She was begging him not to leave her.

But...

He did not believe her. He thought he had caught her, so she was only acting.

He **was** so cruel!

He was so blinded that he never imagined Robin could trick him. He had never considered the possibility that it was a plot against them.

How could he have thought that?

He had received **many** photographs of her and Robin meeting and entering Robin's dorm. How could he **have** thought **Ava** knew nothing?

Something hit his mind as his eyes flung open. His eyes were a deep red color. There was a haziness within them, which revealed the anguish and distress that he was going through at the time.

The thought of Robin touching Ava while she was unconscious left him dazed. He could not imagine what the boy, had done to Ava.

The rage and guilt were blazing from within. All he wanted to do was hurt himself for not trusting her that d day.

“Ian?”

When he heard Ronald’s voice, he turned around.

Ronald had just emerged from the corridor and looked at Ian. Ronald looked guilty as well. But he remained silent as he approached his best friend.

Ian looked away from him and tried to leave his side.

Ronald grabbed his hand and checked on it.

“You have hurt yourself!”

Ronald sounded irritated as if Ian had **harmed** himself before.

Ronald examined Ian’s wounds, recalling that Ian had another wound like this on his same knuckles the previous night. It appeared that this man was about to break his bones and become disabled.

“Did you hear her, Ronald? She...”

Ian paused, his lips trembling. When Ronald saw his best friend in such a bad state, his heart tightened. It was

+25 BONUS

obvious that **Ian was** controlling himself as much as he coul

Ronald knew how much Ian had loved Ava. He was crazy about her. So crazy that even in the mouth of death, he “thought about her. But his fault was he misunderstood **that** girl.

“She was completely innocent, Ian. We... we all misunderstood her all these years,” Ronald uttered, lowering his gaze.

Ian yanked his hand and took a few steps away.

“No! Not you all. I am the one who got it wrong with her. She had expectations from me. I was her boyfriend, not you all. How could I do that to her?”

He wanted to punch the wall one more time. But Ronald held his arm, trying to stop him from hurting himself.

“Ian, this is not the place. Please calm down. Why don’t we leave the party? You need some space right now.”

Ronald was **afraid that** his best friend would do something wrong out of anger.

Ian shook his head. “No. I want to talk to her.”

Ronald paused upon hearing him. “What will you say to her?”

“L...

He had no idea what he was going to say. But he only wanted a chance to talk to her right now. He glanced through a window that allowed him to see inside the hall. He noticed Ava was talking with Dane. She **had** a happy **expression**.

Tan felt a pang in his chest. It was not that he was upset about her happiness; it was because she was happy with someone else.

In his mind, he kept hearing her words from the times when she had told him about Dane. Every time she talked to him about Dane, she always said she was loyal to him. By her thrilling tone and confident voice, it seemed that the man really took care of her.

She had already told him **that** what he could not give her, Dane had given her that which was trust.

So basically, in that love story, it was he who betrayed Ava

He was the one who broke her heart and shattered her, not realizing it would crash him too.

Ronald noticed Ian’s lost expression as he stared at Ava **and** Dane together. He let out a sigh and went inside the club.

He could not see **Ian** in a broken state. They had been each other’s closest friends for such a long time that they **were** able to feel each other’s suffering

While gazing at Ava, Ronald started to walk into the hall. His gaze was so fixed that he could not see the young **woman** in his way.

A collision between the two of them caused the beer that she was holding to spill onto his gray jacket.

“What the hell!

Ronald said while brushing his jacket. His eyes shifted to the woman as he spoke,

“Don’t you have an eye-”

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+25 BONUS

He paused when his eyes locked with hers. It was Abigail, Ava’s best friend.

Abigail looked shocked as her eyes were on his wet jacket. Her lips parted as she apologized.

“I am so sorry!”

She hurriedly lifted her hand and began wiping his jacket with the tissue in her hand.

Ronald’s eyes darkened as he focused on her face. He glanced at her hand before returning his attention to her face.

He then asked her a question that prompted

“Are you with that Bruno guy?”

her to raise her head and look at him.

Today’s Bonus Offer

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Abigail blinked her eyes and averted her gaze away from him. The moment she removed her hands from his “jacket, she moved away from him.

Lowering her gaze, she replied in a low tone.

“That is none of **your** concern, Beta **Ronald** ”

Ronald’s gaze pounced on her. With **an** angry expression, he turned his head away from her and chewed his lip from inside.

“How is your new project going?” he asked, shifting the conversation away from the previous topic.

His gaze returned to Ava as he closely **observed** her and Dane. He frowned when he noticed Dane touching Ava's **hair**. He thought their closeness would hurt his best friend even more.

"It's going well. Thanks for asking," she said, trying to walk past him.

Ronald quickly held her wrist and pulled her back. It caused her body to draw closer to him.

Her eyes **widened** as she focused on him.

Ronald stared at her face, and without realizing it, his eyes softened. Her long eyelashes blinked, causing him to lose his grip on her hand.

He shifted his gaze away from her and toward Beta Bruno, who was watching them from a distance.

"I have a work for you," he muttered.

Abigail narrowed her eyes and asked,

"What work? And why do you think I would do that?"

He returned **his** attention to her **eyes**, where he saw a reflection of the past. He murmured calmly,

I am the beta of your pack. You have to obey my command."

"Tam

Abigail exhaled deeply and inquired.

"What is it?"

He signaled her toward Beta Bruno. "Make him leave the party."

Abigail turned her head to glance at Beta Bruno. He raised his drink at her; she smiled at him in return.

The sight of her smiling at Bruno caused Ronald to snort. With an irritated tone, he uttered,

"I never knew people could get along in one night."

With a brief smile, Abigail cast a glance in Ronald's direction. Then she gave him her response,

“You are right. People should not get along in a single night”

Ronald’s expression changed when he realized what she was talking **about**.

“Help me with getting Ava out of the hall.”

Abigail was stunned. “What?”

Ronald cast a glance at Ava and murmured to Abigail,
wants to speak to her.”

+26 **BONUS**

Abigail remained calm and shy until she heard her best friend’s name. She gave him a disapproving, expression and said,

“Your friend had done enough with my friend. What will he do with her? Mock her and taunt her by saying she was making up stories? Your friend can never trust her. He can only blame her.”

Ronald observed how protective she was of Ava. He felt this woman had the guts to fight anyone for her best friend.

“I want to mention it again. He wants to talk... Just talk.”

“No way-

Abigail was about to say no again, but Ronald’s eyes warned her. “If you don’t help me, I have other ways too.”

Abigail looked at Ava, convinced that Ronald would devise a scheme to cause trouble for **her**. So she had no choice but to agree with him.

In truth, she also wanted Ava and Ian to have a clear conversation where they could make all the things clear. The way Ronald spoke indicated that Ian had finally realized his mistake.

But... Wasn’t it too late now?

She was now someone else’s girlfriend. She had another man in her life, and she was happy.

“Hurry **up**! Help me or not?”

Ronald's desperate voice made Abigail roll her eyes. He grabbed her arm and pulled her toward him again.

"Did you just roll your eyes at me?"

His eyebrow was raised as he looked at her.

Abigail was not a soft girl who could feel shy in front of any boy. However, Ronald Solace was different.

Since she was in middle school, she had a crush on this boy for a very long time. But she never had a chance to confess to him.

It was one night a year ago when they were at a business party; she was drunk and kissed him. He did not reject her kiss and kissed her back.

The next day when she realized what she had **done**, she felt embarrassed.

Later on, she learned that he had met his mate many years ago, but at the time, she was already engaged to another boy. Because he did not know that woman well and they did not love each other, they rejected each other and broke the mate bond.

Considering that she had not found her mate and Ronald had no partner, Abigail plucked up the courage to express her feelings to him.

Nevertheless, he presumed that she had gone to apologize for the kiss that she had given him. He admitted to her that he was also drunk that night and that it did not make any difference to him at all. It was a devastating blow to her heart when **she** found out that the kiss had no meaning to him.

After returning from the memories of the past, Abigail gave him a gentle push, which distanced them from one

+25 BONUS

another. Ronald **took** notice of it.

What am *I* supposed to do?" she asked without looking at him.

She seemed to want to avoid his gaze for as long as she could.

Ronald glanced at the phone that she was holding in her hand and said,

"Give it to me."

She unlocked her phone and handed it to him, not knowing what his plan **was**. She could only hope that once **Ava** and Ian cleared their misunderstanding, Ava would be free of **fan's** taunts and both of them would be able to let go of each other, allowing her to live a happy life with Dane.

When Abigail noticed Ronald typing something, she moved in closer to see. She saw him sending a text to Ava.

“Meet me at our old building, room B-16, second **floor**.”

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Abigail was caught off guard. She quickly snatched her phone **from** Ronald and asked,

“Why did you ask her to go there? **That room** has been closed for years.”

Ronald took out his phone and did something, then looked at Ava, only to see her take her phone from her bag as she received the message.

He was worried that she would not go to that room if she saw Abigail in the hall. So he grabbed Abigail's hand and said,

“Let's go for a walk.”

“W-What?” she was confused.

Nevertheless, he dragged her out of the party and left before she could ask him any more questions. Meanwhile.

Ava took out her phone, but before she could check the message that had just vibrated her phone, Dane held her hand.

“I had no idea he had caused you this much pain. I am sorry for what you had to go through,” Dane **said**, kissing the back of her hand.

She blushed in response to his sweet gestures. She glanced away from him and mumbled,

“I feared you would be angry.”

He patted her hand before reaching for another drink. Drinks were piled up in the center of the counter. Since Dane had ordered one for him again, the bartender quickly **placed** his drink.

Dane gulped down his drink and returned his gaze to **Ava**.

“Why would I be angry with you?” he asked.

Ava bit her bottom lip, chewing it as she was lost to say anything. He chuckled at her behavior.

“Just say it.”

Ava had many things in her head for years. There were many new questions **raised** in her head tonight too. She wanted to learn them.

She gathered her courage and turned her stool toward Dane, facing him.

“Did Freya choose you when you were all children? What had happened that night?”

Dane paused, lowering his glass from his mouth. He tightened his brows, forming a frown line between them.

Ava noticed his eyes darting around before coming to a halt. She followed his gaze and found him looking at Freya.

Freya was also looking at him. Ava felt a twinge in her heart

Was she really coming between them?

But didn't Dane say she was the one and only woman in his heart now?

“There was not much to say about that night

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+25 **BONUS**

Ava interrupted him as she held his arm, turning him to her. Her actions took him by surprise.

She looked down at her hand, which was holding his arm. She removed her hand while mumbling.

“I'm sorry if you don't like ”

He took her hand and replied,

“I like you now. That’s the main matter.”

His confession caused Ava to flush red. This man never talked like this in the past four years the way he started to talk to her now. It really felt like he was in love with her.

She felt warmth once again by his gentle touch.

“Dane, please.”

Dane lowered his head, gazing at her hand. His thumb gently rubbed the back of her hand, causing her to move her body slightly.

“This is not the right place. How about I tell you when we leave the party? Somewhere we can talk peacefully?”

Ava realized that he was right. She nodded and looked around, only to find so many people. How could they discuss his past when there were so many people around?

Her gaze drew to Freya, who was staring at Dane’s hand. Ava turned to see Dane caressing her hand. Freya’s gaze made her feel awkward.

“Okay, we will talk later,” she replied to Dane, slipping her hand out of his grip.

Dane did not mind and gulped down his drink.

Ava stared at Dane, remembering Freya’s words from the game. She claimed Dane was the one who had her cornered. Freya made it clear that it was because she had entered Dane’s life. Ava planned to ask **Dane** about it later. If it were true, she would be guilty.

She glanced at her phone and realized that she had gotten a message a few minutes ago. She unlocked her phone to check it.

She looked confused when **she saw** Abigail’s message.

‘Abigail asked me to go to a room?’ she thought, glancing at the clock at the top bar of the screen. It had been ten minutes since she texted her.

She looked around the hall to see if Abigail **had** returned, as she could not go at that time. But she could not find Abigail.

She spotted Debra and Griffin. She was about to wave at her to ask her about Abigail but paused, thinking that Abigail wanted her to go there; that was why she sent her the text.

She assumed Abigail **needed** help with something, so she looked at Dane **and** said,

“I will be back in some time.”

Dane frowned and asked,

“Where are you going?”

254

+25 **BONUS**

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Ava patted his shoulder and replied,

“Abigail needs some help, I guess. I will return soon; until then, please enjoy the party.”

I

After saying that, Ava left the hall while reading Abigail’s message again.

She tried to remember which room Abigail was referring to. The location was the old building

She shook her head while heading to the building. She grinned at the dorm students as she passed them.

The younger students were unfamiliar with her. They smile back at her after noticing her sweet gestures.

Hitting the ground with her high heels, she carefully entered the area of the old building that had once been her faculty.

She looked around the area where she had so **many memories** from the past.

She ignored the feeling and took the stairs to the lobby **area**

Within the entrance hall, she could only make out a few yellow lights that were dimly lit. It seemed as though there was no one **there**.

While she was walking through the hall, she glanced at the notice boards and the colorful letters that were contained within the glass display.

She made her way past the library and then turned down the path where the message had indicated the location of

the room.

As she began to walk, she noticed that her heart was beating more slowly than usual.

At the moment **that** her steps came to a halt in front of the door, she recognized the room.

She looked at the door and realized it **was** the room where Ian had caged her to punish her after losing his practice match.

Why did Abigail call her there?

She opened the door and entered the room, which was dark as it had been in the past.

Suddenly, a light illuminated the i

and the door behind her slammed shut, causing her to flinch.

She turned around to see who was there. Upon noticing a man leaning against the wall next to the **door**, her eyes widened in surprise.

“**You!!** What are you doing here, Ian?”

Today's Bonus Offer

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 255[1,032 words]

Ava was taken aback to see him in the room. She frowned at him with cold eyes.

Ian's back was pressed against the wall. It was as though the wall was supporting his body. His face was **nowhere** near to **match** his appearance.

His eyes were bloodshot and red. But if anyone observed in carefully, they could **see** the sorrow inside them.

However, Ava had no intention of observing him. She walked in his direction, reaching for the door so she could leave the room immediately.

There wa

was no way she could be in the same room with Ian **Dowson**.

Just as she reached the door, Ian raised his hand to block it. She moved backward by one step.

,

“What are you trying to do?” she asked.

He did not reply as he remained silent.

Her

eyes fell on his bloodied knuckles, which almost widened her eyes. However, she was able to keep her emotions under control and asked,

“What happened to your hand?”

His eyes moved to his wounded hand, then he returned his gaze back to her.

He let out a hoarse voice when he spoke up.

“Are you concerned for **me**?”

The question that he asked left Ava speechless. Was she concerned for him?

She looked directly into his eyes and muttered angrily,

“Why would I be concerned for you? If there had been someone else present in this room with me, rather than you, I would have asked him the **same** question.”

Something flickered in his eyes; he fisted his hand, **causing** blood to ooze out of his knuckles.

The sight of that startled Ava. How did he get such a deep wound?

She remembered how he tried to talk to him last **night** and punched his car. She scoffed at him, saying,

“Don’t tell me you punched something tonight like you did last night. It looks like Mr. Ian can do nothing but only punch on the things.”

Ian stared at her without saying anything. She **was** surprised that her words had not enraged him. In truth, she made that remark to mock him.

When she saw him look into her eyes, her heart rate increased. She gulped, attempting to take her gaze away from him. However, she was unable to tear her eyes off of him.

She blinked when she noticed his eyes becoming softer. She took **another** step back when she realized it was the same gaze he used to give her four years ago.

Her mind trembled, oblivious to her heart. She wondered if he **was** pulling a prank on her.

Ian removed his hand from the door as he started to move toward her.

+25 BONUS

With **that** soft gaze, Ava felt **scared**. She had no idea why she was scared “backward until her back hit **against** something.

de, She blinked a few times, moving

She hissed as a slight pain in her back struck against a small closet full of books.

A **hand** quickly grabbed her wrist, pulling her toward a hard chest.

With the bloodied **hand**, Ian cupped her cheek. His voice came out as honey with a very low tone.

“Are you okay?”

Ava froze in the state. She forgot to blink as her eyes were on Ian’s jacket. She refused to move her gaze to look at

him.

She was frozen in some way by his touch, feeling something she had not felt in four years.

What was going on with her?

When she regained consciousness, she pushed him as hard as she could. It caused him to move away from her. His back struck the wall next to her.

As if he had been severely injured, he groaned.

She was taken aback. Why did he react like that? He was an Alpha who had so much strength to get any wounds healed. How could her mere push cause him pain, as though his back were actually hurt?

She assumed he was just acting.

“What makes you so weak? You got hurt from a woman’s push?”

Her words were sarcastic toward him. But he did not respond as he gritted his teeth.

“What? Are you mad at me for saying that? Come on, spill your poison to me,” she said, trying to make him more angry. She did not want to see that softness in his eyes **again**.

The room fell silent as he remained quiet, closing his eyes.

For a moment, Ava felt guilty for pushing him so hard.

‘Did I push him that hard? she thought.

She had much power, which could be compared to an Alpha Perhaps she lost her control when he touched her, **so she** pushed him hard.

“I am sorry if I hurt you with that push. But Mr. Dawson, don’t touch me next time. I don’t like when another man touches me **like** that.”

Her words caused him to open his eyes. He lifted his gaze, and it locked with her eyes.

When she saw his eyes turn dark, she could not remain in eye contact.

She let out a sigh and thought the softness that he displayed a while ago had finally worn off, or it might be her illusion. Or what if he was drunk?

She wondered where Abigail was. She unlocked her phone to double-check the message. She could clearly see **that** it was sent from Abigail’s number.

255

+25 BONUS

Did this man get her out of the room when he learned that she was coming? Did he intend to embarrass her again! “Lame here to see Abigail. Since she is not here, I am leaving. To clear your head... If I had known that you were “In this room, I would have never thought to enter.”

She said all the things without looking at him. **She** did not just meet his gaze again.

She turned and made her **way** to the door. She just wanted to leave.

Just as her hand touched the cold doorknob, a pair of **hands** wrapped around her waist, causing her to freeze again.

“I was mistaken when I thought you had betrayed me. I was the person who betrayed you **years** ago. C-Can... Can you forgive me, baby?”

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56

Ava blinked her eyes, unable to believe what she had just heard. She felt him resting his head **on** her shoulder. "I am sorry. I am your culprit. Punish me."

She felt his voice moving her hair, touching her ear. Her eyes started to hurt inside. Her heart was pounding so fast that it seemed like it was about to burst at any moment

Wasn't it what she wanted four years ago? She wanted him to say those things when she was crying days and nights for him to return to the pack, and she said herself that everything he said was only out of anger.

Four years....

Every single day of her suffering was reflected in front of her eyes as she stared at the door without moving. Tears rolled down her cheeks. She felt she could not breathe.

Even though she had only spent a few days with him, she was thrilled and enjoyed every moment. She was crazy about him and always dreamed about him.

Even today, when she thought about the days, she could only feel pain, as if it were raw inside her heart.

The memories of the past...

Those were the only things she had to leave the pack for, and at the same time, they were the **reason** she had not come back to this place all these years.

Seeing that, she was silent and unmoved, Ian's heart clenched.

He was outside the hall a while ago when he got a message from Ronald that he could meet Ava in this room.

He rushed into this room without thinking about anything else. When he entered the room, he was flooded with memories of the past.

Years ago, he was locked up with Ava here,

Seeing her unconscious was the first time he had ever felt such concern for someone. That was the first time he realized that he had developed feelings for her. To avoid his feelings, he had told his friends not to tell her about how he carried her to the dispensary.

While he was embracing her, Ian's heart was **beating** extremely fast.

He closed his eyes, hoping to capture the moment. He wanted her not to move, and they could be like that forever.

Holding her like that again, he felt blessed. He realized that if he met her eyes, he could not express his guilt to her. So he decided to tell her what **was** in his heart like that.

"You have no idea how I lived my life without you all these years," he said, trying to take a deep breath to calm his heart.

"I have lived all these years with your memories. Your memories were talking to me as I could not forget about you. Every **time** I saw the moon, I thought of you. My days were gloomy, and my nights were dull."

His voice shook as he continued,

"My eyes were waiting for a chance to see you once. I could never forget you, not even for a single day. It was hurting me inside every day. I could not tell anyone how I was feeling. L."

\$250

+25 BONUS

He bit his bottom **lip**, which quivered at the thought of moving any further. He did not know what to express more. All of this was something he had to deal with over the years. He thought he was hating her, but his heart. He forgot her. Whenever someone mentioned her name, his heart skipped a beat, which used to rage at him for loving her so much. In truth, he could never hate her like he thought. She was always in his heart.

"I missed you. Those memories of you continued to form me. My heart was always filled with restlessness that

I would never see you again, and it continued to haunt me daily. The only reason I felt hurt was because I believed you had cheated on me. If I had known that you hadn't done that, I would have never let you leave this pack, never let you leave my life."

Deeply inhaling her scent, he moved his **head** to her neck and nuzzled her. It relaxed his trembling heart.

"I know I did wrong with you, I should have trusted you. I was so blind. I was so mad when I saw you in that boy's room. During my absence, you and he were very close. **And** that Nova continued to send me pictures of you with him. She even mocked me, saying that you kept cheating on me and I was ignoring it. When I first heard it, I did not believe it. But when I saw a video of you going inside his room with him, I lost my trust. I

could not understand why you went to his room to study, I assumed you could have studied anywhere, like the library, but why in his room? I had the question in my mind until I saw you lying on the bed while wearing his shirt. I am so sorry, baby. I should have trusted you. I should have let you explain. I...”

He breathed shakily and was **at** a loss for words. All these years, he only hated her for **cheating** on him. Now **when** he trusted her, it hurt him the most,

He regretted not having trusted her at the **time**. That would not hurt him like this.

Ian became silent when he noticed Ava was saying anything in return. He assumed she realized that he was guilty

of his action.

He sensed a slight movement at her. His heart was pounding with excitement. But when she tried to remove his hands, he became restless again.

“Ava...”

Taking another deep breath, he uttered,

Taking a

“Please, forgive me, Ava.”

As soon as **he** said that, she took his hands away from her waist and turned around to face him.

He was astounded when he saw tears in her eyes. He reached out with his hands to touch her, but she took hold of his wrists and prevented him from doing so.

While she slowly blinked away her tears, she cast a glance at his hand. Her face broke into a painful grin, and her eyes met his.

“Forgive you? You must be kidding me, Alpha Ian.”

Today’s Bonus Offer

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 257[1,061 words]

Jadooked into Ava's eyes. As deeply as he looked Into then he searched for love for himself. However, the harshness of her eyes did not allow her to reveal what it was that he desired to see.

"Ava," he mumbled.

His eyes became blurry, and he was unsure of how the feelings **that** were brewing in his heart had made their way to his eyes. He did not want to let them flow out.

She shook her head, letting go of his wrists. She wiped her gears and said,

"**Ian**, you should have distrusted me just like you did years go. Now, there is nothing to apologize for. You did what you did. You almost ruined my life. But..."

She paused, lowering her gaze from him. She closed her ey. A small smile appeared on her lips, causing him to frown.

"But what?" he asked, hoping that she could still give him a **chance** to let him explain his heart.

But

in my broken state, , someone else trusted me and gave me a new life. **And...** I am with him now."

Jan's eyes darkened as soon as she talked about another man. He knew she was talking about Dane.

All these years, there was an animosity in his mind for Dan However, tonight, **he** felt hatred for him. It was because he realized the woman he **had** lost had made her way to Dane.

Ian lifted his hand and grasped her arm.

"Please, don't say that. If you did not cheat **on** me that night, it means you truly loved me."

Ava clenched her jaw and lifted her head to look at his face.

The blurriness in his eyes surprised her. She was shocked that this man was on the verge of crying.

However, she was no longer the Ava who would feel upset for him.

The pain he had caused her made her blind to him. She did not care any longer.

She looked down at his hand, which was holding **her** arm. “Let go,” she said in a cold tone.

She could clearly feel his hands shaking. But he did not let go. Instead of leaving her, he drew her closer to him.

Her body collided with him, causing her hands to rest on his chest in surprise.

“I want you to hear me.”

“Why should I listen to you? Did you hear me years ago?” She retorted back.

“It... it was all a misunderstanding. I...”

Ian bit his bottom lip, trying to find the right **words** to explain to her. He **was** going insane as the truth dawned on him like a bolt of lightning.

“They call you a head Alpha? The Alpha who can **not** even investigate a simple incident, **how** can they trust **you** with their whole pack?”

Ava’s voice soared, penetrating his ear. However, her words struck a chord in his heart. “I tried. He **said**...”

13

2575

“**He** said **I** cheated **you**? So you believed him? But when I **sl** didn’t, you didn’t trust me. **Wow!**”

+++25 BONUS

tanblinked, not knowing what he would do. He wanted to hurt himself for not trusting her. Could he get those “years back? Could he reverse the time?

Ava pushed against his chest, moving him away from her..

“Every time you touch me, it disgusts me. How many times do I have to tell you this? A weak man like you is nothing more than egoistic. To begin with, you never loved me. How am I going to forget all the names you have called me?”

Ian froze when he heard that. He recalled how shameless he was to call her names; he tightened his fists in anger.

“You should not talk to me or explain anything to me. I am just a slut, whore, bitch-”

He interrupted her as he rushed over and cupped her cheeks. He shook his head repeatedly and said,

“No, no, no. Don’t say those **names**. You are none of that.”

Ava tried to break his grip, but he was like a stone. She stopped struggling and rested her hands on his wrists. His thumbs gently stroked her cheek, causing her to experience a sensation that she did not wish to have.

She then took a few deep breaths and closed her eyes.

“You hurt me a lot, Ian Dawson. There is no way I can forgive you.”

She remembered all the pain she had to go through.

Without opening her eyes, she questioned, “You said why didn’t I return to this pack?”

“Because this pack is yours.”

Feeling his hands freeze, she opened her eyes. Gazing into **his** eyes, she uttered,

“Every time I saw **your** interviews talking about getting engaged, I regretted loving you in the past. How can I forget how quickly you moved on? There were so many times when I wanted to talk to you, but do you know who received the call? Another woman. When she asked you about me, do you know what you replied? You only know one **girl** named Ava who is a slut.”

The rhythm of **Ian’s** heartbeat was getting more sluggish. Each and every one of her words **caused** his heart to become heavier.

He recalled his ex-secretary was a woman. She had asked a few times if he knew anyone named Ava. Every time **she** asked, he felt rage thinking about the cheating and answered her with anger. But that woman never mentioned that Ava had ever called him. Nor had he ever received any call logs on his phone. Perhaps she deleted the call logs after asking him about using his phone to send emails while they were outside the office or in the pack house.

Thinking that Ava had tried to reach him in the past, his heart turned cold.

He struggled to come out with the words, “I am sorry.”

Although he was unable to see it because of the **blurriness**, Ava’s eyes briefly flashed a green color.

“Let go.”

Ian released his hold on her cheeks, believing he was making her mad at him.

+25 BONUS

Ava took a step backward while saying,

“Like you, I have moved on. So I can only wish you a happy future with your fiancée and request that you stay away from me. I am leaving your pack next week anyway.”

Today's Bonus Offer

GET IT NOW

258

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 258[1,220 words]

Ava left the **room**, leaving Ian alone. It was exactly like that lay in Dane's company.

A tear rolled down on his cheek as soon as the door shut from outside.

He stared at the door without blinking.

How badly had he screwed up?

There was no way to get out of the guilt?

How much did she have to suffer for him?

What could he do to win her forgiveness?

Was there a chance for redemption?

What he did was not a mistake, but a sin. He doubted a girl who used to **love** him truthfully. He accused her of Infidelity. How did she feel at that time when he turned his back to her?

What a loser he was!

He closed his eyes, and more tears flowed from his eyes. He never imagined he would cry for anyone one day.

Suddenly he recalled what Ava mentioned in the game. It was all Robin's plot against them.

When he entered Robin's dorm that day, he noticed Ava wearing his shirt and **having** some hickeys on her neck. He tightened his fists, thinking Robin had touched her inappropriately.

Once again, the realization of this fact made him angry.

When he opened his eyes, they turned red.

He growled in anger and opened the door. He believed everything had happened because of him. He should have killed Robin that day.

He stepped out of the door. The whole building was empty, so no one noticed his look. He raised his arm, wiping his face with his **sleeve**.

He then left the building. He did not follow his path to the party hall.

He got on his bike and set off, leaving the campus.

Meanwhile, **Ava** went to the **restroom** after exiting the room. She looked at herself and noticed blood stains on her cheek. It was lan's blood that came from his knuckles when he cupped her cheeks.

Ava stared at herself in the mirror.

Why did she return to the **pack** after four years? Was this apology important for her life? Was **that** why her fate brought her back to this place?

Immediately, she reached for a tissue and drenched it in water. She then began rubbing it against her cheek to wipe **away** the blood.

She did not know why she was feeling so uneasy. She had already said everything she wanted to say to lan.

Her wolf started whining as if she wanted lan near her.

+25 BONUS

Why? Why are you so brazen? Dane Is going to be our mate Forget about lan. How could you forget how he betrayed us? She told her wolf.

Her wolf whimpered, desiring to be free. There was no way he would shift tonight.

She left the washroom, believing that she was free from all the accusations tonight.

When she returned to the party, she heard people talking about Ian having left the party. She walked ahead, ignoring their gossip.

Her eyes caught **her** two friends in a corner. She remembered Abigail's message and walked over to them.

Abigail saw her, and **her** eyes widened. Ava was about to ask her about the message when she rushed over and hugged her **tightly**.

"Please, forgive me, babe. It was my fault."

Ava was dumbfounded. She thought Abigail wanted to meet her there, but why was she apologizing? Shouldn't she be the one to apologize for not going to her on time?

She pulled back from the hug and looked at Abigail.

"Why are you saying sorry? I am the one—"

Abigail cupped her face and was **about** to refuse but paused.

"What happened to your cheeks? Why are they so cold?" Abigail inquired, her face filled with worry.

Glancing away, Ava muttered, "I washed them."

Debra hurried to Ava, pulling Abigail behind. "Why? What happened?"

Ava gave her a frowning look. "Why did you ask that?"

Abigail did not want to lie to **her**, so she took her hand and said,

"I am sorry, **Ava**. I sent you the message, but it was actually sent by Ronald. He wanted you to talk to Ian."

Ava **was** taken aback. "Ronald?"

Abigail lowered her gaze and nodded her head. She came to the realization that she should not have done that when Ronald took **her** for a walk outside. She even intended to text Ava again to warn her not to go there any more. But Ronald took her phone away and requested **that** she let Ava **and** Ian clear their misunderstanding for once.

Ava stared at Abigail without replying. Abigail felt like crying. "I know apologizing is not enough. I thought you had enough to give him back what he had been giving you all these years."

Ava pulled Abigail into a hug and said,

“It’s okay. Next time, avoid stumbling into their traps. I am not afraid of **Ian**, so I **don’t** care even if he comes across me any time.”

Debra exhaled deeply, smiling at her two friends. Her gaze shifted to someone who was staring at her. Her smile faded as **her** eyes met Stephen’s.

She rolled her eyes and looked away from him, not paying him any attention.

Ava pulled her into that hug to join them; the three friends looked happy.

auduthus

“Let’s enjoy the party now!” Debra sald.

Ava and Abigall nodded in agreement, smiles on their faces

+25 BONUS

A motorbike came to a halt beneath a building in the gloomy weather.

With a fierce expression on his face, the man got off the bike and looked at the building.

‘Pack Hospital‘

He had not been here for a long time. There was no need for him to come. He had his own physician who treated him and his family. If any of them required treatment, that private physician would always visit the pack house directly.

When he started to walk into the hospital, everyone started to glance at him with shocked eyes.

They had only seen this man wearing dark suits. Tonight they **saw** him dressed casually, with ripped jeans, a black jacket, and a different hairstyle. He appeared younger than his age and more rebellious than when he wore formal

suits.

The people recognized him and bowed to him.

He went directly to the elevator to get to the top floor. When he arrived, he made his way to the last cabin. Since the head Alpha only **used** the floor in an emergency, it was empty.

When the doctor assigned to the floor learned that he had arrived, he rushed over

“Alpha! You are here!”

r to him.

The doctor said, bowing his head while glancing at his clothes. As he **noticed** something, he stood straight and said,

“Alpha, your **hand!**”

Jan ignored him and focused his gaze on the window glass of the cabin. His eyes darkened and became fiercer as they landed on the man lying on the bed.

“Do you remember what I said last time before leaving the hospital?”

The doctor lowered his head **and** replied,

“You said you would return here when you want him to wake up.”

Jan’s eyes turned red and his lips crawled as he stared at the man in bed. With a cold voice that almost shook the doctor, he muttered,

“The **time** has come. Wake him up.”

Today’s Bonus Offer

GET IT NOW

259

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 259[1,019 words]

The sector appeared to be stunned. Sweat broke Into his forehead as it rolled down his face, reaching his neck

He glanced at the man lying like a dead body on the hospital bed. He looked pale, losing nearly all of his blood. The large amount of equipment next to the bed suggested that might be receiving serious medical attention

The doctor inhaled deeply before speaking

“Alpha, Robin has been in this state for three years now. You wanted to kill him. However, after that, you chose to punish him with something more lethal than death.”

Ian’s eyes flashed as he recalled how he did not let go of Robin years ago. He Indeed tried to kill this man. But he did not do that when his father arrived to stop him.

Though he used to believe that Ava had cheated on him, there was a thorn in his heart that always told him that if this man did not exist, maybe everything would be fine in his life. He could never forget that he dared to touch Ava in spite of knowing that she was his girlfriend. He dared to play with fire, so he had to be burned.

“This punishment is nothing compared to what awaits him” Ian said, lighting a cigarette.

He reached into his pockets, but there **was** no lighter inside.

The doctor noticed this and quickly took out a lighter from his pocket to light the cigarette for him.

Biting the cigarette between his teeth, Ian spoke again.

“How many days?”

The doctor understood that he was talking about how many days it would take him to wake Robin up.

“Alpha, his blood has been changed every four months for years. When it was purified, it was injected with toxin, a temporary poison that caused him to **feel** as if his entire body was on fire.”

Ian’s eyes returned to Robin, inhaling the smoke deeply. Puffing out **the smoke**, he remembered **Ava’s** words.

This man touched her, and she did not want it. He had dared to touch her while she was unconscious. He had drugged her drink **and changed her** clothes. This man **had** dared to see her body. This man dared to **leave** those dirty marks on her neck.

Ian balled his other hand, feeling the urge to rush into the room and kill the **man** right there.

However, it was not enough for the sin he had committed.

“Alpha **has** already felt so much over the years. If he awakens, it will be a trauma for him. Because, despite **his** unconscious state, he had been experiencing all of the pain you had caused him.”

Ian’s **brows** twitched as he turned his head to look at the doctor.

He removed the cigarette from his lips and pointed at him with the **fingers** that held it.

“Do you mean you want to replace yourself with him?”

The doctor’s eyes widened. He immediately lowered his head.

“Alpha, I never **said** that. It is just that I have **never** witnessed such a painful punishment before. My apologies if I dared to offend you.”

+25 BONUS

fan lifted **his hand**, prompting the doctor to close his eyes fear. Ian placed his hand on his shoulder and patted

People should consider the consequences of their actions before committing a crime. Don’t you think so?”

The doctor nodded his head, cursing Robin in his head.

‘This man might have done something very serious, I should not be sympathetic to him. It will only lead to my demise. Alpha tan has the ability to do anything. What if he gives me the same punishment?’ he thought.

He cleared his throat and responded,

“**Alpha**, please give me a few days. I will wake him up with the cure I got from the witch in the Red Moon Pack”

Ian took his hand off the doctor’s shoulder. When the doctor mentioned witches, he felt irritated.

He was not fond of witches. In his opinion, why did the witches have powers? Magical realms where people could play with fire and air whenever they pleased did not appeal to him. Witches, in his opinion, were the most overrated beings who lacked the strength to oppose the Alphas. They were evil creatures, using their powers to harm those around them.

“I don’t care. “Is it that old witch?” he inquired, blowing smoke **from** his lips.

“Yes, yes, Alpha. Despite her advanced age, she **remains** strong and beautiful. She said she was happy to assist you.

Ian scoffed when he heard the doctor.

That woman was old and well-known among the Red Moon Pack. When Ian visited the Red Moon Pack two years ago, he met her.

He was surprised to **discover** that she was the same witch **who had** met him as a child. He was just ten years old at the time.

At their first meeting, she told him something he did not like. From that day, he started to dislike the witches even

more.

Jan's lips turned into a painful smirk.

"That woman knows nothing. Someone else captured my heart, and I **ended** up hurting her," he reflected.

The doctor noticed his expression. Looking away from him, he recalled **what** the witch had told him.

"Alpha, she said something to me. Since you are here, I can tell you what she said."

Ian was unconcerned about what the woman had said to him.

The doctor did not notice his disinterest. He thought Ian **would** be interested in hearing it.

"She said you **would** remember her because you were going to meet the woman she had mentioned to you."

Ian's eyes darkened. "I am going to meet that woman?" he muttered.

The day he **had** met that old woman for the first time came to his mind. He clearly remembered her words and the woman she had mentioned.

"Little boy, you will need to be strong in the future and keep your emotions under control because there **is** a beautiful witch in your destiny who will steal your heart. Your love will be pure for her, but she will be **your**

269

demise,"

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 260[1,011 words]

Ava ment some time with her friends, Ignoring the conversations between her and Ian popping in her mind. Tonight she felt as though something heavy had been lifted from her heart.

The fact that no one would accuse her from today made her very happy.

She was free.

She **had** no fear of **humiliation**.

Sitting on a couch, Ava looked around the hall. She had been looking for Dane since the moment she returned. However, he went somewhere, and she was unable to locate him. She expected to find him later, after spending some time with Abigail and Debra.

But it had been half an hour **and** Dane had not yet returned

“Are you trying to find Alpha Dane?” As she followed Ava’s eyes, Debra Inquired.

Ava gave a head nod. “**Yeah.** Where is he?”

“Maybe he left the party,” Abigail said.

Ava turned to look at her. “Left? No way.”

Ava took her phone out of her bag to call Dane. However, she was surprised to see Dane’s message.

She read the text in silence.

“I am outside near the car. You can enjoy the party and come out whenever you want.”

Ava locked the phone and looked at her friends. “He is outside. I think I should leave now.”

Abigail and Debra exchanged glances before nodding their heads.

“Sure.”

Ava got up from the couch and glanced at Stephen. He looked upset as he sat in a corner, holding a glass of beer.

Suddenly she remembered something and turned to Debra,

“What’s going on between you and my brother?”

Debra was surprised at first. But then her gaze moved to Griffin, who was talking with Beta Bruno.

She smirked and replied, “As I said before, I like his cute face. A handsome wizard is good to date, you **know.**”

Ava sighed, folding her arms across her chest. Debra looked up at her with a confused face.

“What?”

Ava glanced at Abigail, who appeared to be perplexed as well. Ava returned her gaze to Debra, clarifying her question.

“What is going on between **you** and Stephen, Debra?”

Debra’s eyes widened as if she had not expected the question. “W–What are you saying?”

Abigail **turned** to Debra and asked,

“Are you hiding something from us, **Deb**?!!

+25 BONUS

Dobra frowned at her and snapped another question to her What about you? You never told us about how you and Beta Roland had shared a kiss with each other.”

Abigail’s cheeks flushed, turning red. It made Ava laugh.

“Come on, guys.

Abigail avoided looking at the other two and muttered,

“Ava, Alpha Dane may be expecting you. You should not make him wait. We can talk about it later.”

Ava shook her head, laughing at her friends expressions. “Okay, fine. We will have important talks.”

After thinking about her own self, she muttered,

“I also have a secret I would like to share with you **two**.”

Debra and Abigail both looked up at her, looking confused. Didn’t they already know all of Ava’s

“Bye, guys,”

H

Ava took her **leave** from them and walked gracefully out of the party hall.

When she walked to Dane’s car, she found him outside his car, smoking.

“You are smoking? It’s not good for your health, I told **you**.”

Dane threw the half–burned cigarette. “Fine?”

“Yeah,” Ava replied, chuckling.

Dane examined her face and said,

“Where were you at that time?”

His question froze Ava. She rubbed her fingers against her palm, feeling nervous.

“You mentioned that you went to see Abigail. But after you had left, Abigail came back to the hall.”

Ava lowered her head, thinking she should be honest with him.

She reached out her hands and grabbed his sleeves. With a soft voice, she spoke,

“Dane.”

He raised his **hand**, pushing a hair **strand** from her face behind her ear.

Ava closed her eyes when she felt his touch. It made her think of Jan’s touch. But that was not the same as this. That touch was something she **could** not understand.

What be

Ava?” he asked, observing her with his keen eyes.

While avoiding his gaze, she mumbled,

“Dane, I ran into Ian that time.”

Dane’s finger paused on her hair. She quickly **raised** her head to look at him.”

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“Are you mad at me?” she asked.

His expression was indifferent as if he did not care, however, his eyes darkened.

+25 BONUS

“You claimed he was the one who had hurt you. Then why did you

go to meet him again?” he said with a serious

tone.

She bit her lower lip to gather the right words, ensuring he didn't misunderstand her.

"He... he apologized to me, Dane. 1..."

"Do you still love him?"

Ava froze when she heard him. Her heart started to beat faster. That was something she had never asked herself.

She quickly shook her **head**, meeting his gaze.

"No! No, I don't love him anymore. I can **never** love that kind of man again. How can you ask that when he broke my heart so badly?"

When she answered his question, his finger started moving again. "You are right. You don't love him."

Ava got closer to him and wrapped her arms around him. She took a deep breath while resting her head on his chest.

She knew when she got closer to him, she felt calmer. She always felt safe with him.

However, tonight, her heart did not calm down like other days. Nothing seemed to be working right now, She was feeling restless on the inside.

"Dane, please never misunderstand me. You are the only man who I trust the most. You will always be the first person in my heart."

Dane caressed her hair, wrapping his other hand around her waist.

"If you truly want to be loyal to me, you must promise me something."

She raised her head to look at his face. "What?"

He lowered his head, causing his nose to touch hers. He gazed deeply into her eyes as he spoke.

"Never, ever forgive him." 3

Today's Bonus Offer

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 261[1,106 words]

+25 BONUS

261

Dane's words surprised Ava. "Never forgive him?" she mumbled.

Her thoughts reverted to the regretful eyes. Dane looked really regretful about the misunderstanding

"Yes, don't forgive me. Never. He made you suffer for all these years. I do not want you to forget everything and start acting as if he had never done anything wrong.

His words compelled her tender heart to change her mind.

Dane was right. She should not forgive Ian. He broke her heart numerous times, and she should never forget it.

She nodded, causing her nose to brush up against **his** again. "Okay."

Dane's eyes flickered as if he was satisfied with her answer, he leaned in closer, shifting his gaze from her eyes to her lips.

Before his lips could touch hers, they heard giggles. Dane turned his head and looked to the side.

Ava blinked, her cheeks flushing red. She **cast** a glance to the side where Dane was looking. She saw a few girls holding their phones as if they were clicking their pictures and recording videos.

"L-Let's leave," she mumbled, moving away from Dane.

Dane glared at the girls, who were startled by his dark eyes. They hurriedly ran to the other **side**.

Dane sighed and walked to the front door of his car. Ava sat in the passenger seat, while Dane took over the driving

He started the car and headed to Ava's house to drop her.

Ava remained **silent** throughout the ride. She leaned back against the seat and looked out at the passing road. She took a deep breath, unsure why her heart was heavy.

When the car stopped in front of her house, Ava turned to Dane and asked,

"What was Freya saying at the time? You cornered her? But you told me she was the one who had fallen out of love.

Dane's eyes were on the parked cars near the house. He did not respond to her, which bothered her. She asked, reaching out to grasp his hand,

"Dane, you mentioned we would talk about it later. Then... **what** happened?"

He turned his head to meet her curious gaze. His lips parted as he spoke,

"It's true. I was first to fall out of love. Because someone else caught my eye at that time."

Ava's hand **shook** around his hand. She slowly removed her hand from his, not knowing what to think.

"How could someone else capture your attention while you were with someone? **Was** that not considered cheating?

she thought in her mind.

"**Ava**, don't think too much. I had been searching for you for years. So when I finally found you, I was relieved. I did not immediately think about pursuing you; however, as time passed, I realized that I was bound to you. You were the one who tied me to your **fate**."

201

+25 BONUS

Ava lowered her head. She remembered Freya's face when she had said her story. She was very upset. The pain that flashed in her eyes was visible.

But **Dane**, she used to love you. You shouldn't have broke her heart."

"So? Didn't Ian do the same with that Nova girl when he started approaching you?

She was startled by his question. She raised her gaze and met his eyes.

She recalled Ian made Nova his girlfriend after rejecting her as his mate. But then he realized that he did wrong when he rejected her; later he broke up with Nova.

"That was different. Ian liked to **play** around with girls. He was not that serious at that time. But you... I have heard your side **too**. You said you loved her. You even said that you made the other boy separate from her in childhood. Weren't you talking about Ian that time?"

Dane was silent. Ava thought she would have to know what had happened years ago that affected three people's minds so badly.

“Dane, please. Tell me.”

Dane tapped his fingers on the steering wheel and turned his attention to the house. He thought for a while, reflecting on that night, then said,

“When we were kids, Freya was fond of Ian. However, she was selfish too. She was more interested in me because we used to live in the same pack. So I was her favorite companion. On the other hand, seeing her growing friendship with **Ian**, I didn’t **like** it. I was afraid he would take her away from me. So I told her parents that I wanted her only with me. If she befriended Ian, I would not go to the same school as her or help them with anything in the future.”

Ava was not expecting this. He made a bad decision to end a friendship. But she did not speak as she wanted to.

“It was the night after Freya’s birthday. We came to visit this pack with our parents. Our parents had told us to go to the garden. We went there together. Ian was overjoyed that night. He approached Freya and told her that he had prepared a gift for her. I was not pleased with it. Because I had already given Freya the gift she said she liked best. It was a lovely small crown for her size. I ordered it with the help of one of her friends.”

Ava stared at Dane. She could not believe Dane was so thoughtful at his young age.

“However, Ian ruined all of my efforts. He gave her a small violin, stating that he had heard she wanted to play it. Freya seemed shocked when she saw the violin. She indeed liked it. But she refused to accept it, telling him that she wanted to break their friendship and only **wanted** to be with me. She didn’t want any other gifts. Ian was surprised and asked if I had said something to her. I was mad at him for asking me questions. I grabbed his violin and threw it. The violin broke on the ground. He was furious and dashed toward me. We got into a heated fight that time. In the fight, Freya got hurt in her legs. I got **mad** and punched him hard.”

Ava bit her bottom lip; she did not want to accept that, but she felt that Ian was not wrong there.

But Dane’s next statement shocked her even more, revealing why Ian disliked his father.

“His dad knew what a loser he was. When he noticed Freya was hurt, he slapped him. When he realized his son had started the fight, he forced him to kneel in front of everyone and made him apologize to me.”

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 262[1,142 words]

262

Affer parking his bike inside the garage, Ian was about to exit. His steps halted as he turned to look at the broken sports car. Every time he looked at it, all he could think about was the pain he had endured following the accident. He recalled how he secretly hoped to see Ava again, but she never came back. This car used to increase the hatred for Ava in his heart.

But tonight, he regretted it.

He regretted all the times he thought he hated Ava; he regretted the times he thought she cheated on him.

His legs moved toward the car. He lifted his hand and reached out to touch the cracked windshield. He let out a low groan as he caressed it with his fingertips.

There was blood streaming from a cut on his finger. It was the same hand that had been wounded on the knuckles. He looked down at his fingers. Suddenly a memory flashed in his head.

He recalled how Ava was hugging his leg, begging him not to leave her when he found her in Robin's room. He even called her names and said that her place was beneath his feet.

"I should have died in the accident. I wouldn't have to feel this regret."

With his bloodied hand, he touched his chest and placed it over his heart. With a deep breath, he murmured,

"Even if I die, I will not be able to make amends for what I did to her. I deserve to be punished."

After a long time, he left the garage, heading to the front door of the pack house.

When he went inside, all of the lights were turned off. He returned home late at night.

When he reached his bedroom, his steps came to a halt. He saw his mother sitting on the bed, holding her phone to her ear.

As soon as she noticed him, she removed the phone from her ear.

"You are back! I was calling you, but you did not answer

as if he got h

She paused when her gaze fell on the blood **on** his t-shirt inside the jacket. It looked as if he got hurt on his chest.

She rushed toward him in fear.

“Ian! My baby, what happened to you?”

She began to cry while holding his arms.

Seeing his mother crying for him, Ian felt an emotional turmoil inside. He did not know whom to share his regret and pain with.

He pulled her into a hug and closed his eyes.

“Mom.”

His mother froze when she heard his painful voice. She patted his back while **saying**,

“**Ian**, we should call our private doctor right now. You need to be treated. What happened to you? How did you get that wound?”

Ian could hear the desperate tone in her voice. He released the embrace and **looked** at her.

1/3

262

+25 BONUS

“Mom, I am fine. It was my heart that was hurt, not my chest. Mom, I am a really horrible person. Such a person has no right to exist.

She was too shocked to react when her eyes met his watery eyes.

She immediately cupped his cheeks and sobbed. She was a mother. A mother could not see her child’s pain.

This was the first time she had ever seen him like this. From childhood, fan was a strong child who never cried when he wanted something and did not get it. He was a wise child who liked to listen to his parents. However, after what had happened in the past, he started to distance himself from his parents and began to live like a careless boy. After that, it was impossible to imagine anyone ever seeing, tears in his eyes.

In the last four **years**, he had become the most successful Alpha, possessing a dominant **aura** and a powerful personality. Nobody could believe he was capable of crying.

“What are you saying, Lan?” She inquired, her gaze drawn to the wound through which the blood had flowed.

She felt trembled inside.

“Your hand!”

“Just some simple cuts, Mom,” he murmured, trying to pull away when she grabbed his hand.

She dragged him to the bed and pushed him to sit down. She walked to the nightstand and opened a drawer where the first-aid box should be. She took out the box and sat down next to him.

She wiped her eyes before she opened the box. She then began to dress his wounds.

Ian’s eyes were on his mother. He could see how much his mother cared for him.

“With whom did you have a fight? Is it because of Freya?”

His mother’s question caused his brows to furrow. “Why would I get into a fight for her?” he asked.

She paused, lifting her gaze to meet his. “Your wounds looked like you got into a fight. I thought it was because of her since you loved her the most.”

The blurriness in his eyes faded as dark clouds appeared in them. “Mom, who told you that I love her?”

Ignoring his expression, she continued to dress his wound. Because she is your childhood lover. That is why, when you said you wanted to make **her** your Luna, **we** agreed.”

“Childhood lover? Is this what you thought?”

“Or else?”

“**Mom**, that’s not true. I liked her when we were kids. But we are not kids anymore. “That is not even love, so op calling her my childhood lover,” he said in a disturbed tone. Because his mother’s words made him rememb.. Ava’s words about him **and** Freya. She did not care if he got married to Freya or any other woman.

Carolina closed the first-aid kit after bandaging his knuckles and applying a Band-Aid to his finger.

She examined his face and observed his expressions.

“What happened? Has she broken your heart? Why are you suddenly saying this?”

Jan’s face became calm as he took his mother’s hand.

262

+25 BONUS

“What if I said I broke someone else’s heart, Mom? I hurt her so badly that I can not mend her heart again. How can I apologize to her?”

“Carolina was caught off guard. Someone else? Did her son break another girl’s heart?

“lan-”

“Mom, please. I can’t see any way in front of me.

Thinking that he had made a mistake, she let out a breath.

“**lan**, you have no choice but to apologize because you cannot win back her heart. If she doesn’t want you to be near her, you should stay away from her.”

“But... I want her back, Mom,” his voice trembled.

Carolina was shocked. She **was** not sure what to say. That time, she only said whatever came **to** mind.

“You can only get **another** chance if fate gives it to you.

Today’s Bonus Offer

GET

NOW

283

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 263[1,458 words]

been two days since the reunion party. After the party, any pictures went viral. There were two pictures that “went viral the most. One was Ian with Freya, the soon-to-be Lama of the Mystic Shadow Pack. Their presence at the party was alluring. People clicked their photos together and uploaded them on the internet.

The second one was Ava with Dane. People started gossiping about them. They were stunned that their gamma’s sister was dating their **rival** Alpha.

Whom would the gamma choose if one day a battle broke out? His Alpha or his future brother-in-law?

Someone clicked some photos of Ava with Dane. They even uploaded a video of their closeness, which looked quite intimate

They were outside Dane’s **car**, hugging each other tightly. The video also included footage of their noses brushing against one another. It was only twenty seconds of video, and it ended as if they were about to kiss, but the people did not dare to record their kiss in case Alpha Dane was offended.

In a large office room,

There were so many photos scattered on the glass of the table.

A man was leaning against a chair holding a photo, ignoring the other pictures. His eyes were sharp, staring at the one photo.

“Alpha, this morning, a video has gone viral. Would you like to look?” Assistant Neon spoke as he moved toward the desk.

He then handed a tab toward his Alpha and murmured,

“If you want me to take the video down, I can talk to the-

Before he could complete it, Tan grabbed the tab from his hand and checked it.

As soon as he began watching the video, his eyebrows raised. Dane and Ava appeared to be very close in the video. They were about to kiss when the video abruptly ended. It looked like they had kissed each other that night at the reunion party.

Ian’s fingers clenched the tab, causing the screen to crack.

Assistant Neon gave him a quick glance before gulping. Did he make a mistake by showing him the video? He was not expecting Ian to be so angry.

Ian rose from his chair and threw the tab on the ground. His expression clearly conveyed his

Neon stepped back and bowed before him.

“My apologies, Alpha.”

anger.

Ian squeezed his fists. His gaze shifted to the photograph he had been holding before watching the video a few minutes ago. It was the only photo of him and Ava that someone took that night. Both of them were sitting across from each other and looking into each other's eyes with different emotions. They were playing the game while telling their versions of the stories.

However, after watching the video, his blood began to boil. His calm heart began to race, yearning to kill Dane.

It had been two days since the party, and he had decided to stay away from Ava **as** she had requested. But why

203

+25 BONUS

could he not make his heart understand it? Why did his heart long to be with her again? How could he convince his heart that he had made an Hreversible mistake?

1

That night, his mother told him that only if fate gave him another chance could he be with her. But who was poing

to tell her that he had already ruined his chances by rejecting her as his mate? Therefore, there would be no second chance.

Ian clenched his jaw and directed his gaze to his assistant.

“Find out who dared to post the video. I want that person here.”

Neon quickly stood up straight and responded,

“Yes, Alpha.”

Ian reached for his suit jacket that was hanging on the chair He then moved towards the door.

Seeing that he was going to leave the office, Neon spoke from behind.

“**Alpha**, the Alpha of the Livano Scarlet Pack, has arrived at our company. He said he would think about giving us the next project, which Alpha Dane is aiming for.”

Ian's steps came to a halt when he reached the door. His hand gripped the doorknob as he opened it.

Neon was completely stunned.

“It took us three days to make that **Alpha** agree to come to our pack. Since he knew Dane wanted that deal so badly. it was risky for him to come to our pack. Is Alpha Ian rejecting the meeting? What could be **more** important than this? he wondered.

Ian turned his head to the side and answered,

“Cancel the meeting for now.”

Neon's eyes widened. “Cancel it? But Alpha-”

“I am going to meet someone. That's more important than anything to me.”

After saying that, he left the room.

Neon stared at the door. He had been observing Ian for the past few days. He started to behave strangely.

After shaking his head, Neon took out his phone and called someone, who instructed him to watch Ian

Once the phone was connected, he said,

“Beta Ronald, Alpha left the office to meet someone.

“Is he alright?” Ronald asked.

“A video of Miss Taylor and Alpha **Dane** went viral, and he saw it. He didn't look in a good mood.”

Ava's work on the annual ball project had kept her busy. She was clueless about what was happening on the

internet. She kept herself occupied at work. Even though her department's employees gossiped a few **times**, she thought she should ignore them. She only believed in hard work.

+25 BONUS

There was no way she could lose the project.

Sha was currently sitting in her cabin, shuffling some files and searching for some fabric details.

Fabrics alone have the potential to change the game. A good costume requires good fabric. Designs rely on it.

Her phone buzzed on the desk, grabbing her attention.

She sighed, grabbed her phone, and checked the **message** she had just received.

“I’m flying back to the Thunder Howl Pack. I have some work based on **Livano** Textile. I will return before your birthday.”

Ava sighed as she saw Dane’s message. This project was very important for him. It would take the Thunder Howl Pack to a huge peak, crossing the Mystic Shadow Pack’s economy,

As she was thinking about Dane’s project, someone knocked on the door.

“Come in.”

A male employee opened the door and said,

“Someone is here to meet you, Miss Taylor. Please proceed to head Alpha’s office.”

26%

+25 BONUS

Ava frowned, wondering who had come to see her in the company. Could it be her brother, Stephen, or one of her *friends? Because Dane had taken Griffin and Bruno with him in the Thunder Howl Park.

She got up from the chair and nodded her head at him.

She noticed the employee was giving her a strange look. Walking out of her office, she turned to face him and asked,

“Is there anything **else**?”

The employee shook his head, glancing at the other employees who were sitting at their desks. Ava observed them. They were giving her the same look.

“What’s wrong with them?” she wondered.

She ignored their look and turned her heels to Dane’s office.

She was about to take another step but paused. She realized someone had come to meet her, but the employees allowed them into Alpha’s office!

How could they let anyone enter the head Alpha’s office?

She turned her attention to the employees. They hurriedly lowered their heads, feeling that she **had** caught them staring at her.

“Have they lost their minds?” she muttered.

She walked faster, unaware of who had arrived. Who could have been so important that they had to let them sit in Alpha’s office?

She arrived at the office room, which was next to her cabin but large enough to cover a long distance between two,

doors.

As **soon** as she opened the door, her gaze fell on the man sitting on the couch.

She felt a sense of **déjà vu**

A few days ago, she came into this room with Dane, and he was sitting on the couches just like this.

What brought him here?

“You!”

She mumbled, standing at the door. She had no intention to go inside to talk to him.

Hearing her voice, he turned his head to look at her. Ava felt **a** twinge in her heart when she noticed his gentle eyes. She tightened her fists to ignore the feeling and glared at him.

“Mr. Dawson, what are you doing here?” She spoke out in a cold voice.

Jan did not reply as his eyes became fixed on hers. His silence enraged her.

“You came here to disturb

She quickly paused her loud voice when she realized she was **in** the office and there **were** many employees working behind her.

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 264[705 words]

She turned her head to glance at them. She noticed they were staring at her from their desks with curiosity.

Av let out a sigh and said in a high voice so that they could hear her.

“Mr. Dawson must be here to discuss some project, Welcome to our office again.”

After saying that, she walked into the office room and closed the door behind her.

When the door closed, the employees glanced at each other. They were curious to know why Alpha Ian had come here when **Alpha** Dane was **not** present.

Since Jan was the head Alpha of this pack, they had to let him rest at Dane’s office. The whole pack was this man’s; how could they let him wait in a waiting room **like** other ordinary Alphas?

Many questions began to arise in the employees’ heads.

“Did you see how Miss Taylor was on the verge of falling down the stairs that day and how Alphan saved her? He looked really worried as if they had known each other for years.”

“You are right. I also noticed that. Alpha Dane looked mad when he touched Miss Taylor. It looked like

furious.”

“Why wouldn’t he? Miss Taylor and Alpha Dane are now together.”

“Are they officially dating?”

“Of course! Didn’t you see the video? Isn’t it already official?”

he was

A senior employee stood up and told the employees to focus on work instead of gossiping. Since the time was running out and they had come all the way to this pack to work on a project, they should work hard rather than talk about what was going on in others’ private lives.

The employees instantly turned their attention back to their work as they were afraid that the senior would complain to Alpha Dane about them.

Meanwhile,

In the office room,

Ava stood at the door, which was closed. She was staring at the man, who had been quiet for the past few minutes.

“How dare you come to this company? And why are you in Dane’s office? I wonder how they let you in? All of my employees are fools.”

She muttered angrily.

Ian kept quiet as he looked **at** the center table, which had a few burnt cigarettes on it. He did not smoke after entering this room. That meant those cigarette buds belonged to Dane. He wondered if Ava stopped him in the same way she used to stop him from smoking.

“Do you hear me? Or did you become deaf **after** discovering the truth? I thought you were blind, but you **have** also become deaf?” Ava spoke as she folded her arms against her chest and leaned against the door.

She was annoyed when she received no response from him. **So** she sneered at him.

“Oh, **wait**. Why did I ever say **that**? You were deaf from the start. My bad!”

She shook her head, making fun of him.

204

+25 BONUS

She remembered **Dane’s** words. He had told her whenever lie would come across she should recall all the sufferings and blazed fire side her for him.

if you have nothing to say, you should leave now.”

Ava thought she should not wait any longer for this man. So she turned around and was about to grab the doorknob, but he spoke up.

“Did you kiss him that night?”

Ava froze, not knowing what he was talking about. She turned around and asked,

“Excuse me?”

Tan turned his head to look at her. Locking his gaze with hers, he rose up from the couch.

Ava gulped as her gaze followed his movement.

That night at the reunion party, he looked like the old Ian she used to know. Today, he was giving her the same feelings as that old Ian.

The Alpha Ian **and** Jan Dawson, both were different in her eyes. They were like different souls in the same body. One was tough and scary, and the other one was a troublemaker yet soft.

Ian approached her, then halted in front of her. Her eyes darkened, but she showed no sign of fear and remained motionless.

Ian looked into her eyes and asked,

“Did you kiss that man at the reunion party?”

Today's Bonus Offer

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 265[836 words]

When Ava heard Ian's question, she was completely taken aback. It appeared to her that this man had completely

“lost his mind.

With a frown on her **face**, she asked him, “Are you ever **real?**”

Ian did not move his gaze away from her. While looking at her, he took his phone out of his pocket.

Ava saw him doing something on his phone. When he turned his phone to her to see something, **Ava** was taken aback.

The video played a scene in which she and Dane were getting closer to one another. It looked very intimate.

She remembered what happened that night. They had not kissed. She remembered that there were some girls there. It dawned on her that it was possible that they were the ones who uploaded the videos to the internet.

The scene of her and Dane's noses brushing against each other caused Ava's cheeks to flush.

When Ian noticed that she was blushing while watching the video, he clenched his other hand.

A stab of pain went through his chest. A restlessness gripped him. His heart ached at her reaction. **It** seemed that she did not look surprised to see **the** video.

He locked his phone and put it back into his pocket.

"So? You two..."

Ava raised her head and looked into his eyes. "Well, we didn't kiss..."

Ian let out a breath that he had been holding for a long time. However, his breath caught in his throat when he heard her **again**.

"But

"But we were about to."

His jaw clenched while his eyes turned cloudy, hiding his emotions and rage.

"I don't know what you want, Mr. Dawson. Don't tell me you have come here just to ask me if I had kissed my boyfriend or not. I mean, come on."

Ava spoke with a bored tone. He saw her eyes brighten as if she had something on her mind.

She folded her arms again and asked,

"Are you not happy with your fiancée? Why are you so eager to know about your rival's love life? Why don't you just go and kiss your fiancée instead? I bet you **have** done that with her and other women countless times."

Ian stared at her, without replying to her.

He did not know why he could not express his feelings to her while looking into her eyes.

He had already shown her his emotional and vulnerable side on the night of the reunion party.

"Are you happy with him?"

Out of nowhere, he asked the question that shocked Ava. Her folded **arms** loosened as she blinked.

“W-What?”

205

+25 BONUS

He softened his tone, calming himself, and asked again.

“Ake you happy with Dane? Is he treating you well?”

Ava gritted her teeth. She got mad at his question.

She unfolded her arms and stepped close to him.

Her scent touched his nostrils, yearning to hold her in his arms. But he controlled himself. He tried his best not to react or do something to make her mad at him.

“What is with the sudden good boy behavior, huh? You came to my office, entered my boyfriend’s room, and are now asking me silly questions. What is on your mind, Alpha lan?” She inquired with a chilly tone.

He **gave** her a sad smile and replied truthfully.

“**You.**”

She glared at him. “Me? Really? Until that night, I was a prostitute in your eyes. Now that you have realized the truth, you are thinking I am a gold digger, too?”

This time, lan could no longer mask his emotions. His face appeared to be painful as he shook his head. “I didn’t mean that.”

“Then what? Why are you here? There is no way you care who I kiss or sleep with, as you have already created an image of me in your head,” she muttered, averting her gaze from him.

She stepped aside and walked past him. He turned around to see what she was doing.

He noticed that she walked toward the desk and tried to open some drawers. Upon discovering that all the drawers were locked, she exhaled with a sense of relief.

Her actions hurt him even more. “Did you think I came here to steal something?”

Ava nodded her head. “Of course.”

She moved toward the bookshelf near the desk. She began to shift the books, trying to see if **they** were placed appropriately or if someone had touched them to find something.

Ian could not stop his mouth anymore as he scoffed at her.

“Do you really think I need to do such a cheap thing to get anything from that man?” he asked with disbelief.

“Alpha Dane,” she uttered, turning her head to him.

“What?” he asked, thinking that she was so lost in Dane that she had forgotten his name.

“Mr. Dawson, he is Alpha Dane. Don’t refer to him as ‘that **man**’ when my **man** has a very attractive name,” she said with a grin, winking at him.

268

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 266[916 words]

266

The abrupt change in her mood caught Ian off guard. She looked in a good mood as if she was not angry before.

Whenever she referred to Dane as her man, he experienced heavy heart. It was as if his heart was being squeezed inside every time she said that.

“I know **what** you are thinking. Actually, whenever I think about Dane, I just can’t help but feel happy inside. He is so good to me that I always thought, Why didn’t I meet him before? He should have been the first love of my life.”

Her every word was only shuddering him. His eyes tried to conceal a deep sorrow inside him. The corners of his mouth turned up slightly as he murmured,

“First love...”

She was his first love. She was the very first girl that he had ever developed feelings for. His thoughts had always been drawn to her whenever anyone brought up the subject of love. During these four years, he came to the realisation **that** he was deeply in love with her. Despite trying to hate her, he could never forget about her for a

moment.

She was always in his mind, recalling every moment that he had spent with her. He had never thought about any other girl because she **was** the only girl he wanted to make his Luna. Four years ago, didn't he already tell his parents that he had found his Luna? Didn't he already make the decision to take her as his own for the rest of his life?

He had never felt the same way about anyone as he did about her.

What else could it be if it was not first love?

With a deep breath out, he remarked, "People say no one can forget their first love."

Ava's eyebrows raised slightly as if she was affected by what he had said. But she nodded her head right away and answered,

"You are right. No one can forget their first love. I will always remember it as a betrayal. And you..." she said, pausing to smile at him as though gathering her thoughts.

Assuming she was aware of his innermost thoughts, he asked, "And me what?"

The truth was he could never forget her and would never forget her either.

"You don't have to forget your first love since she's with you and always will be," she laughed.

Ian was stunned. His brows shot up and his eyes gleamed in hope. He suddenly felt unexpectedly happy inside, thinking that she had forgiven him and wanted to be with him forever.

"Ava"

He was about to tell her that he still loved her just like he did four years ago because she was his first lov

However, she turned around and moved toward the bookshelf, shifting the books again.

"Freya is a nice young lady. I used to think of her as a pretentious woman. But hearing her story made me feel guilty. I really feel sorry for her. Because of me, she felt comered."

Ian frowned, fixing his gaze **on** her back.

12

780

+25 BONUS

Who told her that Freya was his first love? He used to think that Freya was the first girl in his life for whom he fell But he was wrong. He was a kid who was seeking company and liked her. He indeed had a soft spot for Freya. But hat was not love.

It **was** Ava who made him realize what the feeling of love was. She was his first love, not Freya, nor anyone else.

He blinked when he heard her again. Her words directly stabbed his heart.

“But no worries. That was our destiny. If she didn’t break up with Dane, you could not get her, and I could not be with Dane. He is not my first love, but he will always be my last **love**.”

Jan felt heartbroken. Did she just say she loves Dane? How deep was her love?

“Ava, don’t say that in front of me. You know how guilty I am. I know you are saying this just to hurt me,” he **said**, lowering his head.

She turned around and asked,

“What are you saying? Now I can’t even express my love for my **man**? Why would I make you **feel** guilty?”

He looked at her and asked,

“Don’t you feel anything whenever you see me with another woman?”

“Didn’t I tell you to be happy with your fiancée? I am happy for you both,” she replied carelessly.

Ian did not know what to feel. The pain that he was experiencing in his chest was only getting worse with each

response.

“Do you really love him so much that you have forgotten your feelings for me?”

She glared at him and replied, “I love him so much that I can kill you for him.”

Jan felt a shiver inside hearing her cold voice and unexpected reply.

“Ian Dawson, when will you stop bothering me?” she asked directly without beating around the bush.

He flashed his eyes and shook his head. "I was very hurtful to you. I don't want to do that **again**. If you really **want** me to stay away from you and let you live how you want, I won't disturb you again. I... I will handle myself."

She placed her hands on the desk and **nodded** her head.

"Of course. I did the same thing years ago. It is your turn to handle yourself, Mr. Dawson."

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 267[1,114 words]

+25 BONUS

267

Sting into her eyes, he asked one last time what was on his mind.

"What can I do to make you forgive me? I can't live with this guilt, Ava."

"So you are here to ask for forgiveness? Do you think it's easy to forgive someone who made you suffer?" Ava asked with a disappointed look

Ian wanted to rush toward her to hold her and tell her that he still loved her. There was no one in this world who could love her as much as he did

"I know it's not easy. But... I am sorry."

His continuous apology irritated Ava. She did not **want** to ligar him. She just wanted him to stay away from her. Why could he not do just a simple thing?

"Ian Dawson, do you think the world is encircling around you? You are free to cause harm to anyone you choose, and when you feel guilty about it, you ask for forgiveness. When someone refuses to forgive, you start pressuring her to do so. Just wow! What an arrogant man you are!"

Ian shook his head slowly. "You are mistaking me. I am not forcing you. I am just-"

She raised her hand to stop him as if she was bored. "Look, have **a** project to work on. I am putting my all into it. I don't want to lose it. So **leave** and let me focus on my project."

Saying that, she walked around the desk. When she walked past Ian, he grabbed her wrist.

Ava immediately yanked her hand. "Don't you dare again!"

Ian looked down at his hand. She behaved as if she was disgusted by his touch.

His heart was crushed. He remembered he also did the same with her when she tried to touch her four years ago. Not only that, but he did the same thing when he met her in the Thunder Howl Pack club.

Feeling embarrassed by his actions in the past, he felt hatred for himself.

After giving him a glare, **Ava** said,

“You **want** me to forgive you, right? How can you even expect that? If I had seen after returning to this pack that you had investigated everything and punished that jerk, I would have forgiven you. But what did I get? Only humiliations? Forgive my foot! I hate you, fan:”

Ian stared at her with pain clouding in his eyes. **Ava** was glaring at him with hatred in her eyes.

A knock on the door broke their eye contact.

Ava hurriedly turned around and opened the door.

She **saw** Beta Bruno. She blinked her eyes when Bruno’s **eyes** shifted from her to Ian.

“Beta Bruno, you are here?” She mumbled.

“Looks like you did not expect me to come here,” Bruno muttered, returning his gaze to her.

Ava lowered her gaze and responded,

+25 BONUS

“It’s **not** like that.”

Bruno scoffed and uttered, “Perhaps you wanted to be alone in this pack. Alpha left me here for nothing. You don’t “need protection anyway.”

Ava raised her head to look at Bruno. “What? Dane left you here for me?”

Jan’s eyes were on Ava. He could see the amazement in her eyes for another man. She might be deeply in love with Alpha Dane.

With the heaviness in his eyes, Ian spoke,

“I am leaving.”

Beta Bruno frowned at him and asked,

“What is Alpha Ian up to? Alpha Dane has left the pack today for some reason. But he will be back soon.”

Ian did not let him complete as he walked past him, leaving the office. He did not seem to care about what Bruno was saying.

Beta Bruno shook his head, noticing how the man ignored him, and left.

Ava **was** surprised by how quickly **Ian's** expression had changed in front of Bruno. It took only a few seconds when she opened the door, and his soft expression turned dark when he saw Bruno.

He did not seem to want anyone else to see his soft side.

“Why was he here?” Bruno asked, walking into the room.

Ava stepped aside, allowing him in. “He”

She sighed, realizing she should not lie to anyone. “He came to apologize.”

Bruno's legs froze. He spun around and looked at her. “Alpha Ian and apologize? Are you serious?”

Bruno at first did not understand what Ava was talking about, but then he recalled the reunion night. His face grew softer as he whispered,

“Well, I thought about the incident after learning your side at the reunion party.”

Ava was stunned, looking at him. “What?”

Bruno averted his gaze and answered,

“You had been in the same situation before. So you were blameless that night. I misunderstood you.”

When she came to the realization that he was talking about the incident that had happened in the Thunder Howl Pack where Dane had saved her, she lowered her head.

“I am sorry. Because of me, you all had to lose your Theta.”

“No, Alpha did the right thing with him. He didn't deserve that position,” he uttered.

Ava smiled at him and asked,

“So.... there is no grudge between us now?”

He seemed taken aback. “Who told you? My sister was about to become my Luna, but you snatched my Alpha from

+25 **BONUS**

her.”

When she heard that, it made her **upset**. “I swear, I didn’t do anything. I...”

She did not have any words to say. She was at a loss. She didn’t snatch Dane. She believed she began to fall for him after he had broken up with Freya.

In the lobby area,

Everyone was looking at Ian as he made his way to the front door. He ignored everyone and exited the company in a bad mood. Though he did not show it, he was extremely upset inside.

When he got into his car, his phone rang.

He checked the phone and saw it **was** his assistant. He cut the call and told his driver to go back to the company.

The phone started ringing once again, making Ian mad. He received the call and prepared to yell at Neon. But before that, Neon spoke out,

“Alpha, we have good news!

“Spill,” Ian said, turning his gaze outside the window.

Neon responded cheerfully,

“A week ago, you placed an order for a fabric that was not available in any other pack. Just a few minutes ago, the fabric was delivered to our organizational headquarters.”

Ian did not reply, **only** listened to him.

“**Alpha**, you are very smart! It will be a brilliant move for the annual ball project. Now our company can easily beat Alpha Dane’s company in the competition.”

26日

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 268[1,541 words]

As the days went by, Ava continued to focus her complete attention on her work. Dane was busy in his **pack**, but he “called her to ask if she was doing okay in the Mystic Shadow Pack..

Time passed swiftly, and Ava’s birthday was approaching as well.

Her family was planning a party for her without letting her know. It was a secret. Her mother, Angela, was very happy that her daughter **was** here this year and they could celebrate her birthday together.

Since Ava always came home late, Stephen did not get a chance to talk to her. He was very guilty and thought about how to apologize to her.

He thought about giving her some presents to make her happy. He did not have any idea what to give.

Suddenly he had an idea and dialed a number, thinking that the person could help him.

The call rang for the fourth time. As Stephen thought the person would not receive the call and he should cut the call, the person received it.

“Who the hell are you disturbing my sleep?” A voice rang in Stephen’s ear.

He shut his eyes and moved the phone away from his ear.

“Can’t you speak less loudly?” He spoke, then brought the phone to his ear after a few seconds.

As if the person on the other end was stunned by hearing him, she asked,

“Stephen?”

He rolled his eyes. “Who else?”

“I was on a beach with **a** handsome boy and you! Who the hell are you to interrupt my wet-I mean, my happy dream?”

Stephen’s eyes darkened as he **asked**, “You can’t think of another thing without boys, right?”

“Correction, handsome boys.”

He tightened his grip on the phone and muttered,

“I made a mistake when I called you. Go back **to** sleep,” he barked and hung up.

A few seconds later, his phone rang. He did not want to receive the call, but it kept ringing. He took the call and asked,

“What?”

“What the hell, bro! You ruined my sleep and hung up the phone without giving me an explanation.”

“I am not your bro, Miss Debra,” he said, gritting his teeth.

“Why? Someone once claimed that he was my friend’s brother. So I think I should respect him,” she said in a sarcastic way.

Stephen raised his hand and glanced at his watch. “Get ready. Meet me at the shopping mall close to your house.”

“Wait a second! Why would I get ready? Why would I go to a shopping mall with you? And how the hell do you

268

+25 **BONUS**

268

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+25 BONUS

know where I live?”

Stephen smirked, letting out a chuckle. “You underestimated the Gamma of your pack.”

Debra remained silent for a moment until his ear caught the sound of her breath. Stephen’s gaze flickered for a

moment.

“I see why you checked my address. It is probably because of your sister. You might want to add my address to your list in case you need to **locate** your sister outside your house, right?”

Stephen did not reply. Bet he was feeling dumbfounded. He did not find out her address for that reason. However, there was no way he would admit why lie **checked** on it.

“Yeah, right. Now get up quickly. I need your help choosing a present for Ava.”

“I won’t help you.”

He frowned and said,

“You won’t? Then let me come to your house.”

“No, **you** don’t have to. *I* don’t want to create any drama in front of my parents. They are at home. Can we meet directly at the mall near my house?”

He thought for a moment before responding, “Okay.”

After saying that, he hung up.

With a grin on his face, he left his house.

Ava rubbed her forehead because she had a headache from working nonstop for so long. Dane was not here, so she was not eating on time. She pondered whether the unbearable headache was the reason her blood pressure dropped.

“Miss Taylor, why don’t you go home earlier today?” one of the employees said.

Ava gave it some thought. If she became ill, she would be unable to complete the costumes successfully. Some costumes still required some work.

“Okay, I am leaving then.”

Ava left the office at **six** of the clock in the evening,

Just as she was ready to call a cab, Stephen called her. She quickly received it.

“Steph, is everything okay at home?” she asked.

“Why? Can’t your brother call you without any reason?”

Ava shook her head. She did not **mean** that. They usually only talked during dinner with their family. Lucy rarely called each other like before.

“I am sorry.

I didn’t mean it, Steph.”

“Ava...”

268

+25 BONUS

Stephen paused as if he wanted to say something but hesitated.

“What happened? Are you alright?” she asked in worr

He let out a deep breath, breaking his hesitation, and said,

“Come to our campus. We are waiting for you in the hall where we used to arrange ceremonies.”

“What

Before she could ask anything, Stephen cut the call. Ava looked at her phone, wondering why Stephen had called her there.

She did not waste any time, hailing a cab and rushing to the campus.

When she was on the way, Abigail called her. She asked if she was free. Ava told her about Stephen.

“Are you going to the campus? Debra and I are very close to our campus. Let’s meet there then. We will get there before you and wait for you.”

“Okay,” Ava replied,

When Ava reached her campus, she recalled the reunion party.

She ignored all of her thoughts and went to the hall where Stephen had called her..

She arrived at the hall and opened the door that was quite long. It was a vintage hall where farewell ceremonies were held. **When** she entered, she discovered that all of Ian's friends **were** there, and her legs were frozen.

For a moment, her gaze wandered around until it finally settled on Abigail and Debra. It appeared as though they had just

arrived there. But rather than looking happy, they appeared to be perplexed.

Ava turned her gaze to Stephen as she approached him.

“Steph, why did **you** call me here?”

Before Stephen could respond, Ava flinched at the sudden sound of someone closing the long door.

Just as she turned around to see who had entered, her eyes widened in shock.

Ian entered the room while holding the back of the collar of a man.

Her **lips** trembled, seeing the man she hated the most.

“R-Robin?”

Today's Bonus Offer

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 269[1,008 words]

with one hand clutching Robin's back collar, **Ian** grabbed hair and moved toward Ava.

“Please, let me go,” Robin kept saying.

Everyone was shocked to see Robin. In fact, Ian's friends were also taken aback. It seemed that they were also unaware of Robin's whereabouts.

Ronald looked at Ian with a pair of confused eyes and asked,

“Where did you get this bastard?”

Stephen growled as he was about to rush toward **Robin** to attack him. Cyrus and Paul held his arms, stopping him from doing anything.

Stephen moved his gaze to Ian and questioned,

“You said you wanted to apologize to Ava for the last time. What is Robin doing here?”

Ava was not in the sense to hear what Stephen had just said. Her eyes were fixed on Robin.

Her eyes welled up in tears. She blinked, rolling the tears down on her cheek. She could not believe that she **was** seeing the man who **had** ruined her life, changed her fate, destroyed her heart, and given her a life of humiliation.

Ian replied to Stephen with a deep voice,

“Your sister’s birthday is coming. So I thought, why not give her a heartfelt apology and at the same time give her something as a present that she had been desiring to get?”

He stopped in the center of the hall, placing the chair there. He pushed Robin toward Ava, who was standing nearby.

Robin fell exactly on **Ava’s** feet. He shook his head, avoiding the gaze of others.

“No, no. Forgive me,” he kept murmuring.

Ava turned her gaze to Ian, who sat comfortably in the chair and folded **his** legs.

“Don’t cry, woman. You said I could not give him a punishment. Today, I am giving you the opportunity. Why don’t you just do **justice**?”

Jan’s words pierced her heart.

Gasps could be heard from far away. It could be coming from her friends, who were looking at Robin with surprise.

Robin knew his game was over the moment he heard Ian’s voice. He could not believe Ian had uncovered the **truth**.

He had been in a coma for three years. He had felt everything around him, the pain, the burn, the stress, and the punishment. But he could not open his eyes. He felt as though he had been buried and wished to escape the punishment that was taking place inside his **grave**.

“I have already received my punishment. Please have some mercy, Ava,” Robin said, reaching (or

leg to beg.

Seeing that Robin was trying to touch **Ava**, Ian growled at him.

The growl shook everyone except Ava. Robin pressed his head against the floor, asking for forgiveness again.

+25 BONUS

Robin

Tangled at and then turned his dark gaze to ora

five

Ay are you so softhearted? Isn't you say you want to him?

After a moment of silence, Ava scoffed at Ian

Ian was taken aback. He wanted to ask what was wrong, before that, she spoke

"Softhearted? Are you kidding me? I just did not want to show that side of myself, and you all thought I could let go of this bastard who ruined my life? Do you really think I am that weak? Are you playing tricks on me, Ian Dawson?"

Ian frowned at her words. He wanted to deny her. His eyes caught

her fears, assuming that she had a fragile heart and could not punish anyone. So he decided to punish Pobl in front of her so that she could be at peace.

But before he could move or say anything else, Ava's teary eyes changed color. They turned green

Everyone was taken aback by what they witnessed as Ian could not take his gaze away from hers

"Of course, I will punish him on my own," she said and bent down.

She grabbed Robin's hair and pulled him to his feet.

Robin was afraid of Ian until he saw Ava's green eyes. He was confused as to why her eyes became this color.

"So? Robin, how are you?" Ava spoke with an evil grin on her face.

She looked terrible, with tears and a smile on her face. She wiped away her tears, revealing her stunning green **eyes**, which could captivate any wolf or wizard.

“W-Who are you?” **Robin** spoke, trying to scramble away.

But the moment he tried, every muscle in his body seemed to scream in agony.

“What are you doing with me?” he screamed, in pain.

He felt frozen in his head as he moved backward.

Ava did not stop moving toward him. She started to speak while moving her hands.

“On that day, you claimed to be able to fix cell phones. That’s why I went to your room with you, didn’t I? Then, while we were in your room, how could you not fix it?” She asked, raising her right hand.

The long maroon blind that was located on the right side caught fire almost immediately.

Everyone was shocked. Stephen, along with Ava’s friends, let out a scream.

“AVAI

To look at them, Ava turned **her** head to the side. She gave a light shake of her head while her green eyes narrowed ever-so-slightly.

“Don’t try to **come** near me. It is just between him and me. I will handle him on my

Y OWIL”

Stephen was stunned by her cold voice. He **could** see her fierce face. He had never seen her like this before Her friends were baffled. Debra clutched Abigail’s hand tightly in terror. They were unfamiliar with this side of Ava. They were not aware of who she really was. She was way more powerful than their kind, someone who could

play with fire!

Meanwhile, Ian was staring at a shock. The fire reflected in his e

what he **was** seeing.

His lips parted as he mumbled,

“You are a witch!”

As if **his** slow whisper had reached her ear, she turned to Ian and replied,

“Why are you shocked? Are you afraid I will come for you too?”

as his **legs** unfolded. He could not believe

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 270[1,086 words]

270

270

When Robin noticed Ava talking to Ian, he tried to seize the opportunity. He stepped aside and attempted to run.

But at that moment, Ava turned to him.

He froze in his state.

“A–Ava, please let me go. 1–”

Before he could finish, Ava raised her right hand, igniting the fire in the left blind.

Robin started moving backward. With each step, the blinds beside him caught fire one by one.

The large hall started to fill with smoke. While trying to get a glimpse of what her best friend was doing, Abigail began to cough and wave her hand. She was worried for Aval Debra, on the other hand, was unable to react due to her shock.

“The fire will burn you, Ava! Don’t go there!” Abigail said and tried to go there.

A hand reached out and grabbed her wrist, preventing her from going to that location. When she turned her head, she discovered Ronald standing next to her.

“Leave me. I need to go to Ava. She will get hurt.”

Once more, Ronald made an attempt to stop her, but she continued to struggle against his hold. When Ronald noticed she was not listening and was out of control with her emotions, he hugged her from behind and whispered into her ears.

“Be calm. She won’t get hurt. She is a witch. A witch always exacts revenge using her powers.”

Abigail paused, realizing that **Ava** was a witch who had the power of fire. She caught the fire to the blinds, but what if the whole hall turned into ash, and everyone ended up getting hurt?

Was Ava also capable of putting out the fire?

“**Ava**, I did nothing,” Robin sobbed in terror. No one came to help him.

The flames surrounding him continued to intensify, licking his clothing. The heat was making it hard for him to breathe..

Ava’s eyes locked with his. Her face **was** a mask of cold fury. “You didn’t do anything?”

Her hand waved, causing the fire to grow stronger and spread toward the ceiling

It **was** evidence that her anger was growing. The flame was increasing with her anger.

When Robin’s back came to press against a wall, the fire was raging around him,

Ava stopped in front of him.

I

“Why did you do that to me? What did I do wrong with you? I thought you were a friend. You

As she said this, her glowing green eyes shifted to his hands.

dared to touch

He shook his hands. “No, don’t-”

270

She cut him off by grabbing his hand.

+25 **BONUS**

He cried out in agony when he felt a burning sensation in his bone. He tried yanking his **hand**, pushing her, and pulling it away, but everything went wrong.

Robin’s eyes widened when he could not feel his hand anymore. He took a long, careful look at his hand. He noticed his wrist burning as she held it.

The fire was actually emanating from her **palm**!

He just could not believe it. He tried to move his shoulder, but his hand landed on his neck, burning his skin. She gripped his neck and pressed hard

“ALPHA! PLEASE SAVE ME. PLEASE! She will kill me.”

Robin screamed for Ian’s help. But Ian’s eyes were on Ava. It was as if he was watching her every move in shock and amazement. She seemed like a new person he had never met before; it was not the Ava he knew.

“Alpha? Are you calling him Alpha? What happened to this respect when you touched the girl who was his girlfriend?” she yelled, tightening her grip around his neck.

It **was** then that blood began to seep out of his neck. Through the wound that **was** engulfed in flames, blood was oozing out.

“I SWEAR I DIDN’T DO IT INTENTIONALLY. IT WAS....”

Robin paused as if he was hesitating to say. However, the pain was unbearable, so he spoke up again.

“IT WAS NOVA AND HIS FATHER.”

When Ava heard that, she took a pause. Everyone was bewildered by it.

“Nova and his father?” Jan muttered in a low tone.

His brow arched as he refused to believe this man again.

“Please trust me. I did everything according to Nova’s dad. he is my uncle. He had told me to get you out of Ian’s life so his daughter could be with him.”

Ava shook her head. “You are lying.”

Robin exclaimed in agony, screaming and groaning.

“No, please trust me this time. In fact, it was all **Nova’s** plan. She told me to do those things **so** Ian would misunderstand you and break up with you.”

Ian felt his heart clench inside. That night at the reunion party, he truly believed Ava **was** hurt. However, hearing it again from this **man** made him feel as if someone had stabbed his heart countless times.

“Kill him,” he said with a growl.

He was losing his control. It was becoming increasingly difficult for him to remain unmoved in the chair. All he wanted to do **was** rush to Robin and kill him, then go looking for Nova and her father.

When **Ava** heard Ian, she sneered. She let go of Robin's throat. Robin's body slid against the wall, like a lifeless body. However, he was still alive.

270

+25 BONUS

But he looked horrible. His neck was scorched, his skin was peeling off, and blood was cascading down to his white shirt, leaving it bloodied.

His hand was bleeding. He could not feel his hand either.

He did not want to live bearing the pain he was feeling right now.

Ava looked down at him and **said**,

"You have got enough punishment. Don't dare to do it again with another woman."

After saying that, she started to step backward. The fire began to die down with each step.

Ava turned around and looked at Ronald. "Take him to the hospital. He will need half of his life to heal the wounds that a fire witch gave him."

Ian could not blink his eyes. He was the one who doubted her and shattered their love, Shame, guilt, and a glimmer of respect whirled within him.

His **mind** was racing as well as his heart.

The way she completely controlled the fire, he was mesmerized by her capabilities,

Once again, he fell for her.

He was so blinded *by* love that he forgot she was the witch he had been warned about in the past.

Today's Bonus Offer

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 271[1,053 words]

271

+25 BONUS

271

Jagot up from the chair, **staring** at Ava. When she came to stop in front of him, she looked into his eyes with her glowing green eyes.

“Didn’t I tell you before? **I** am a fire. If you get closer, I will burn you. Look at me very carefully. This is me. A Fire witch and an Omega—a hybrid.”

Ian could not take his eyes off of her. Her beautiful eyes captured her, making him freeze in his state.

He recalled that he experienced burning on his wrist when he visited her home in the Thunder Howl Pack.

The realization that he had experienced the same burning sensation when touching his hand in Robin’s room caused his eyebrows to shoot upward.

How could he have ignored **that**?

Seeing that he was not responding, Ava’s eyes moved from **him** and shifted to her friends, who **looked** scared. She **was** upset because she feared they would not accept her in this way.

Her eyes moved to Stephen, who looked at her with shocked eyes. He **was** also unaware of this.

Her secret identity had finally been revealed in front of them.

Ava looked away from everyone, glancing at Robin for the last time. He looked half dead, crawling on the floor in pain. She did not kill him; instead, she punished him harshly in a way he would never forget.

Ava looked at Ian for the last time before swaying her hair behind her shoulder and making her way to the door.

Before leaving, she looked at her friends and said,

“Call me when you two feel comfortable talking to me. I apologize for not telling you my true identity.”

She did not say anything else and exited the hall, her eyes returning to black.

Ronald let out a sigh when Ava left. He realized he was still bugging Abigail, who remained unmoved. He let her go and patted her shoulder.

“Take your **time**,” he remarked.

He then concentrated on his best friend, who was staring at the spot where Ava had stood before him a while ago.

He went over to lan. He observed him and noticed that he was not blinking. He thought lan **was** in shock

He whispered to lan,

“Fuck! It turns out that she is a hybrid. You must be bothered by her being a witch. You hate witches so-”

lan cut him off as he murmured,

“She is beautiful.”

Ronald was dumbfounded. His eyes widened as he tilted his head to look at Jan’s face carefully.

“What the fuck, Bro? After everything that happened here just now, all you have to say is she is beautiful? Are you even real?” Ronald said, waving his hand before lan’s face

lan blinked and looked away.

13

271

+25 BONUS

Ronald frowned when he noticed the corner of lan’s lips rise upward. “Don’t tell me you once again fell for her?”

Jan lifted his hand and scratched the back of his neck. He chuckled while biting his lower lip.

“Bro, bro, come on. Have you gone insane? Things are already twisted. You can’t make everything more twisted.”

Jan looked at him, arching his brows. “I know. Why are you making me feel like **that**? Can’t you see I am happy?”

“Happy? Happy for what? For seeing your ex-girlfriend in witchy look? Really? Oh man! People have it right. Men go blind when they are in love!”

“**Yeah**, just like you, Ronald. We saw you protecting someone a while ago,” Cyrus said, walking up to them.

Ronald paused, shifting his gaze to Abigail, as if to see **if** she **was** alright. Abigail and Debra were hugging one another. They were in disbelief. They needed some time to return to normal.

Jan turned around, ignoring their conversation. His eyes fell on Stephen who was **in** a really bad mood. He seemed to think of attacking Robin.

“Steph!”

At the moment that Stephen had reached Robin and started to kick him in the stomach, Ian rushed toward him.

“Don’t kill him,” Ian warned Stephen.

Stephen narrowed his eyes and gazed at Ian. “Why? Why are you saying that? Take a look at this man, Ian. He was the one who ruined your and my sister’s lives. Because of him, today I realized how distant my sister and I had become that she could never share her true identity with me. I can’t forgive him.”

Stephen punched Robin out of rage. Ian held his arm and pulled him **away**.

“If you kill him, I would not give the punishment to the **real** culprit. I need him to stay alive.”

Hearing Ian, Stephen calmed down. Ian was talking about Nova and her father. They should be punished for their pathetic actions,

Robin passed out on the ground. Paul called the pack doctor and asked him to send some men to take Robin to the hospital.

When Ava’s friends left the hall, Ian’s friends asked him about Robin.

“How did you find him? He was supposed to be in another pack,” Stephen said.

Ian shook his head and told them everything.

Three years ago, Ian brought Robin back to this pack and sent him to the coma. It was a punishment for him to touch Ava. However, if he had known that Ava was innocent, he would **have** killed him that d

“You did what? You had been punishing him for three years?” Ronald asked, feeling surprised that he still did not know his best friend properly.

“What he got was nothing compared to what he did,” Ian said.

what

Making his way to the door, Ian left the hall. He was feeling mixed **emotions**. It was **not** difficult to understand what he wanted.

“Ian, you said you would let her go,” Ronald said, walking beside him outside the campus.

271

+25 BONUS

Ian got into his car after unlocking it. Ronald took the passenger seat, planning to follow his destination.

Ian grabbed the steering wheel and turned to face Ronald.

Ronald noticed Ian's eyes were filled with pain. “Ian,” he whispered.

Ian **exhaled** deeply and shook his head.

“I am trying my best. Giving her the chance to punish Robin was my final apology to her. Now that there is nothing between us, I will not bother her again. I will only follow where fate leads me.”

272

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 272[867 words]

272

Tomorrow was Ava's birthday. It nearly slipped her mind. After what had happened yesterday evening, she could “not think of anything else.”

Seeing Robin in front of her eyes, she had an urge to kill him there. But she kept her cool and reminded herself **that** she was not that type of person.

She did not say it, but she was shocked to learn that Nova was the mastermind behind the entire conspiracy.

How could she do such things to a woman when she herself was a woman?

Ava did not cry last night. She had grown stronger. She did not need to cry over silly things when she had the ability to do things she wanted.

She looked down at her palms. It was her hand that was the source of the fire that emanated **from** her body. Anyone could be burned by the intense heat of the fire. But it was the process of nature that her fire could not hurt her. She could not get burned in the fire.

It was late in the afternoon.

Ava was sitting on her bed at home when she heard her mother call for her.

She got out of bed and moved to open the door.

“Yes, Mom?”

“Honey, your friends have come to see you.”

Ava dashed downstairs, only to find Abigail **and** Debra sitting there.

“Abigail! Debra!”

Ava ran over to give them a hug but stopped. Thinking they would not return the hug, she lowered her head.

Abigail and Debra approached her, pulling her into a group hug.

Ava’s mother Angela smiled when she saw them hugging. She **said**,

“You three can talk. I will prepare something for you.”

Ava hugged her friends tightly. She became **emotional**, believing that her friends were angry at her.

After breaking the hug, she gave them an upset look. “I am sorry, guys. Maybe you two felt awkward after seeing me yesterday.”

They both shook their heads. They clasped her hands and responded,

“Who told you? We were just shocked. Being a witch is not a bad thing. You are a hybrid, which is cool. Imagine the power you hold. We are proud of you,” Abigail said, cupping her face.

Debra nodded her head. "I have always been a fan of witches and wizards. Have you forgotten what **I said** about your brother Griffin? We don't have an issue with it. We were afraid you would get hurt, and we were surprised to **see** you like that because we had never seen you like that before."

Ava grinned at them. "So we... are **we** okay?"

"Of course, **babe**," **Abigail said**, reaching for another hug. Debra joined them. Then all three of them laughed

1/2

272

+25 BONUS

together.

Anela prepared snacks for them. They ate while talking about Ava. Angela had learned from Stephen that Ava's Friends were aware of her identity.

"She has been unique since childhood. I was the one who kept her hidden. But now that she has found someone suitable for her, I am pleased for her," Angela said, stroking Ava's hair.

After some time, Angela and Debra went to Ava's room with her.

As soon as Ava entered her room, she noticed a few bags on her bed. She moved toward the bed and grabbed the bags. She saw three sets of clothes inside.

"Boom!"

Debra spoke from behind. She gripped her waist and said,

"Hurry up and get ready."

Ava realized it was her birthday tomorrow. Her family might have planned a celebration for her. She chuckled, remembering how her mother had summoned her to this pack for this day. So she should be well prepared.

She looked over at her friends, who were staring at her. "Okay."

They gave a smile and grabbed their dresses. It **was** them who chose Ava's dress and brought it to her house as her birthday gift.

Ava put on the dress and looked in the mirror.

The dress was sleeveless and long. A large bow design could be seen near her chest.

In her attractive body, the white dress looked stunning,

Abigail wore a black dress, and Debra wore purple. They cast glances at Ava, admiring her beauty.

“We will get you ready today.”

They made **Ava** sit in front of the mirror and begin doing her makeup.

When it was finished, **Ava was** amazed by their efforts. She looked like a pretty doll. The stunning makeup complements her white **dress**, giving her the appearance of a princess.

They got ready after doing her makeup. Putting on their beautiful heels, the three friends exited the room **and** proceeded downstairs.

While descending the stairs, **Ava** noticed how beautifully decorated the **house** was for **h** remembered her last birthday in this pack. That was four years ago. How could she have store for her that day?

ie suddenly

gotten what was in

Her gaze shifted to the guests as she stepped up the final stair. Her eyes came to settle on the one person who had ruined her last birthday in this pack, making it the worst birthday of her life.

She could not help but feel **annoyed**.

“Now what is he doing at my birthday party?”

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 273[884 words]

Avd was surrounded by the guests her parents had invited for the surprise party. It appeared as though Stephen “had invited his friends to attend. Her parents Invited Martin Dawson and Carolina Dawson as they were friends

Ava’s eyes were on Ian. She sighed and looked away from him, moving her gaze to his parents.

She tried to put a smile on her face and greeted them.

“Hello, Uncle, Auntie.”

Martin put his hand on her head and said,

“I wish you a long life, my child. I am delighted to be a part of your celebration again. Happy birthday.”

Ava nodded her head after thanking him. Carolina embraced her and said,

“You are a beautiful child. Our lovely omega is a beautiful witch.”

She was stunned. She glanced at her mother to know if she had told them about her. Angela gave her a nod, indicating that she had already told them about her.

“How are you, Auntie?” Ava asked Carolina.

“Always fine. This is for you,” Carolina said, lifting her hand.

A maid was behind her. She quickly placed a rectangular box on Carolina’s palm. Carolina held it before handing it

to Ava.

You didn’t need to,” **Ava** said with a smile.

“Come on. You are like our daughter. How can we not give you any presents?” Carolina chimed.

“Open it,” Martin said.

Ava opened the box as her friends were also urging her to open it.

When Ava opened the box, her eyes were lit by stones that shone brightly under the light of the chandelier on top.

She was taken aback when she saw the heavy, antique jewelry set. It was a diamond necklace paired with earrings. The design was unique and looked really expensive.

“It is one of our ancestral jewelry pieces,” Carolina said.

Ava’s eyes widened. “Why did you”

“Take it. You are a precious girl. This is nothing in front of you.”

Carolina’s words really touched her heart. Gamma Harper nodded his head at his daughter. “Yeah. Take it, my dear.

Ava had no choice but to keep it to herself.

Everyone started to give gifts to her. She smiled as she placed them on a corner table. She would see the presents after the party.

Stephen came over to hug her and apologized. Ava expressed happiness that everyone had finally discovered the truth. She had no need for an apology anymore. Proving her innocence was enough for her.

273

+25 BONUS

The whole time, Ava **made** herself busy with her friends and family. She ignored the man who had been staring at her since she had come downstairs. His gaze was fixed on her the entire time as if he was quietly observing her.

*Ava took a quick glance at the wall clock. She noticed it was almost 12 am. She checked her phone and saw no

messages or missed calls.

She was waiting for someone. He had told her that he would come before her birthday. However, it appeared that he would be unable to make it.

Ava walked toward the front gate to take in the fresh air that was blowing in from outside.

“Wva.”

Her steps came to a stop when she heard the man’s voice, which she did not want to hear. She turned **around** and put a **fake** smile on

“Yes, Alpha Lan?”

lan took a look at her. His eyes moved from her head to her face, then returned to her eyes.

“Did you just check on me?” she asked, frowning at him

As if he had been caught, he immediately spoke up, “I was just admiring your beauty with my eyes. It is commendable.”

Ava was stunned by his words. Had he lost his mind?

“Why are you at my party? Do you want to ruin my birthday like last time?” she asked, reminding him of the past.

He lowered his gaze, letting out a sigh.

“Ava, look. I am deeply sorry for the past. I know I hurt you but-”

He paused when the sound of a car screeching came to his ears. He lifted his gaze, looking behind Ava, outside the

door.

A man in a white suit emerged from the car, holding a bouquet of red flowers.

Ava’s eyes widened even though she had not turned yet. Ian’s eyes returned to Ava.

Her face transformed from shocked to thrilled in the blink of an eye. She turned around and dashed outside

towards the man.

Jan was standing there while staring at her.

Nobody noticed them because everyone else was busy in the living room.

But **Ian** was watching them from the door.

Ava stopped in **front** of the man and smiled.

“Dane! You have really come! I thought you wouldn’t make it.”

Dane gave her the bouquet and pulled her into a hug

“No one can wish you before me. Happy birthday, Ava.”

Ian’s heart broke in pieces as he watched them from a distance. It was hard for him to see the love of his life in

213

someone else’s arms.

Helened his jaw and thought,

+25 BONUS

‘Did she leave this pack to not feel this feeling, and never come back? She didn’t want to see me with another woman. But here I am, burning inside, watching her with another man. I really deserve it.’

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 274[878 words]

274

Ava smiled as she walked into her house with Dan. She felt at ease in his presence. For some reason, she wanted

him around her to keep someone else's thoughts atrof her mind. She just did not want Ian around her, giving

her the uneasiness she always felt around him.

"Alpha Dane"

Gamma Harper approached them and greeted him. Ava was pleased to see how Gamma Harper welcomed Dane.

Angela lowered her head, trying to avoid Dane.

Dane shook Harper's hand and walked towards the others.

On the other hand,

Ian was standing near the doorway. He did not come to greet Dane. He **was** only looking at the smile on Ava's face.

Was that a real smile?

Was she really that happy with Dane?

His heart clenched inside. He looked away, ignoring the pain. His friend's mind linked him, telling him to join

others.

Ian did not leave the house. He wanted to see Ava celebrating her birthday. He indeed ruined her birthday four years ago. He would not ruin it this time.

As he walked toward them, he got a phone call. He took out his phone from his pocket and saw that it was Freya.

He received the call and muttered,

“Speak.”

Freya’s voice came out filled with annoyance. “Why didn’t you take me with you to the party, Ian?”

Ian’s eyes shifted to Ava. She smiled proudly as she introduced Dane to his parents.

“I don’t want you to ruin her birthday, that’s why,” he muttered.

“What the hell! What about her? She ruined my life too. Can’t you show this sympathy to me? It looks like Alpha Ian is really weak but only in front of his favorite woman.”

Ian’s eyes flickered when he heard her. His gaze moved to Dane, who took a seat on the couch beside Ava.

“But she is also someone else’s favorite woman, and she likes it.”

“This man! Why do you care? Didn’t you say you hate her? Can’t you be like me? I am no longer concerned about them. You should come to me rather than celebrate her birthday. Come to my house after getting out of her house. I will wait for you.”

Ian hung up the phone and moved toward the couches. Rather than sit down, he stood in a corner and picked glass of alcohol.

While drinking, he focused his gaze on the discussion going on there.

“It is incredible that Ava has such a successful man in her life. Alpha Dane is a true self-made man. He had witnessed the war from a young age. He has ruled his pack flawlessly,” Alpha Martin said with a calm look.

Dane’s lips curled up in response to his appreciation. “Righ. Not everyone is **self-made, you know. Some people are always dependent** on their **father’s** throne. **They** should take some advice from the senior Alphas.”

“Dane’s **face** was very calm, and his voice was way more gentle. However, **the** atmosphere **became** tense as they realized who he was referring to by saying that.

Ava blinked her eyes, not knowing how to react. To her surprise, Ian did not mock Dane back. She was expecting, though.

Her friends noticed her nervousness and concern about the two rivals Alpha getting into an argument. They stood up after clearing their throat.

“There is only one minute and ten seconds left before 12 a.. Get ready to cut the cake, birthday girl,” Abigail said. Debra nodded her head in agreement.

Angela rose up and went to take the trolley where a beautiful cake was **seated** there.

She brought the trolley into the center of the living room and smiled at her daughter.

Everyone made their way over there.

Dane reached out his hand to Ava. She held it while looking at him.

“Let’s go, birthday girl,” he said, winking at her.

She blushed and chuckled.

7

Abigail and Debra were impressed by Dane’s behavior toward Ava, even though they had witnessed it before at the reunion party.

Ava and Dane walked toward the cake. She walked past Ian without a single glance, as if he were invisible in her

eyes.

“Ian,” Ronald said softly, placing his hand on his shoulder.

Ian let out a chuckle and lowered his head. He had a painful grin on his face that hurt Ronald. He could not bear to see his best friend in such a state.

He started to feel that this love was only causing pain to his best friend. Though it was Ian’s fault that he misunderstood Ava, he was not happy all these years either. During those years, he felt like he was being punished for loving someone. Now that he knew the truth, he felt as if all those years were nothing in comparison to this guilt.

Ava received applause and cheers from everyone.

She was beaming broadly, feeling grateful to be surrounded by her loved ones. She was happy and trying to ignore the negative vibes she was getting from someone.

She lowered her head and closed her eyes to make a wish before blowing out the candle.

“Moon goddess, please make this birthday memorable for me. I hope all of my problems are resolved so **th** spend my life with the person in my heart.

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 275[949 words]

Everyone clapped as Ava blew out the candle. She cut the cake and gave the first slice to her **parents**. The **next piece was** for Dane. But her gaze was drawn to Stephen, who was standing alongside his friends.

She gave Dane an apologetic look before walking over to Stephen..

Ian was very close to Stephen, so he was taken aback when she began coming in his direction. His **heart started to** beat faster as he thought she was coming to him.

His heart grew to believe in an impossible hope. A smile reached his eyes when she **came near** him.

However, the moment she walked past him, his heart pierced inside. He shut his eyes and hurriedly composed his expression.

“Steph, my brother, after our parents, it is your right,” Ava stated, standing in front of Stephen.

Stephen was surprised. He could not believe that Ava had indeed forgiven him from her heart.

He ate the piece and hugged her. He kissed her forehead and said,

“Thanks, Ava. I thought we would never have the same bond again.”

“It’s not true, Steph. I am still your lil sister.”

Stephen nodded his head, breaking the hug.

Ava went back to her place and took another piece. “Dane.”

Dane looked at the piece of cake, looking unhappy. It caught Ava off guard.

Dane was not pleased with her actions. He expected her to feed him first before anyone else. In the past, he was always the top priority on someone’s list.

Seeing that he was not eating the piece, Ava could not help but feel bad inside. Did she make a mistake? Should she feed him first?

“I am sorry,” she whispered to him, not wanting anyone else to hear her.

As she was about to move the piece away from his mouth, Dane held her wrist and bit on the piece. He then took the half piece from her hand and fed her.

“Happy birthday once again.”

The four elders averted their gaze. Harper chuckled and said,

“Let the children spend time together. We should head upstairs to play chess.”

Martin agreed by nodding his head. Carolina was about to follow them when she noticed Angela staring at Dane

and Ava.

“Stop staring at them; silly woman. They will feel uncomfortable,” Carolina said, chuckling.

Angela turned away and said, “You can go upstairs; I have prepared something for you all. Let me instruct the maids about it. I will be there in a few minutes.”

Carolina nodded and proceeded to the stairs. When Angela saw her leave, she approached Ian and took his hand.

1/3

+25 **BONUS**

Ian frowned at her, not understanding why she was dragging him into a corner. Stephen **wanted to come**, but **Angela** glared at him, warning him not to get between them

What’s wrong, **Mrs.** Taylor?” Ian asked her.

Angela let go of **his** hand and warned, “My daughter is happy now. Don’t try to ruin her happiness. I know you rejected her years ago.”

Ian **was** taken aback. But he did not show anything. “I am not going to do anything to ruin her happiness.”

“I am hoping,”

After that, Angela left the living room.

Ian clenched his fists, trying not to react to his emotions. His gaze landed on Ava. She was going somewhere. Dane was also busy with his phone.

Ian followed Ava and went behind her.

When Ian saw her enter another corridor, he spoke up from behind.

“Ava”

Ava turned around to face him.

“You again? What do you want now?” she asked, looking into his eyes.

Ian walked up to her, stopping a step away. He gave her a little smile and said,

“Happy birthday, Ava.”

His voice was very gentle, touching her heart. She ignored it and said in a cold voice.

“Thanks. If you are done, I have some things to do.”

His heart sank when he saw how eager she was to leave him

He reached his hand into his dark suit jacket’s pocket and took out a black box.

Ava frowned upon seeing it. “What is it?”

He took her hand and placed it on her palm. “It is for you,” he replied softly.

She held the small box, observing from outside. Her eyes went back to him.

Ian lowered his head and muttered,

“I know you are with Dane. It would have been inappropriate if I had given this to you in front of him or others. But it is very special to me, and I have wanted to give it to you for a long time. I hope you will like it. It will be my last gift to you. After this, I won’t come into your way again!”

Ava stared at him for a moment then let out a sneer. “Not come into my way again? I have been telling you not to bother me so many times. You always do the same thing.”

He shook his head and dropped his gaze. He clenched his hands inside his pockets, attempting to calm his expression.

“I am really sorry for everything I did in the past. I can only hope for your forgiveness.”

2/3

275

When he apologized again, Ava glared at him, angry. “Do you? Never!”

Her eyes glowed green as she shifted her gaze to the box.

Ian was shocked when the box on her palm began to burn

“NO!”

+25 BONUS

When he apologized again. **Ava** glared at him, angry. “**Do** you believe that if you keep saying sorry, I will forgive you? Never!”

“Her eyes glowed green as she shifted her gaze to the box.

Ian was shocked when the box on her palm began to burn.

“NO!”

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 276[886 words]

276

Jan **grabbed** Ava’s wrist and tried to pull the box out **of** her alm. She let out a sarcastic laugh **upon** seeing his

reaction.

She threw the box on the floor in anger and growled,

“**If** you won’t leave now, **I** will burn you just like your present-”

He interrupted her as he started to stroke her palm, saying “Are you okay?”

Ava blinked as her mocking smile faded. Her eyes turned back to black, and she looked at him with bewilderment.

Didn’t he react like that because she burnt his box?

Didn’t he already know that she was a fire witch? Why did he start acting like he cares about her burning in her own fire?

She got mad at him and yanked her hand away. “Stop acting, Ian. Don’t touch me again.”

Ian’s eyes were still on her palm. He had not seen her holding fire before. Yesterday he saw fire but not on her palm. So it was quite shocking for him to see her hand burning. Only when he saw her hand was okay, he felt relieved.

“Look at your box. I will burn it and turn it into ash. Just like how I see you in my eyes, total trash.”

Ava spat whatever came to her mind. This man had given her a lot of pain. Now that he knew the truth, she would not let him go so lightly.

She had warned him before not to mess with her. She had also made an effort to conceal her identity. But this man pulled out the side that she did not want to show him.

Ian looked over and saw the box on the floor, burning. He rushed to the box and began slapping it with his palm.

His heart was burning just like the box. It was not just a box. Something very special and near to his heart was being held inside of it.

Ignoring the burning sensation in his palm, he attempted to extinguish the fire from the box. Seeing what Ava had done to his present made his heart hurt.

“What are you doing?” Ava asked him in confusion.

To put out the fire, Ian used both hands to hold the box.

“Foolish man! This is not a normal fire to blow. That can only be blown by witches. Do you want to die?” She yelled at him in rage when she noticed he was getting wounds on his hands.

Ian did not reply to her, ignoring the pain in his hands. But how could he disregard the anguish in his heart?

An intense look filled Ava’s eyes as she looked at the box. The fire ceased instantly.

Ian looked at the burnt box. It was a very costly box with nice fabric furnishings. Only the velvet burnt, and the things inside were still okay.

He did not open the box but only stared at it. His eyes reflected both pain and anger.

He was not angry at her but at himself.

276

+25 **BONUS**

Ava tilted her head **to** look at the **box**. She gritted her teeth and muttered,

“**Why don’t** you just leave already? Why are you doing this?”

She did not feel well seeing him like that. She just wanted to be away from him and her past. Why could he **not** understand?

He turned to face her and took a deep breath. He looked into her eyes, causing her to feel stunned.

She averted her gaze from his pained expression.

“I see. You hate me a lot. Just as you should. I deserve to be bated.”

Ava remained silent as she stared at the blank wall.

“I hope I have not ruined your birthday again. I am sorry; I should not have brought your a present. You have everything you need in life. Even if I give you my gift, it will not make a difference.”

He gazed at the burnt box, clenching his fingers around it.

“Be happy with Dane since he is the man in your heart. I wish I had not broken your heart. Maybe you are right. He was destined for you. You two...”

His lips trembled as if he did not want to say that. He slowly lifted his gaze to meet her eyes. She looked indifferent, which hurt him even more.

The pain in his heart was intolerable. He used to think that he was a very strong man. But in front of her, he was the weakest creature, incapable of controlling his emotions

“You two are made for each other. Your fate has given him a chance. Perhaps he is truly your second chance. I can fight anyone but my fate.”

After saying that, he turned around and started walking back the way he had come.

When he returned to the living room, his friends turned to look at him. They tried to find out what had happened to him because he appeared gloomy.

He did not respond and left the house.

When he got out of the house, he opened the box.

A beautiful pendant was inside, untouched. It was designed in the shape of two wolves, with their heads touching and symbolizing their eternal love for one another.

If Ava had opened it just once, she would have found it very familiar. 1

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 277[1,117 words]

Ava walked into the living room with a puzzled expression she looked at the main door as if she were looking for someone. Approaching the window, she looked out at the parking lot with its large number of cars parked there. She noticed an empty space there.

Ava fixed her gaze there. For a few seconds, her eyes flashed green. Her wolf was upset that Ian had been hurt. "Stop thinking about him. He is no one to us," she muttered to her wolf, looking away **from** the window. However, her mind reflected Ian's burned palm. She blinked, not feeling well inside.

'Congratulations, Ian. You have successfully ruined my birthday again,' she thought.

She felt a hand on her shoulder, which caused her to turn around. It was Stephen

"Steph"

He reached out her hand and handed her a present. "That's from me."

"Thank you, bro," Ava said, hugging him.

"Well, someone helped me to choose it, though," he muttered as they broke the embrace.

Ava seemed perplexed. She noticed that he was looking at someone. When she turned her head, she saw Debra

She chuckled and said, "A lot has happened in the last four years, I guess. I still have a lot of things to learn."

Stephen's eyes rolled back. "Nothing much, lil sis."

They both laughed afterward. Stephen's eyes were drawn to Dane, who was staring at them.

"I think your boyfriend wants to be alone with you. Go to him. He doesn't like your family."

"Steph, that's not the case. He is a sweet person."

"Yeah, yeah. I have seen how sweet he is. He was even envious of me. Of your brother!"

With a sigh, Ava looked at Dane and said, "No, he is a good man."

“Maybe. But he was always a jealous kid anyway.”

Ava did not get into any verbal argument with Stephen. All she wanted tonight was to be happy.

“By the way, did you say something to Ian?” He inquired in a low voice.

She looked at him and asked, “Why? Did he say something?”

“No. But he had a furious expression. Before coming here, he was quite happy. But when he left, he was very upset, you know?”

“Steph, you are my brother. You know he is my ex-boyfriend. And, if I mention anything, you are aware of how things have gone between us. So please don’t talk about him with me. I don’t care what he does or wants.”

Stephen lowered his head and nodded. “I promise you. I will never talk about him to you. Even if it is a serious matter, I will choose to ignore his conversation with you. I am glad everything is clear now.”

Ava patted his arm and said, “I am also happy, Steph. It was all a burden to me.”

277

+25 BONUS

After speaking with him, Ava went to Dane.

“I see you have no time for me.”

“It is not like that,” she muttered as she held his hand.

“I was only talking to Stephen. He is my brother. After learning the truth, he was feeling guilty. I didn’t want him to feel that.”

Dane raised a brow and asked, “Why? Didn’t he make you feel the same?”

She cleared her throat, pushing a strand of hair behind her ear and murmuring, “Dane, let’s forget the past. Thank you for being here to celebrate my birthday.”

He took out a box from his jacket. She was stunned. It was also a beautiful small box, similar to Ian’s.

She was irritated when her mind brought him back into her thoughts.

Ava called a maid and told her to place Stephen’s present in her room securely.

When Dane opened the box, Ava saw that a bracelet was inside. He took it out and placed the box somewhere.

Taking Ava's hand, he put on the bracelet. Ava was amazed at how the blue stones glowed in the bracelet.

"Beautiful," she faintly said.

Dane brought her hand to his lips and planted a kiss on the back of it.

"Not more than you."

Ava blushed, lowering her head with a chuckle.

Her friends cleared their throats with winks. She gave them a look, telling them not to make her feel embarrassed.

When it came to dinner, Dane did not join Ava's family. He said he had some work to do.

When Ava requested him, he said he would come another day to have dinner with her family.

Ava had dinner with her family and friends. Ian's parents joined them as well. However, Ian's friends left because they did not want to be there any longer after Ian left.

It was late at night.

Ava was trying to sleep on the bed, but she could not sleep.

Staring at the ceiling, she felt really uncomfortable inside.

Suddenly her wolf started to whimper inside. She sat up in surprise. She wondered if her wolf was alright. She realized it had been a while since she had shifted. So she decided to go to the forest and ran for a while. She glanced at the clock and realized it would be two hours before sunrise. It would be very late if she went out.

Nevertheless, she was a hybrid. She should not be concerned about anything.

After thinking about everything, she slipped out of her house silently.

2/3

277

+25 **BONUS**

Because the gammas needed to shift frequently, she lived close to the forest.

She She walked into the woods in her long pajamas. If they saw her, they would assume she was insane.

After a while of walking, she shifted into her wolf form and began to run.

The scent of forest trees and the clean air filled her nostrils It was as though she had been missing this sensation. Her eyes were a stunning shade of green, and her wolf was entirely white. If any man had seen her, he would have worshiped her to get her. She was an Omega and had a unique wolf, which made her more powerful.

She stepped into the shadows of the long trees as she ran past them in the moonlight.

Suddenly, her nose came into contact with a different scent Her breath caught as her heart rate began to race.

She lost control of her wolf as she ran into the scent to sniff it.

Her paws clawed at the ground when she noticed a black wolf leaning against a tree, staring at the moon.

He turned around to face her as if he had heard her steps and smelled her.

Ava's eyes widened when his red eyes met her green ones.

Her wolf growled inside and began to chant in happiness.

"Mate!"

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 278[1,124 words]

278

+25 BONUS

Everything seemed to be stopped around them. The two wolves were looking at each other for the first time,

Both of them were wolves but different kinds. The green eyes were holding the power of magical charms, whereas the red eyes were holding the power of dominance.

Ava stepped back when she noticed the black giant wolf. His eyes reminded her of who he really was.

When she first felt the scent, she assumed it was Dane, her second chance mate.

However, she was shocked to discover that it was the same man who had previously rejected her as his mate.

How could Ian Dawson become her mate again?

She stepped backward as soon as she saw him moving one step toward her.

‘How is it possible?’ she thought inside.

As if he could hear her through a mate link, he whispered,

“Mate, am I your second chance? Or you were always my mate?”

It seemed as though he did not believe it either. He was baffled. She was confused.

He had rejected her once. She could still clearly recall the pain it had caused her. In fact, her wolf was absent for a while.

Her eyes widened as she remembered what Abigail’s uncle told her.

“No one can save you.”

She blinked, unable to believe what had happened. Despite what that man had said, she recovered her wolf, and Ian was the one who healed her and returned her wolf.

She found everything very confusing. She was not sure what was going on. Why was fate playing tricks on her?

It had taken her three and six months to move on in her life and fix her mind to look at another man. However, why did fate make Ian her mate once again when she had already made up her mind to be with another man?

“Ava”

She heard his soft tone in her mind, which shook her insides. She felt like he was really close, talking near her ears. Her wolf refused to obey her commands and moved forward toward Ian.

Ava shut her eyes and tried to take over her wolf. There was no way she could let this man ruin her life again.

Despite her wolf's hundred tries, Ava controlled her and said to Ian in the mind link.

"That's impossible. I can never let you be my mate again."

It appeared that Ian had lost control of his wolf.

His wolf eyes grew sharper as he stared at her. He raised his head and let out a howl.

The howl made Ava's body jerk up. She immediately turned around and started to run in the opposite direction.

"I can not believe this."

ion.

278

+25 BONUS

She kept saying it. She was losing her mind.

She felt pain in her legs from running so fast. She was chasing shadows with the moonlight following her.

Her heart started to beat fast, trying to run as fast as she could.

She turned her head to see if the black wolf was following her. There was no one behind her.

As she turned her head to look ahead, a giant wolf appeared out of nowhere and pounced on her.

She froze in shock.

Her body collapsed to the ground as the wolf's weight collided with her.

Since she was in her wolf form, she growled at him. She tried to move him away by pushing him with her head. But he remained unmoved.

His red eyes were piercing as he growled.

"Mine."

She froze while lying beneath him. She choked on her breath as he lowered his head to get close to her face,

He tilted his head and began to lick her neck.

Ava started to feel the same sensation that she always felt whenever he touched her. However, the sensation had become more intense and distinct. It was blissful and pleasant beyond expectation.

She whimpered and closed her eyes, indicating that she did not want to experience this sensation.

The way his tongue rolled down her neck over her white fur, she could not feel herself in a calm mind. Her wolf, which she had caged inside, wanted to take over for a moment just to submit to her mate.

The mate bond was a strange phenomenon. It could even submit enemies to each other and bring them closer together.

“Ian, let me go,” Ava said in her mind after composing herself.

He shook his head, hugged her wolf, and rubbed his head against her face.

“I love you, Ava. Why don’t you just forgive me for the past and start a new life with me?”

She was astounded by her words. (1

She then shoved him and pushed him with all of her strength. Her push knocked him to the ground near a tree.

She sat up and glared at him. She did not shift back.

She did not mind talking to him in her mind.

“Start a new life with you? I don’t love you.”

Ian groaned as if he was in pain. He turned his head to look at her. His wolf looked in pain as well.

“But I am your mate.”

She growled at her. “Don’t you dare call yourself my mate, Ian Dawson. A man like you can’t be my mate. I can never forgive you. By the way, I am committed to someone else now.”

2/3

278

+25 BONUS

The black wolf's thick brows furrowed as if he did not want to hear it.

"Committed? Your fate is committed to me. I am your mate

"Didn't you say in my house that you are leaving my life? What happened to your words?"

"I have considered it. But fate has given me another chance I refuse to let it go to waste."

She stood up and shook her head. Her eyes were filled with disappointment.

"I thought you valued your words. But I was wrong. You know what? You are the same stubborn kid I left four years ago. You just want to have your way, no matter what. Are you even a real man? No! You are still a childish boy. That bad boy image formed in your mind, and you never became a man."

Ian's eyes grew darker. "I am a childish boy in your eyes?"

"Yes."

He stood up and shrugged his whole body, causing her to take a step back.

"Ian, reject me," she said, after calming herself.

He approached her and looked directly into her eyes. It was not his wolf, but him; he had taken control of it. She appeared to be a small glowing white wolf in front of his massive black wolf. "Never. Just do whatever you want. Now you are only mine. 2

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 279[867 words]

279

While Ava was attempting to retreat, the black wolf pounced on her and pinned her down. She was trying to move it away. However, he growled and pierced her neck with his sharp teeth, sealing her as his.

She could not help but scream.

"NO!"

With that, her eyes opened in shock.

She started to breathe faster when she realized that she was in her bedroom, lying on her bed.

She sat up, wiping her sweat from her forehead. She sighed deeply as she pressed her hand against her forehead.

“It was just a nightmare!” she murmured.

She shook her head and slowly moved to get out of the bed.

However, as soon as her feet touched the cold floor, she hissed.

She froze as she looked down at her feet.

She had a few scratches on her feet.

Her eyes widened as she recalled what had happened last night.

Although the marking was only a dream, she indeed met her mate last night.

And her mate was none other than Ian Dawson!

She recalled what he had said to her before leaving her in the forest.

“I will never reject you, Ava Taylor. You will be mine forever. If you get the chance, you can turn me down. But don’t expect me to reject you again.”

Ava facepalmed herself and lay on the mattress again.

“I am in hell. Was this the reason fate brought me here after all these years? How can he become my mate again?”

She remembered everything that had happened between them four years ago, just as she did last night.

“I need to figure out how to break this bond,” she mumbled, feeling betrayed by her fate.

She freshened up and left her house. She called her friends and asked them to meet her in a cafe. She did not want to keep anything from them anymore.

“What! Alpha is your mate!”

Debra’s shocked voice could almost be heard throughout the cafe. Everyone in the cafe turned to look at them when they heard her.

Abigail was also shocked, but she hurriedly pressed her palm on Debra's mouth and chuckled at others.

"She has completely lost her mind. We were not talking about our Alpha."

People gave them a judgmental look, but when they realized it was Model Debra, they gave her a polite s returned to what they were doing.

and

1/2

270

+25 BONUS

Debra pushed Abigail's hard away from her mouth. "Babe, let me go. Let me hear her first."

Aya

was holding her forehead. She was having a headache, and she knew it was because of last night.

"I encountered him in the forest last night. He was there in his wolf form. A massive, black wolf with red eyes. I asked him to reject me. But that... that man doesn't want to do that. He wants me to suffer even more."

Abigail stared at Ava for a long time, not saying anything.

When Ava glanced at her, she asked,

"What?"

"Ava, you know what it means, right? He is your mate. Your fated mate. He had rejected you, and the bond had been broken. But this time, the same person was given a second opportunity. It happens very rarely. I had never heard of the same people becoming mates by fate."

Debra admitted Abigail's words and added, "She is right. You two are bonded by fates. Just think about it. Otherwise, how did you come this year after so long, and not only that, but you shifted into your wolf form and encountered him? He even learned the truth and felt guilty too."

Ava did not find her friends' words sensible.

“You two. What are you two saying? Have you forgotten about Dane? He is my boyfriend.”

Debra’s brows shot up. “Oh shit! Dane’s presence in this case almost slipped my mind. But you two are not engaged yet.”

Ava shook her head. “You both can’t understand. I like Dane. He is the perfect man for me. Our parents had planned our marriage since we were children. He had done so much for me. I was responsible for that war. His family lost their relatives in the war and lost me from their promise. I want to be with Dane now. We are very happy together.”

Abigail placed her hand on Ava’s shoulder and asked,

“You said a lot of things together. Who are you trying to convince? Us or yourself?”

Ava was stunned. She blinked her eyes, shaking her head. “I was just telling you two what you did not know. Do not confuse me, because my mind is set.”

Abigail gave Debra a quick glance. Debra sighed and asked Ava,

“Ava, do you love Dane?”

Ava froze when she heard the question. When Ian asked her yesterday, she said she loved Dane. But was she really in love with Dane? Had their relationship reached love yet?

“I think I do.”

“Think? You need to confirm yourself. Your life has messed up. “Try to think clearly about who your heart desires, not who your parents set you up with as a child or who has done many things to make you indebted,” Abigail advised.

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 280[1,145 words]

In the evening,

Dane called Ava and offered to take her somewhere. When she told her friends about it, they did not seem pleased.

“Ava, think before you take a step,” Abigail reminded her.

Debra, too, said she should think about it and come up with a solution to the mate problem.

“Is there no way I can reject him?” she asked them.

They said she should have learned about it since they had never heard a female wolf could reject a male wolf. However, they could accept each other's rejection or delay by not accepting their rejection.

Ava wondered how she had felt during their first rejection; she did not even accept it, but her wolf almost died as a result.

Many thoughts were racing through her mind. She was very stressed out.

When Dane arrived to pick her up, she gave him a friendly smile and then departed with him.

The car was the focus of Abigail and Debra's attention.

"I noticed one thing in Ava's eyes," Debra said.

"What?" Abigail asked.

"Confusion. When it comes to Ian, she is never sure what to think. She believes she despises him. But whenever he is around her, she acts differently."

Abigail responded with a nod. "I saw it at the reunion party. She was looking at Ian while telling her side of the story. I saw the sorrow in her heart, indicating her disappointment in him."

Debra held her arm and began to walk. "Abi, what about Ian? All I can do is curse their fate. Why would they want to be together again when they are already settled with other people?"

Abigail was also confused. Everything was okay until last night Ava found that Ian had become her mate.

"What if their mate bond had never been broken? What if fate intended for them to follow its path, leading them here? Of course, there must be some reason, right? Otherwise, why did they have to split up for such a ridiculous reason? They used to love each other daringly."

With a sigh, Debra shook her head. "I hope she will end up with the man her heart truly wants. I do not want her to force herself to make a choice. She should do what her heart says. Either it is Dane or Ian."

Inside the car,

Ava was sitting with Dane.

He held her hand and pulled up her long sleeves, looking for something. Ava noticed it and asked,

“Are you searching for something?”

A frown appeared on his face as if he had not found what he was looking for. His eyes shifted to her, and he asked,

“Where is the bracelet?”

1/3

280

+25 BONUS

She was taken aback. She looked at her hand and remembered taking it off the night before leaving the house for a

run.

It is in my bedroom. I took it off last night.”

She looked at him, assuming he was upset by her action. So she immediately added, “I am sorry. I thought-”

His gaze softened as he caressed the back of her hand, causing her to stop. She glanced at his thumb that was stroking her skin.

She took a deep breath, trying to feel his touch. However, she was feeling strange. She no longer felt calm beside him. It was as if everything had changed in one night. Even his scent was no longer making her feel calmer as it once did.

“He is not our mate,” her wolf reminded her.

She shut her eyes and immediately yanked her hand away from Dane.

It caught him off guard.

She came to realize what she had done. Her eyes were wide open as she turned her head to face him.

“I-I did not mean to do that.”

Dane moved toward her, examining her eyes, trying to see something. “Are you alright?”

He was the Alpha of witches and wizards. He was aware of many aspects of their world that others were not.

“Yes, I am alright.”

His hand reached out and wrapped around her waist. She felt her breath get caught in her throat. He drew her closer to him and asked,

“Are you hiding something from me?”

She blinked, unsure whether she should tell him what she had learned last night.

‘No, no. What if he got mad? I need to find a way to break this mate bond myself,’ she reasoned. 1

“No,” she replied.

Dane gave her a long stare before nodding. “Okay.”

He backed away and turned to face the window. Ava breathed a sigh of relief.

The car came to a halt in front of a restaurant. Ava stepped outside and looked around. It was an expensive restaurant that appeared to be newly opened.

Dane took her hand and walked into the restaurant.

He had booked the entire restaurant for them. Ava felt very special.

They had dinner together. During the dinner, both of them talked about their upcoming projects. Ava realized that this was what happened when the boss and his employee dated each other. She chuckled at her own thoughts.

Dane inspired her to do better at work. He told her that she should now go back to the Thunder Howl Pack with him since her birthday was over.

2/3

280

+25 BONUS

Ava told him that after the annual ball project, she would go back.

After dinner, Dane dropped Ava off at her house.

Before leaving, Ava wanted to express her gratitude to Dane

Since Ava had already left, Dane was ready to instruct the driver to drive to his rental home.

But at that moment, Ava bent down to the window and rested her elbows on the window frame.

“You made my day and life special. Thank you, Dane.”

After saying that, she moved her head toward him. She tilted her head and kissed him on the cheek.

Dane was stunned by her action.

Her cheeks turned red as she quickly moved back and mumbled,

“Bye

She turned around with a sheepish grin and dashed into her house. She huffed as she found it embarrassing. She had never initiated doing these things, and they had only started their relationship. Because she wanted to take everything slow, he also did not force anything on her. 1

Ava used her keys to open the door and enter the house. She noticed that all of the lights were turned off.

She checked her watch and realized it was close to 12 a.m.

Did she get home this late?

She closed the door and walked slowly into the living room

As soon as she took a step forward, her eyes froze on a silhouette standing against a pillar.

She then heard an icy voice echo in her ears.

“Coming back so late at night? How was the dinner date with your dear boyfriend, Mate?”

281

+25 BONUS

281

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 281[938 words]

Ava frowned at Ian. "What are you doing inside my house?"

He folded his arms without responding to her. She could not see his expression. Only the moonlight that filtered through the slightly open blinds illuminated his silhouette

"Where is everyone?"

He let out a sigh and replied, "Stephen is sleeping in his bedroom."

"How about my parents? How did they allow you to stay at our home?"

He stepped away from the pillar and began to approach her. She did not take any steps back.

"For your kind information, this is my pack-"

"That does not make any sense. This house is not yours."

"But the gamma that lives inside this house is mine," he stated, standing in front of her.

In the dark, the tall figure towered over her. "You didn't answer my question. How was your dinner date? You were having a great time with him, right?"

Ava scoffed at him. "Why do you care? He is my boyfriend; of course, I was enjoying my time with him."

He turned silent for a moment, then spoke,

"You are not in the Thunder Howl Pack."

"So what?"

"You should maintain some- "I

"You are no one to tell me what I should or shouldn't do, Alpha Ian. And don't ever call me what you have called me a while ago."

He lowered his head and whispered,

"What? Mate?"

Ava felt her heart skip a beat. Even in the dark, his breath hit her face perfectly, causing her to take a step back. She began to feel scared about it.

Her heart began to race, causing her to feel confused. It reminded her of what had happened last night. The pair of red eyes and a black giant wolf reflected in her mind, sending shivers down her spine. She remembered how his wolf jumped on her and licked her neck.

She closed her eyes, trying not to think about how she felt at the time.

After a brief silence, she turned her head away and gritted her teeth.

“Where is Mom and Dad?”

Ian stood up straight as if he could clearly see her in the dark.

“Well, I summoned them to my house and...”

He chuckled and added, “I didn’t go there.”

1/3

281

+25 BONUS

“You what?” She asked in disbelief.

“You are aware that both of our fathers are retired. I called your parents at my house before planning a long night together for them. They might be playing chess while eating midnight snacks. Or perhaps they are recalling old memories because four of them are very close friends.”

Ava tightened her fists. This man had planned everything to get to her house and bother her. It really made her enraged.

“And what are you doing here?” she asked.

He stepped backward until his back pressed against the pillar where he was leaning before.

“Nothing. I thought, why not have supper together since it was your birthday, but it looks like you have already had your dinner with someone else.”

“Tsk! this man! Never stop disturbing me,” she muttered, moving toward the wall where the switchboard was. As she placed her hand over it to turn on the lights, she said,

“How did you even think that I would go out with you to have din–”

She paused when the lights turned on and her eyes fell on the dining table in the corner of the large living room.

The table was beautifully decorated, with flowers and candles placed in the center. There was perfectly placed cutlery. She noticed many dishes on the table.

To her surprise, all of the dishes were her favorites. She blinked as her gaze was drawn to the apron hanging on a chair.

All of the food appeared to be untouched.

She was confused as she muttered,

“D–Did you make all of the dishes?”

Her eyes slowly shifted to Ian. She expected the same look in his eyes that he had given her last night.

But she was stunned. His eyes were calm, extremely calm.

She looked into his eyes, feeling as if she were drowning in a black ocean, with no one to save her.

“What do you think?” he asked with a deep voice.

It was not soft, but neither was it cold.

He was giving her a different impression. It was like the old Ian that she had been talking to after the night reunion party had gone.

In front of her was not that person but the Alpha Ian who everyone had always talked about, the Alpha Ian who only knew how to rule his pack and got what he desired.

She forced herself to look away from him and replied,

“I misunderstood. How can Alpha Ian do something like that for anyone?”

She realized she had made a mistake by saying that. It might have sounded like she was upset with him for not doing so. So she quickly changed her words and said,

2/3

281

+25 BONUS

“I mean, he can do that for his fiancée. And her fiancée does not live here. So...”

While saying that, she had a sarcastic grin on her face. However, when he spoke, her grin froze in shock.

“Today, I spoke with Freya. I told her that I have a mate. She asked me to reject my mate. I told her that I would never do that.”

He lowered his head, slipped his hand into his pocket, and added

“I told her that we can not get married. There was nothing between us anyway. It was just a commitment that I broke. I will definitely compensate her.”

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 282[962 words]

282

282

Ava was shocked.

“Y-You did what? You broke your commitment? You are not going to marry her?”

The sound of her voice was one of disbelief. After seeing that, Ian experienced a strain in his chest.

He thought, though she did not like him, she would at least feel good for not seeing him with another woman. Was not this the reason she left the pack years ago?

Last night was a shocking night for him too. It was unbelievable that he had become her mate again.

But when she asked him to reject her, it was something that hurt him. Did she hate him so much that she wanted to reject this mate bond?

Tonight he had everything planned for her. When he asked Stephen when she usually came home, he said it was around 8 p.m. But, since it was her birthday, he assumed she would arrive home before 10 p.m.

He was able to get her parents out of the house, but Stephen refused to come out because he had already told him that he could no longer help him with Ava.

So Ian basically did everything himself. There was no maid at home; he was the one who prepared everything for Ava. He remembered all of her favorite dishes and tried to cook them for her.

The last four years were tough for him. He rarely had supper with his family. So he either ate out or went to Ronald's house and cooked for himself. He learned to live on his own.

He became concerned when he realized Ava had not returned home after 10 p.m. He called her friends to see if she had met them. They were surprised that he had called them.

They said she was with Alpha Dane.

That time, Ian's heart clenched inside. He had been waiting for her for two hours since he set the table. So many thoughts were on his mind about her and Dane. He recalled the day Ava returned home wearing Dane's shirt.

Ian could only sit at home and wait for her in silence.

When he heard a car screeching outside the house a few minutes ago, he approached the window only to see her get out of Dane's car.

He was relieved she had returned. But the next moment, she bent down to the window and kissed Dane's cheek, making his heart race with fear.

He had lost this woman. She was no longer his; he was no longer in her love. She loved someone else, which was extremely painful to watch.

He had almost set his mind at the night of the reunion party that he would let her go, but last night, he found the signal of his fate.

"Ian Dawson, are you really a man? You have hurt another woman!"

Her question caused him to sigh again. She believed he could only break women's hearts.

"As I mentioned, there was nothing between us."

She frowned at him, moving toward him with fast steps.

1/2

282

He was stunned when she pushed on his chest. He was leaning against the pillar, so the push caused pain in his back. Last night when she pushed him in the forest, he got hurt that time too.

It was because of the wounds in his back. Every night, the wounds, which looked like tree branches, burned. It was like it was his punishment for breaking her heart years ago.

He had been going through the pain for four years. If he would have to bear the pain for so many more years for her, he was ready to take it no matter how unendurable it was.

Ava saw his hard expression and asked,

“Why did you tell her about this mate bond?”

“Why not?” he asked, arching his brows.

She raised her finger and pointed at him and then at herself, saying, “This mate bond **is** meaningless. I don’t believe in it.”

Her words continued to pierce his chest. “Don’t believe it? Why? Don’t you believe in fate? I didn’t do anything, It was fate that chose me for you again,” he reminded her.

She shook her head. “Stop talking nonsense. It will be broken if you reject me. What about I find a way to reject you? Maybe it will work.”

Ian was taken aback. His eyes darkened as he stared at her without any reply.

Reject him? Because she hated him and loved someone else?

He tried to calm himself and murmured,

“There is no way you can reject me.”

“Then why don’t you reject me? Come on, Ian Dawson. Reject me like you did years ago.”

He shook his head. “Not possible.”

“Why?”

“Because when I rejected my mate, I later regretted it. I pursued her, but I betrayed her trust by being disloyal. This is the third time, and I don’t want to make the same mistake again. Once, twice... but when it comes to thrice, it was not a mistake but a habit. I want to be disloyal to my mate this time.”

Ava was startled. His words were affecting her mind. She could not think properly. She thought, What if there was really no way to reject him for her? What would she do?

She gritted her teeth and asked him in anger,

“You had a chance to be with Freya. Why did you call off the engagement with her? Isn’t she your childhood sweetheart? Your first love?”

He clenched his jaw when he heard her. He grabbed her arms and turned her around to press her against the pillar.

“My first love is not her, but you. I never loved that woman. You were the one who made my heart tremble and turned me into a crazy lover.”

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 283[799 words]

og end at t with wide a ter yes were fixed on eyes. The pair of dark eyes were filled with rage, “dicating that far was telling her the truth

She looked away from him and tried to presh him. Bottes po tightened on her arms.

He 4 not leave her but instead leased dose to her.

“Don’t you dare get close to me, you know i can kill you,” he warned him.

He did not stop as his face got close to hers, the piped as the smelled his alluring scent, which made her heart pound

She did not know why she was feeling weak in front of him tonight. She was actually feeling defeated by the sensation she was feeling inside,

“If you want to kill me, why don’t you just stop **warning** me and kill me already?” he asked, **tilting** his head

She closed her eyes tightly when his breath touched her neck. The next moment, she let out a gasp.

Lan put **his** lips to her neck.

She opened her eyes and parted her lips in surprise. It was not only because of his audacity to do that but also the feeling she was going through inside.

She tried to push him hard, but he was like a hard stone.

He did not move **his** lips away from her neck and remained still.

To keep herself from losing control, she moved her hands and grabbed his wrists.

Her eyes turned green, and they were glowing

“If you don’t let me go, I will hurt you to make you feel pain in your bones.”

He did not move, as if he did not care how she was going to hurt him.

It infuriated her. She tightened his grip on his wrist, causing him to experience an unbearable burning sensation. He let out a groan, and his lips vibrated against her skin.

She closed her eyes in response to the feeling. She was having inner conflicts with herself. Her inner wolf was displeased with her action of hurting her mate.

When he moved his lips away from her neck, she assumed he could not take the pain and was letting her go.

She felt proud of her ability to defeat him.

However, to her shock, he did not back away from her.

He just moved his head to kiss her earlobe.

“W-What are you d-doing?”

It was hard for her to speak.

7/2

283

+25 BONUS

“L-**Let**-Aaah!”

She could not help but moan when he took her earlobe inside his mouth and licked it.

She kept blinking her eyes, panicking at his actions and the way her body reacted to his touches.

“This is all happening not because I still have feelings for him but because he has become my mate,” she said to herself and gave him more pain in his bones.

When he felt bone-crushing pain inside, his teeth nearly bit her earlobe.

He released her earlobe and moved his head to look into her eyes.

His dark eyes made her shake internally. They did not look this way last night.

What happened to him?

“Do you know how I am feeling right now?” he asked in a whisper.

She assumed he was talking about the pain she was giving to him. So she scoffed at him.

“Yeah, pain. You will continue to feel this pain if you do not let me go now.”

His eyes were focused on hers as he let out a cold tone but with a warm breath.

“My chest hurts because I can smell another man’s scent on your body.”

She froze at his words. He inhaled as if sniffing her scent and said,

“You said I am not a man but a childish boy. Why did you say that? Just because I felt hurt and guilty for the mistake I had made years ago? I showed you my vulnerable side. I cried in your presence. Was that the reason you think that? It was just my regret that I felt inside. I had no idea it would make you feel like I am not a man.”

She averted her gaze from him. “I don’t want to see any side of you. Why did you even come to me? Just go away,” she muttered in a low tone, defeated by her efforts to push him.

His eyes shifted to the other wall where the clock was ticking to 12 a.m. There were just a few seconds left.

His gaze shifted back to her.

“I thought I could not be the first person to wish you, so why not be the last?”

She looked at him puzzled. “What?”

His lips curled into a smirk, and he said,

“Happy birthday to you, baby.”

After that, he smashed his lips against hers. 1

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 284[840 words]

+25 BONUS

284

Ava was shocked. Her eyes widened **as** she was frozen.

When he began to move his lips over hers, she closed her **eyes**.

She felt a trembling sensation develop on the inside of her body as she felt his lips move. She felt compelled **to** give him the same feeling in return, and it caused her heart to tighten.

Ian was lost in the feeling. He had reached a point where he was so broken that he allowed his feelings to take control of him, and he needed to let them.

This woman was no longer his ex-girlfriend but his mate. She could not say he crossed the line because he was no one to her. He was her mate, and that alone was enough to drive him insane.

Her lips felt soft and smooth against his. He wanted to keep eating them for as long as possible.

Taking her lower lip in between his lips, he started sucking on it while rolling his tongue over it.

Ava let out a moan.

It shocked her and brought her back to reality. She flung her eyes open.

It was hard for her to believe that she had allowed him to kiss her without attempting to push him away.

Almost immediately, she made an attempt to push him. However, in response to her, he pressed his body against hers, which caused her to let out a gasp.

He seized the opportunity and pushed his tongue inside. Her eyes grew wider as she felt his tongue brush against

hers.

Tilting his head, he gave her a passionate kiss while leaning his arms against the pillar.

Ava was unsure of her feelings. It was a feeling that had been missing for a very long time. When she realized he was not going to let go, she balled her fists.

‘No, no, I can’t lose my mind. I am now someone else’s girlfriend,’ she told herself.

She tried to ignite a fire to push this man away. But, to her surprise, she could not do so. It was her wolf who was stopping her from doing so.

She was completely lost.

But she was confused too. How would she fight her inner wolf?

Ian's hands moved slowly down from the pillar, reaching for her waist.

He could not express how he was feeling inside. All the pain that had been buried inside him for years faded in just one kiss.

He did not even know how long he had been waiting for these feelings. He was missing this in his life.

After getting so close to her, he could not tell her how wild his mind was running. His heart pounded as if it were his first kiss, and he could kiss her all night.

He felt her struggling, trying to push him and hurt him with her abilities. But he did not move. The pain comparison to this feeling. He could bear any pain for this.

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1/2

284

+25 **BONUS**

He was sucking her tongue and **playing** with it. He returned to her **lips**, licking them once more and gently **biting them with his lips**.

Suddenly **he** felt her sharp teeth bite his bottom lip. It hurt more than he expected. He groaned and moved back

with **a** frown.

Ava glared at him in anger.

He lifted his hand and touched the corner of his lips. He saw blood and looked back at her.

He smirked at her while wiping his blood with his thumb.

She felt anger at his smirk. It was as if he was teasing her.

“How dare you kiss me?” she said, growling at him.

He placed his palm on the pillar and leaned down to meet her gaze. Her back was already pressed against the pillar, so she could not move back more.

“Dare? Didn’t I get the right from the Moon Goddess to kiss my mate?” he asked, looking into her eyes. His face came close to hers once again. She gulped, not knowing how to push him again.

Her eyes fell on the corner of his lips. She could see blood; she felt it in her mouth too when she bit him.

She averted her gaze from his lips and locked her gaze with him.

“You are a scumbag! This mate bond doesn’t give you the right. I will manage to reject you. Just wait and watch,” she warned him.

A grin appeared on his face. She was stunned. He seemed to be in a good mood as if he had been gloomy for a long time and had finally woken up.

“Watch? I am watching you only. I forgot to tell you that day. Your eyes...”

He tried to look deeply into her eyes. He seemed to be able to see right into her soul.

“Your eyes were beautiful. The green glowing eyes with that look... I found it very pretty.”

She was dumbfounded. Pretty? Had this man gone insane? The look others tried to avoid, he found it pretty?

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 285[856 words]

285

Ava recalled once Dane had said that she should not lose her control and show her fierce side because it was terrible for others. Not everyone could handle fire and hurt others like that. Some other people could find her evil too. However, she only used her abilities when necessary.

But she was surprised Ian thought it was pretty.

She snorted back at him. “How cheap! You are calling pretty a horrible look? Perhaps you are mocking me.”

A thin line formed between his brows. “Do you think you look horrible? Who told you that?”

“Someone whom I trust the most,” she replied, giving him a stern look.

His eyes were clouded by darkness. His lips twitched when he realized who she was talking about. He just wanted to kill the man who called her horrible. How dared he? How dared he make her think like that?

Ian lifted his other hand and rested it on her head.

“Don’t be insecure with your looks. I saw it that day. You don’t look horrible. You are stunningly beautiful. I am not lying. I have never seen anyone so beautiful with green eyes. The fire in your hands represents your power. You looked like a fairy last night when you ignited the fire.

Ava froze at his every word. She remembered last night when he gave her a gift, but she tried to burn it on her palm.

She stared at the strange man with her lost eyes.

‘I set fire to the box he gave me. It was the most ruthless sight anyone could see. How can he find me beautiful to do that? He must be joking!’ she thought.

She had nearly forgotten his hand was on her head. So, when he began stroking her hair with his hand, she flinched.

Ian’s hand stopped in the middle of the air. A feeling of sorrow flickered in his eyes, which she could not see.

He thought she did not like his touch. He remembered how she liked it when Dane touched her.

Ava’s eyes were drawn to his hand. She noticed a few burn scars on his palm. It looked like it had not healed yet. She remembered he was hurt when he attempted to extinguish the fire in her palm. He thought her palm was burning. He also tried to save the box from the fire. She wondered what was inside the box that made him behave

like that.

Ian balled his fist and put it down to his side.

“Ian, don’t force me to hurt you like last night,” she uttered in a low tone.

She was angry at this man, but she could not intentionally harm him.

“Hurt me,” he mumbled.

“What?”

His voice was sharp, and he sounded very serious.

“Hurt me as much as you want. But don’t make me see you with another man. You left this pack be not want to see me with another woman. But what about me? This is my pack; I can’t leave it.”

‘you did

285

+25 BONUS

She exhaled deeply and replied, “You don’t have to see It. Im leaving this pack in a few **days.**”

His calm expression changed into anger.

It shocked Ava. This was the first time since that reunion night that she had witnessed him getting mad **at** her.

“Why would you leave when your mate is here in this pack

“Stop playing with me by reminding me about this mate bond. You can’t have me. I am no longer the innocent virgin girl who saved herself for her mate. It has been four years. And now I am with Alpha Dane. He is my boyfriend. I have been sleeping with him for a long time. Didn’t you see me returning home from his house? [spent many nights with him in his house.”

Ava tried everything she could think of to divert his attention away from herself. Otherwise, she did not find any other way.

Ian’s jaw clenched, his fists curled into a ball, his eyes darkened, and his expression became fierce.

Ava would be lying if she said she was not afraid. But she did not stop.

“What did you think? I will wait for you to realize your mistake? No, I started a new life there. I lived as I pleased. There I found my man Da-”

He grabbed the back of her neck and pulled her face closer to him. His eyes were brimming with anger.

“I am Ian Dawson, standing in front of you. I am your mate your only man. Never, ever call another man yours. I will not hurt you because doing so will only hurt myself. Instead, I am going to hurt him in ways you will not believe. And about sleeping with him...”

He paused, staring into his eyes for a while, before muttering, 1

“Whether you are a virgin or not does not matter to me. You can not make me change my heart. I don’t care how many men you have slept with. I don’t give a fuck about how many times you have slept with that Dane.”

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 286[883 words]

286

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286

Ava blinked, not knowing what else to say.

He did not care? How could anyone want someone who had been sleeping with his rival?

Jan gritted his teeth and mumbled,

“Why can’t you understand? It is not just about having sex. It’s about the feeling that another man sees my woman’s precious body. But it was my mistake that I let you **go**. You had a **life** that you led all these years. I was not a saint to have the authority to ask you anything.”

He paused and pressed his forehead against hers, whispering,

“I no longer care about anything. I just want to reclaim a place in your heart, and I know I will be able to do **so** someday. Until then, I will wait.”

Ian left the house, leaving Ava in shock and stressed. Her eyes welled up in tears.

She shook her head and murmured,

“I will never forgive you, regardless of how long you wait.”

With her head leaned back against the pillar, she closed her eyes. She thought of what she had promised Dane. She was grateful to Dane for reminding her of Ian’s past actions. Otherwise, she would be a fool to trust Ian again. She felt her wolf growl at her inside. She got mad at her wolf.

“Why can’t I have a choice? Why can’t I decide who I want to live with? Why would I have to follow the mate bond, and get hurt? I won’t listen to you this time,” she said to her wolf angrily.

She bit her bottom lip furiously as she was getting emotional. She had been keeping it together in front of Ian, so when he left, her emotions threatened to spill out on her face.

Her lip trembled between her teeth as she realized he had kissed her some time ago. She lifted her hand and started to rub her lips angrily.

Suddenly, her gaze was drawn to the table. Her legs unintentionally moved in that direction.

She came to a halt in front of the table, intending to throw away everything Ian had prepared for her.

However, she was not the type of woman who threw away food. She sighed and was about to put the dishes in the freezer.

She did not know why, but she had a sudden desire to taste them, despite having eaten her dinner outside.

She rubbed her forehead and sat down in a chair. She grabbed a spoon and tried all of the dishes.

To her surprise, every dish was delicious, as if it had been made with passion.

止

She bit her tongue, wondering if Ian had ordered them from a restaurant and then told her he made them himself.

She shook her head and got up from the chair. “He was lying to me.”

She finished putting all of the dishes in the freezer and was about apron hanging in a chair.

60 to her bedroom. But her gaze i

fell

on the

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280

+25 BONUS

To **make** sure **Ian** actually **wore** the apron, she reached **out and grabbed it**, bringing It to her nose.

As Ian's scent reached her nostrils, her eyes widened. She felt as if she had been influenced by a seductive scent. She hurriedly placed it on the chair and left the room.

All night long, she reflected on what had happened.

"No, I can not keep Dane in the dark. I need to tell him everything. That kiss... I cheated on him!"

"But I didn't kiss Ian. He kissed me forcibly."

She growled in anger and muttered,

"Ugh! I just want to kill you, Ian."

Griffin called Ava the next day while she was working at the company.

"Brother, I have already spoken with Dane. I will be back after the competition."

Griffin had called her yesterday to wish her a happy birthday, and today he called her to ask when she was going back since he was in the Thunder Howl Pack.

"It still has a lot of time. What are you waiting for? Why don't you just come back and work from here?" Griffin asked, feeling insecure about letting Ava stay there.

"Don't worry about me. You are well aware that I am your powerful sister. I can beat anyone if they mess with me. The blowing fire technique, have you forgotten that, huh?" she asked with a chuckle.

Griffin had helped her a lot to discover herself. He had always assisted her during practice.

"I asked for your return because I had gathered some ancient books of healing formulas. I thought you might want to come and look. But it is all right. You can come after the competition. I will take care of it."

Ava was about to say okay when something occurred in her mind, and her eyes widened.

"Are you still there?" Griffin asked when he did not hear her respond.

"Y-Yes, Brother Griffin. After I finish working, I will give you a call."

“Okay.”

Ava’s mind was racing with something after the call ended, and she gripped the phone tightly.

“Ancient book! Didn’t I see an ancient book in our campus’s library named “The Myth of Alpha’s Rejection”? That book... Yes! That book can help me break free from the bond”

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 287[1,107 words]

After Informing Dane of her departure, Ava left the company. He was in a meeting, so she texted him and told him **she** was going to her old university’s campus for something

The only thing that Dane did was say okay because he was in a meeting at the time. He did not ask her anything during that time.

The moment Ava arrived on campus, she made a beeline for the library to get that book.

As soon as she walked into the library, many memories instantly appeared before her eyes. The sight of the table where she and her friends used to sit and read in the past brought a smile to her face. She and Luke used to come here almost every day to work on statistics.

She turned around and recognized the familiar librarian. She walked toward her desk and said,

“Hello.”

The woman raised her glasses to her nose and took a close look at Ava.

“Is the nerd back on campus?” the woman mumbled as she recognized Ava since she used to be a bookworm.

Ava smiled at her and asked,

“How are you?”

“I am good. As you can see, I am still the librarian and doing my job well. By the way, what are you doing here? Have you decided to become a teacher? Do you need some books?”

Ava did not clarify her profession to her as she turned her back to her and glanced at the last bookshelves in the

corner.

“Yeah, I need one.”

“Go and grab it. I am checking your old membership card,” the woman said after checking on her laptop.

Ava nodded and proceeded to the far end of the library, where the ancient books were stored.

She came to a halt beside the table where she had last read the book. She moved toward the bookshelves only to remember the day when she got that book.

The reflection of Ian pressing her against a bookshelf came to her mind. That day he asked forgiveness from her. He even stated that he liked her nerdy appearance.

She shook her head, trying to push all of the memories away while murmuring to herself.

“Stop thinking about all those memories, Ava.”

Leaning over the bookshelves, she began looking for the particular book.

9

After ten minutes of searching, she was unable to locate the book on any of the shelves.

“Where is the book?”

She huffed, feeling defeated. She rested her back against a pillar, wondering where the book could be.

‘Did someone steal the book?’ she wondered, shaking her head with worry.

1/3

287

*+25 BONUS

‘No, no. That’s not possible!!

She hurried to **the** librarian, Ignoring the stares from the other students at the table.

“What happened? You **look** worried!” the woman asked, giving her a confused look.

“**Miss**, could you please check out the book “The Myth of Alpha’s Rejection“? I really need the book right **now**. **It’s** urgent.”

It appeared as though the woman had recalled the book, as her expression of confusion began to fade, and she responded,

“I told you many years ago that the students were not permitted to read those books. It’s just the library is really big and protected; that’s why the

it books are here,”

“I swear I will not want to borrow that book. I will read it here for a few minutes,” Ava replied.

She had the idea of quickly taking photos of the pages so she could read them later.

However, the librarian woman shook her head. “No, you **can’t**. You are not allowed to touch any of those books either,”

Ava felt disappointed. “I came here with a lot of hope.”

“That’s not in my hand, girl.”

Ava knew the librarian could not do anything about it. So she only let out a sigh and turned around to leave the library.

But the woman spoke up from behind,

“By the way, the library does not even have that book. In order for Alpha to review and modify the rules, all of the important books were sent to the pack house in Alpha’s study room prior to the head Alpha position being changed.”

Ava was stunned. So the book was actually in Ian’s study room?

‘How will I get it now?’ she thought.

She turned to the woman and thanked her for informing her.

Ava left the campus and hailed a cab. She decided to go to the pack house. She needed to get the book today, by hook **or** crook.

When the cab arrived in front of the pack house, she paid the driver and got out of the car.

She took a deep breath and mumbled to herself, "If Ian's parents ask why I came, I will tell them I came to see Auntie and have a chat."

The guards did not stop her because they were aware she was Gamma Stephen's sister.

The maids greeted her when Ava walked into the pack house. Upon observing that there was no one present in the living room, Ava inquired,

"Where is Uncle and Auntie?"

One of the maids politely responded, "They are not at home. You can wait until they return; in the meantime, we can prepare something for you."

2/3

287

+25 BONUS

"No, no. It's okay. Don't be bothered. I will just wait. Where is Head Alpha's study room? He told me to bring some documents," she said cleverly.

Upper floor, last room in the right corner."

"Thank you."

When she saw the maids had left, she dashed upstairs. Her steps were quick as she made her way toward Ian's study room.

As she opened the door, she noticed that there were three long bookshelves in the room. She made a hasty trip over there and immediately began searching for the book.

As soon as she located the book, her eyes lit up with excitement.

Overjoyed, she exclaimed, "There it is! The book!"

The book was on the very first row of shelves. To get to the book, she put out her hand and stood on her toes. However, she could not grasp it.

Even after jumping and making several attempts, she was unable to get her hands on the book.

'Let's try again,' she thought.

She jumped on her toe once more.

Her hand came close to touching the book this time, but she was unable to seize it.

However, before her legs touched the ground, a hand lightly brushed against hers, and another wrapped around her waist.

A deep voice rang in her ears, making her gasp in surprise.

“It’s bad to enter someone’s room without permission, baby.”

Don't Leave Me, Mate (by AlisTae)

Oh Really 288[826 words]

288

Ava immediately moved away from Ian.

She glanced at the door and noticed that she had forgotten to close it, so she did not realize when Ian entered the

room.

“I-I was just...”

She struggled to find words. Just now, she was caught!

Ian smirked when he saw she could not reply. Ian had just come back to the pack house to take a file when the maids informed him about Ava.

He was surprised to learn she was here. He was delighted that she had come to his house. When they told him she was in his study, he hoped she had come to see him.

However, when he arrived here and found her attempting to obtain an ancient book, he was skeptical.

“Let me see what you were so eager to get,” he muttered, taking a look at the book.

He was tall, and it was easy for his long hand to reach for the book. He picked up the book and looked at the cover.

He froze as soon as he read the title.

“The myth of Alpha’s rejection”

His voice sounded like a whisper. Ava raised her gaze and saw him holding the book in his hands.

She hurriedly leaned toward him to grab the book. But he held his hand up out of her grasp before she could grab it.

“Ian, give it to me.”

With his hand still in the air, he leaned his back against the bookshelf and composed his bewildered face.

“What’s so special about it?” he asked.

She tiptoed to take the book from his grasp. “Stop playing and give it to me.”

“Why don’t you reply to me first? Then I will consider whether I should give it to you or not.”

Ava turned her gaze from the book and looked at Ian. She calmed down and stated,

“You don’t need to know why it’s special. It is a special book, so I want it.”

He grinned at her, which she found maniacal. Why didn’t he just give it to her and let her leave?

“What would I get if I gave it to you?” he asked.

She paused, standing on her feet. She gave him a frown. “What do you want?”

He looked around as if thinking about something. His eyes lit up as he responded,

“How about letting me mark you?” he inquired, raising an eyebrow.

She was shocked to hear him. “Have you lost your mind?” she let out a yell.

Ian smirked at her and mumbled, “You should not yell at your mate. Your mate’s heart hurts.”

288

+25 BONUS

She scoffed at him and asked, “Heart? Does he have a heart?”

His smirk froze when she questioned him.

How could the woman, for whom his heart had been beating for so long, ask the question? He could consider if other people had asked him that, but how could she?

“I don’t have a heart?” he muttered as if questioning himself.

She shook her head. “No, you don’t have a heart. You have a stone in place of a heart that can change colors whenever it wants.”

After saying that, she moved close to him and tiptoed to grasp the book, considering the last time to take a chance.

Instead of giving her the book or allowing her to take it from his hand, he wrapped his hands around her waist and pressed her body against him.

She was stunned.

“W-What are you

11

He lowered his face to interrupt her. His nose brushed against hers, and he whispered,

“Don’t hurt me with your words. I do have a heart, and it only beats for you.”

His voice was deep; his eyes were dark, but she could see pain in them. She felt her insides clench as she looked into those eyes.

She blinked and could not say anything in response.

While looking into her eyes, he said,

“You are very desperate to break this mate bond, aren’t you?”

She gulped, looking away from him. She pushed against his chest, prompting him to release her.

She stepped back and glanced at the book in his hand.

“You can’t stop me from getting this book. Even if you succeed, you can’t stop me from finding a way to break this bond. I will find my way.”

After saying that, Ava left the pack house.

Ian stared at the door for a long time until his phone rang. He almost forgot that he had returned to the pack house to take a file.

His eyes fell on the book he was holding tightly. He opened the book, trying to see what she wanted to find.

He started to read, turning a few pages until his eyes turned red. His fingers gripped the page, causing the top of the page to tear slightly.

His expression was fierce, as if he had discovered a way to break the mate bond that Ava was searching for.

If you find any errors (non-standard content, ads redirect, broken links, etc..), Please let us know so we can fix it as soon as possible.

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 289[910 words]

289

It was the day of the annual ball competition..

Ava's **hard** work came to an end, and all of the costumes she had prepared were in front of her.

Dane was really impressed with her work. In fact, every employee was confident that their company would win the project.

"There is no doubt that you are the best."

Dane's voice came from next to her. They were currently sitting in his car, heading to the location where the fashion show was going to be held.

Ava was feeling nervous. Dane noticed it and reached out to hold her hand.

Ava almost flinched at his touch, but she controlled herself and kept her calm.

A few days ago, she tried to get the ancient book from Ian's study, but he caught her and refused to hand it to her. After that, he did not try to come across her. Ava also focused on her work and did not give the mate bond a thought. Though she considered telling Dane about it, she thought she should get the book first. She should find a way to break the bond first before telling him about it.

"You will win the project. It will be a big turning point for your career," Dane said, caressing the back of her hand with his thumb.

Ava turned her gaze to the man who genuinely cared for her with no expectations. She stared at him with her eyes filled with admiration.

She did not want to lose him. She wanted to be with him. However, her wolf was not fond of him. Her wolf only wished to be with her mate.

She was in real trouble.

Suddenly, Dane leaned close to her, which caught her off guard.

She did not feel well these days being so close to him. Her wolf wanted to push him because she knew his intentions to get closer to her. Because of her wolf, Ava could not get close to Dane.

“Why do you seem nervous? You are with Alpha Dane, the man who gets anything he wants. If they didn’t give you the project, then I will-”

Ava interrupted him by pressing her hand against his mouth. “Don’t say that. It’s not a school competition where you can buy a judge. I want to win this project with my hard work. Don’t make any trouble for the other pack.”

He did not take her hand away from his mouth as he continued to stare at her. When she realized she was still covering his mouth, she blinked and moved it away.

“I am sorry. I was just... I know this project is really important for your pack. This project can help our company in a high position. Everyone is trying their best. But please be fair.”

Dane let out a sigh and shook his head. He stroked his hand on her hair and replied,

“You are a really kind and dignified woman. I have never seen a woman like you. That’s why you are me.”

He then let out a low chuckle. “You are in front of the beast of a pack, and you are asking about fairness. Everything is fair in love and war.”

1/2

289

+25 BONUS

Her heart was warmed by his words. Did he mean that he **had** fallen **in** love **with her** and he **could** do **anything for her**?

She **looked** away from him, feeling bad for hiding the mate bond from him. She needed **to** find a way as soon **as** possible to break it.

Once the Alphas of each pack and their respective designers arrived at the venue, the fashion show was **officially** underway.

Ava's friends came to her and hugged her, saying, "All the best."

"Are you going to wear the costume of this pack company? Ava asked Debra with excitement.

She shook her head and made a gesture toward someone.

Ava turned her head only to find Freya. She noticed Freya was saying something to someone. Her eyes fell on the

man.

Ian Dawson.

Ava noticed Freya holding Ian's arm while talking. It appeared that she was unhappy about something and was complaining to him. He, on the other hand, patted her head as if to coax her.

Ava was unaware that seeing Ian so close to Freya caused a burning sensation in her heart.

She ignored them and turned to Debra and Abigail.

"Oh. So Freya is going to be the main model of your pack?"

Abigail gave her a suspicious look and said, "Yeah. I have heard that Alpha and Freya split up. But Freya appears to still hold a special place in his heart."

Ava's brows frowned when she heard Abigail. She had asked Ian about Freya, and he had said she was not his first

love.

Ava remembered that Ian had not tried to contact her in the past few days. She glanced at them again and thought, 'Perhaps he realized his feelings for her and returned to her 2

When the models began their ramp walk, Ava went to sit next to Dane as Designer Florence.

Everyone applauded when a model appeared in her costume.

She designed it.

It was beautifully decorated with expensive fabric and stones that shone even in low light.

Ava's gaze shifted to Ian, who sat across from her on the opposite side of the stage.

She gasped when she heard him saying in the mate link,

"Not bad, baby." 1

290

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 290[929 words]

290

Ava immediately looked away from Ian. Dane noticed Ian staring at Ava. He turned to Ava and put his hand around "her shoulders.

"What happened?" he questioned, tilting his head.

As soon as Ava heard Dane's voice, she shut all the mind links, including the mate link, and shook her head in

response.

"Nothing," she mumbled.

"Not liking your own design?"

She turned her head to tell him that it was not like that, but their faces came so close to each other that she had to

shut her mouth in shock.

Flashlights that kept clicking the models and their costumes turned their direction. The cameramen started to click photos of Dane and Ava.

"Dane, people-"

"Who cares about people? Tell me if you are all right," he said, moving closer to her face.

The scene portrayed like they were going to kiss. The camera crew appeared delighted to capture the most exciting news of tomorrow morning.

Ava lightly pushed Dane, making him move away, and said,

“I am okay.”

Dane glanced at the other side of the stage and grinned at the man who was glaring at him.

“You know I am very concerned about you. So don’t let others ask you about it without me,” Dane said, placing his hand around Ava again.

Ava did not understand what he said, but she nodded her head.

The fashion show kept running, and it was time to represent the pack company of the Mystic Shadow Pack.

With the other models, Freya walked on the stage in a gorgeous dress. That was the main costume of their company. She was walking confidently.

Ava could say that Ian’s company and designer did an excellent job designing the dress.

Ava caught Freya looking at Dane as she passed by their side.

Freya turned her head and walked past with grace.

Ava noticed the dress was backless from behind, and Freya was wearing a back chain that looked stunning against her fair skin.

Ava felt the arm that was wrapped around her tighten. She turned her head to Dane and saw him glaring at Freya’s

back.

He did not seem to like seeing Freya in a revealing dress.

Dane felt a gaze on him from next to him. He turned his head and saw Ava staring at him. He loosened his grip as

290

+25 BONUS

soon as he realized how tight it was.

“What’s wrong, Dane? You don’t look okay to me,” Ava mumbled, carefully observing him.

He broke eye contact, avoiding her gaze again. “What would happen to me?”

Ava’s gaze returned to Freya, who stood in the center of the stage, hands on her hips, and moved towards the

cameras.

“She looks hot,” she commented.

Dane snorted upon hearing that. Ava cast a glance at him, suspicious of his behavior.

“You said you no longer care about her,” Ava reminded him

“I care? Who said that? She is just my beta’s sister and her father had handed her responsibility to me, so I believe she is not good for that company. They don’t treat her well. She should not have worn such revealing clothing to represent this infamous pack.”

Ava tried to find out if he was cursing this pack or if he was having issues with Freya’s dress.

For some reason, she found his words to be caring toward Freya.

Her eyes fixed on Dane, wondering if he still had feelings for Freya. She recalled Freya’s words that Dane was the one who turned her down first just to get close to her.

When it was time for the announcement,

Ava was stressed out. Dane’s company depended on her for this project. Since he had shown so much trust in her, she did not want to disappoint him.

“And the winner is...” 1

The host opened the card to announce the winner. Ava’s gaze shifted to Ian, who was looking at her. Freya rushed out from behind the stage and took a seat next to Ian.

Ian did not look away from Ava as he stared at her. Ava assumed he was confident in winning the competition, and his gaze was mocking her.

“The winner of the annual ball competition is Designer Florence from the Thunder Howl Pack.”

Ava was stunned, and everyone clapped around her. She turned her attention to the stage. The host was clapping his hands and asking her and Dane to take the stage.

Dane grabbed her hand and stepped onto the stage. Ava was still in disbelief as happiness rushed inside her, shocking her.

The host presented Dane with an award and gave him the microphone to give a speech. Dane turned his head to hand it to Ava and said into the microphone,

“Congratulations, Designer Florence. You deserve this. It’s yours.”

Everyone’s heads turned to look at the person sitting there, staring at the stage with indifference. Since his rival stole the project from him, they were curious about his reaction.

Ian was calm. While others clapped, he clapped too, keeping his gaze fixed on Ava.

Beside him, Freya was staring at him.

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290

+25 BONUS

“You have lost your mind in love, Jan Dawson. We had the best design with unique fabric. The Thunder Howl Pack’s dress was not even close to what we had. That fabric was the game changer. But you...”

“She grumbled in anger and muttered again,

“You changed the plan at the last moment and stopped me from wearing that dress. You handed Dane the plate of victory just because you wanted this woman to win!”

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 291[1,152 words]

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Jan ignored Freya’s words as his eyes were focused on the woman standing in the center of the stage with a graceful smile.

When he saw her smile, he felt incredible happiness.

He wanted to see her winning. He did not care whether it benefited Dane’s company. He just wanted to see a smile on her face.

He could hear Freya's voice beside him again.

"How can you be so foolish in love, Ian? Dane is someone I know very well. You have been winning this project for the past two years, so he has his eyes on it. Don't you think he got what he wanted by putting his gun on Ava's shoulder? He forced her to have this project and gave her confidence so that only she could work on it. Now look at the result: he successfully managed to get the win."

Ian smirked when Ava gave him a sarcastic grin as if telling him that she had won over him.

"He is a fool if he thinks I don't know his plan. I had won every project he was interested in over the last few years; why would I not be aware of his intentions?"

Freya froze upon hearing Ian. She grabbed his jaw and made him turn to her, breaking his gaze from Ava.

"Are you serious? You knew his plan but still gave up on this project so easily?"

Ian grabbed her hand and removed it from his jaw. He smiled at her and whispered,

"Just because I behave calmly with you doesn't mean you can touch me anytime."

Freya was stunned. She glanced at his hand and mumbled, "I am sorry. I thought-

"That I am like your Dane?"

Her gaze returned to him, who chuckled. "I am not Alpha Dane but Alpha Ian. I know how to have my ways just like him. But when it's about love, I follow my heart instead of proceeding with my mind. Your Dane is nothing but a jealous brat who wants everything that I have. Just turn your eyes and look at him. He is looking at you, but he will never come forward to say that he is jealous."

Freya scoffed at him. "No way. That man loves your woman. He doesn't love me anymore."

Ian's eyes darkened as he pulled her hand closer, causing her face **to** come close to his.

It once again amused the cameramen. They quickly flashed their cameras, capturing them in the same way they did Ava and Dane.

"**Your** man does not have the authority to have my woman. So it's better if you make him get it in his mind before I snatch his **life** away from him."

Freya felt a shiver run down her spine as Ian's voice and words resonated through her. She gulped, slowly lowering her head.

“Please don’t hurt him.”

Jan **released** his grip and sneered, “Why don’t you go and seduce him so that you can be with him **again?**”

She shot a glare **at** him and replied, “You know he **doesn’t love me**. Why would **I go to** him? **My love** is nothing **to**

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+25 BONUS

him. He is blinded. Why don’t you come to me instead of waiting for Ava?”

She looked away when Ian shot her a stern look. Ian glanced at other people who were observing him. Then he smiled and put his hand around Freya, pressing her head against his chest and patting it.

“It is alright. Better luck next time. Be happy with others’ victory,” he said loudly so that other people would hear

him.

Everyone was astounded by Ian’s sporting spirit. They began to compliment his demeanor, claiming that he was a true businessman who was pleased with his competitor’s victory.

Meanwhile,

Ava was watching Ian and Freya from the stage. She could not hear them, but she felt awkward in her heart as she watched them getting so close to each other.

She realized that after learning that Ian was her mate, she began to feel this way as a result of the mate bond.

She ignored them and turned to Dane only to see him staring at Ian and Freya. 1

He wore an angry expression. Taking his arm, Ava whispered, “Dane.”

Dane looked away from the two people who were like thorns in his eyes. He smiled at Ava and wrapped his arm around her, getting down from the stage.

Ava’s friends came to congratulate her. Ava noticed that they did not look so happy; rather, they were looking very confused.

Ava assumed it was because their company had lost the competition. She did not ask much because she feared they would be upset.

Later, Ava left the venue without glancing at Ian. She wanted to avoid him. If he wanted to get back to Freya, it would be good for himself.

However, the thought of it made her chest hurt.

Dane threw a success party the following afternoon.

The party was also open to all of the company's competitors. The majority of the Alphas did not attend because they thought it was mocking for their loss.

But Alpha Ian arrived at the party as if he did not mind losing the competition. He came along with his friends.

It surprised Ava. But she decided to ignore him for the whole party.

Ava invited her friends to the party. Abigail and Debra did not look confused anymore. They expressed their **joy** for her.

As the party began, Ava greeted the guests with a cheerful smile. Her red sleeveless gown enhanced her beauty, She **was** the main character of the party.

"Designer Florence"

That **was** how others greeted her and congratulated her.

Dane **was** sitting at the **bar** with a glass **of** wine **in** his hand.
Ava **approached him** and **took up her position beside**

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him.

"Why are you alone?" she asked.

+25 BONUS

She had been noticing him for a while. His gaze was fixed on Freya, who was close to Ian. She did not know why she did not feel bad in her heart, but she was perplexed by her sudden change of mood.

"Ava, do you really like me?" Dane asked suddenly, looking directly into her eyes.

Ava was stunned. "O-Of course. Why did you ask that?"

He wrapped his hand around her waist and drew her closer to him. "Then prove it."

"H-How?"

"Kiss me."

Hearing him, she was shocked. Her gaze wandered around the hall. She found Ian staring at them. His eyes were dark, warning her to stay away from Dane.

Ava tightened her fists and turned her head to face Dane.

She took a deep breath before nodding her head. "I like you, Dane. There is no doubt that I want to be with only you."

After saying that, she leaned in close to his lips. She closed her eyes and kissed him.

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Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 292[1,127 words]

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There was a look of shock on Ian's face as he watched Ava kiss Dane. His fists tightened in anger. He let out a low growl, which caused the two people to break the kiss.

Ava was startled when she heard the growl. It shivered her body, pulling her away from Dane.

She looked at Dane with shocked eyes. She came to the realization that it was nothing more than a simple kiss without any feelings attached. It was just like the two people acting in front of cameras to fool others that they were enjoying.

Because when her lips touched Dane's lips and he moved his lips against hers, she did not feel like how he felt when Ian kissed her. She tried to dismiss the thought, but only Ian's face came to mind while kissing Dane.

The low growl made the people in the party startled. Ian's eyes turned red in anger. He looked ready to go and yanked the two people away from each other.

However, Ronald was there beside him.

He gripped Ian's arm. He noticed Ian was losing his mind. So he kept his voice low and spoke politely.

"Calm down, Alpha."

Ian yanked his hand from his best friend and turned to his other friends. He noticed Stephen's calm expression as if he did not mind his sister kissing Dane.

He glared at him and then looked away from him. He did not look at Ava again as he pushed Ronald out of his way and left the party.

On the other hand, Freya was holding a glass when she noticed Ava and Dane kissing. Her grip became so tight that the glass shattered against her palm.

By the time Ian left the hall, she had let go of the glass. It made a sound, grabbing others' attention.

Beta Bruno rushed up to her and took her hand. "What happened to your hand?"

Freya felt tears welling up in her eyes. She yanked his hand away and said, "I don't want your help, brother. Please just leave me alone. I hate you all."

Ava moved away from Dane. "I-I am going to my friends," she mumbled, backing away.

"Ava"

Abigail called her from behind as she walked in the opposite direction. Ava tightened her jaw and turned to face Abigail. Debra was standing next to her.

"You just kissed Alpha Dane," Abigail said.

"I know," Ava said, lowering her gaze.

"Why are you not happy, Ava? You should be happy that you kissed your man," Debra asked.

Ava blinked her eyes, feeling the urge to cry. She had no idea why, but she was not feeling well inside.

Her wolf was whimpering inside and kept chanting.

"You hurt our mate."

+25 BONUS

She clenched her fists and stared at her friends.

Abigail and Debra were surprised to see tears in Ava's eyes. They immediately hugged her.

"Ava, why can't you see what you want? Why are you forcing yourself to do something you do not want?" Abigail spoke up, realizing what was going on.

Ava broke the hug and shook her head. She wiped the corner of her eyes and forced herself to smile.

"No, it's not like that. It's just my and Dane's first kiss. So-"

"First kiss?" Debra asked with a frown.

Ava looked away from them. Debra cupped her face before turning to face her.

"Ava, if you don't love Dane,. Please don't push yourself. If you still have feelings for Ian, accept it. It is evident to us that you are unhappy with Dane. You are just pretending to be."

Abigail stroked her hair and tried to persuade her best friend of the truth, which she refused to accept. "Ava, don't be confused with your feelings. Admiration and love are not the same. Don't twist your life when you already have a mate. You still have time before it will be too late. Take a step toward Dane only if you really love him."

Ava did not understand what she was feeling inside. How would she get an answer? Since she had already made a promise to Dane, she was unwilling to forgive Ian. While she remained faithful to Dane, her wolf was devoted to Ian.

She thought that tonight she would talk to Dane about it. She turned around and saw Dane was not in his place.

"I need to talk to Dane."

She then looked for Dane in the hall. She ran into Beta Bruno, who frowned at her.

"Beta Bruno, where is Dane?"

Bruno glanced at the main door and replied with a grin. "He is where he should be."

"What?"

"He is leaving the party with someone he truly cares about. He did not like it when she got hurt."

Ava did not argue with him and rushed outside to find Dane. The sight of Dane cradling Freya in his arms astounded her. He slid her into the back seat and got into the car,

Dane was hugging Freya in his arms, not even noticing her who was standing outside the car.

Her eyes fixed on him when the car drove past her.

His actions made Ava feel hurt. Didn't he say he had nothing to do with Freya? What had happened to him suddenly?

When the car vanished from view, she lowered her head.

She was on the edge of losing herself. She did not know where to go.

With tears in her eyes, she hailed a cab and left for her home.

She cried the entire way, heartbroken. She thought Dane liked her, but why did he leave the party with Freya, leaving her all alone? He did not even tell her about leaving

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+25 BONUS

Upon reaching her home, she began to make her way there

From behind the cab, the cabbie said, "Miss, you haven't paid the bill."

She was so lost that she forgot to pay. She smiled at the man sadly and paid him.

When the cab left, she turned around and went to the front door of her house. She opened the door with her key since there was no one in the house. Her parents were not at home, and Stephen was at the party. Given that he had previously mentioned that all of his friends would be spending the last at Ronald's house, Stephen did not seem to come back home tonight.

Ava opened the door with her head low. She was very upset

She closed the door behind her.

Taking a deep breath, she went upstairs.

She went into her room and closed the door. She found the room dark.

Just as she turned on the lights, a hand grabbed her hand and pushed her back against the door.

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 293[869 words]

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Ava was shocked when her eyes met a pair of piercing eyes. They appear to be enraged, blazing inside as if waiting to devour her with the predatory gaze.

She gulped when she saw Ian, looking fierce.

“How dare you kiss another man?” he asked in a bone-chilling tone.

She got shivers down her spine.

She gathered all of her strength and pushed him. He moved backward by one step.

Her gaze landed on the couch that was located close to her bed. His suit jacket was lying on the couch. A few cigarette butts were on the floor, indicating that he had been there for quite some time.

‘Did he come here directly after leaving the party?’ she thought.

Her gaze slowly moved to meet his, and she asked,

“What are you doing here?”

The line between his brows began to furrow, his eyes became more narrow, and his jaw became more clenched. She was taken aback.

He was angry and appeared ready to charge at her at any moment.

She felt mad at him. Why did he look like that? Shouldn’t she be the one who was supposed to give him that look? He had come to her house and entered her house without permission.

“Ian, why are you—”

He did not wait for her to finish her sentence before approaching her and grabbing her jaw.

His grip was not too tight, but it was firm enough to break

“I asked you something, woman. Why did you do that?” He muttered angrily, nearly growling at her.

Ava stared at him with shocked eyes.

Last time she did not know when he was this mad. Maybe in Robin's apartment. But that was different; there was pain in his eyes from the anger she had witnessed that day.

But tonight, it was only rage, a pure rage.

"That's none of your business, Ian Dawson."

His grip tightened around her jaw, causing her to hiss.

"I tried to be very patient with you. I have **been** pleading with you for forgiveness because you refused to forgive me. I did my best to express my feelings, but you did not believe me. What should I do to earn your forgiveness? Kill Inyself? You know I am your mate. You could have punished me in a different way. But how dare you kiss another man?"

His voice was so full **of** rage that she trembled inside. **She** could not believe how much his anger was affecting **her** on the inside.

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+25 BONUS

She glared at him and answered,

He is my boyfriend. I love him. I will kiss him whenever I wan-"

Before she could finish speaking, he smashed his lips against hers.

She tried to push him, but he did not move away. He released his grip on her jaw and wrapped his large palm around her nape. His other hand wrapped around her waist.

His body pressed her against the door as he used both hands to cage her.

Ava's eyes widened.

She was not shocked by the forced kiss but the feeling she was feeling inside. She was hoping for unis sensation when she kissed Dane. However, at that time, she failed to Have it.

Now that this feeling had returned to her again, she was scared.

She tried to shake her head. She did not want to feel it for this man.

When she was successfully able to push him, she growled at him.

“Stay away from me. I hate you. You are not my mate. I don’t believe it.”

She rubbed her palm against her lips as if she was disgusted by his kiss.

Seeing that she was looking disgusted by his kiss, Ian felt hurt inside; he got more enraged.

He had no idea how long he could keep his anger under control.

When he saw her kissing Dane at the party, he nearly rushed over to rip Dane’s head off. Only he knew how he had controlled himself.

“You hate me, huh?” he asked, enraged.

Ava nodded as she reached for the doorknob. She stepped aside and opened the door.

“It’s better if you leave right now. I don’t want to see your face. I hate you, your touches, your kisses; I just feel disgusted by your existence. You are not even close to Dane. You can’t give me the feelings that Dane can give me.”

Ava said as much as she could to get him to leave. She lastly tightened her fists and said, “You know what? You are the villain of my life.”

Her words pierced Ian, igniting the fire of rage inside.

He nodded his head and said in a low voice, “Since you saw **me** as a villain, then why would I pretend to be a saint in front of you? I will have my way with you then.”

After saying that, he loosened his tie and moved toward her. She was stunned when he grabbed her arm, making

her hand lose contact with the doorknob.

A loud slam was heard as he closed the door, and then he locked it while looking at her.

She blinked her **eyes** a few times **as she** asked,

“W-What are you doing?”

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 294[874 words]

Jan did not listen to her words as if her trembling voice did not reach his ears.

He pulled her closer to him and picked her up in his arms.

Ava started to punch his chest. "Leave me. Let me go."

He whispered, looking down at her,

"I am a bad person. You are disgusted with me. You don't believe in mate bonds and all, huh?"

Her fists tightened against his black shirt. She was terrified by the expression he gave her.

"Ian Dawson, I will kill you if you dare-"

"It's Alpha for you. I will show you what Alpha Ian can do to you to make you his sole possession."

He threw her on the bed. Her body jerked across the mattress.

She tried to back away. He pressed one knee against the bed and grabbed her ankle, dragging her toward him.

His strong pull caused her body to lie down on the bed. Pressing her elbows, she attempted to sit up.

But when she saw him remove his belt from the waistband of his pants, a fright gripped her heart.

'Is he going to hit me?' she thought. Her eyes widened.

But before she could think more, he grabbed her hands.

"Leave me, you asshole!"

She tried to break free her hands, but Ian wrapped the belt around her wrist and locked her hands.

Her lips parted in shock. She tried to move her hands, but it went in vain.

She grumbled in anger. "Alpha Ian!"

He pressed her down against the mattress and climbed on her.

He was putting pressure on his knees so that she would not have to feel his weight. His eyes were fixed on her face.

His one hand held the grip of the belt, which was locking her hands, and pinned it over her head.

Her sleeveless arms were delicately displayed in front of his eyes.

“Stop struggling,” he muttered.

She paused in her movements to look at him. “I hate you.”

“You are going to hate me even more. I began to enjoy your hatred, too. But seeing you with another man... As long as I am alive, I cannot allow this to happen.”

She was furious and bit her bottom lip. She was so angry that she wanted to say things that would hurt him.

“I love Dane. He is my man. I will do everything he wants. I belong to him. My heart, my body, everything belongs to him. Just a kiss? I will sleep with him. I love his touches”

Before she could finish, Ian grabbed her jaw and crashed his lips against it.

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+25 BONUS

She was stunned. She started to move again, but when he pressed his body against hers, she could not move.

His weight made her unable to move.

She moved her head to stop him from kissing. He tilted his head, kissing her deeply. His lips were sucking hers angrily, letting her know how mad he was with her.

As soon as she started to feel out of breath, she was unable to continue to struggle.

He broke the kiss. His lips moved to her neck, and he began kissing her neck.

She could not help but let out a low moan when he sucked her neck after biting her skin lightly.

He seemed to be out of his mind. His hand loosened the grip on the belt.

He moved his hands to her waist. His hands began to move all over her body.

“I am going to make you forget his touch, kisses, and everything. Every time you touch another man, you will think of me.”

His voice was agitated, and he continued to passionately kiss her neck. His lips moved down to her cleavage. He gently bit her collarbone, causing her to moan again.

“L-Leave me—ah!”

His focus shifted to her face. Her lips were parted, and her eyes were closed. She was trying to resist... not his touches or kisses but her inner feelings.

He grabbed her hands and flipped her over, pressing her chest into the mattress.

Ava’s eyes widened in shock.

“Ian, what are you thinking? Let me-”

She gasped when he pulled down the back chain of her dress. The chain stopped at her lower waist, so when she zipped it off, her upper back and waist were exposed.

“D-Don’t touch—ummm!”

His fingers rolled around her back, and she pressed her head against the pillow. His touches were giving her goosebumps all over her body.

He pressed his chest against her back, tilting his head towards her ear.

“What were you saying? I can not make you feel the way he does.”

She felt shivered, shaking her head. “D-Don’t—“|

“Don’t what, huh? Are you stopping me from touching my mate? Just because she is with someone else? I can’t. I have warned you that night to stay away from him, but you didn’t listen to me,” he said angrily.

His hands moved toward her chest from behind and groped her breasts from over her dress.

Her lips parted in shock, but the next moment she moaned again when he bit her earlobe. His lips vibrated against it when he spoke,

“Tonight, I will make you forget about him.“.

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Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 295[879 words]

Ava completely lost herself as soon as Ian moved his head and began kissing her back.

She was in a moaning mess. She had no idea how he made her feel that way just with his kisses.

As he rolled his tongue over her upper back, he gradually moved it down to her waist. Her eyes were tightly closed because she did not want to experience this sensation.

However, her toes curled when his hand reached his ankle, moving inside her dress.

Her dress slid up to her thigh, revealing her fair legs.

Ian had already gone insane. He was no longer under control. He did not want to either.

He kissed the back of her neck, turning her on. He flipped her body and looked at her.

She looked fragile, ready to get ruined by him.

With a slow motion, he swept his thumb over her lips.

“These lips are mine.”

He looked down at her body. Her dress loosened due to the back chain being opened, revealing her half breasts.

He leaned down while looking into her eyes. He moved his lips on her half-exposed breasts and said,

“This body is mine.”

She closed her eyes, fisting her hands tightly to keep herself from moaning.

He watched her every expression and enjoyed making her feel that way. However, it did not lessen his rage.

His hands gripped her waist, pressing his body against hers while muttering,

“You are mine. I desire your soul. I will not allow you to be with anyone else until I am dead. Even if you can break our bond, you cannot force me to stay away from you.”

Ava froze in response to his words. She was so caught up in the sensation that she did not realize what he wanted.

He wanted her soul?

She had never heard a man say something like that to a woman. They only wanted their heart and body to be theirs. But this man desired her entirely.

“You don’t know how much you made me mad at you,” he murmured, moving his hands down to her upper thighs.

Her eyes rolled back as she felt his hand almost reach her panties.

She saw his mad eyes, piercing at hers. His rough touches and sharp eyes were turning her more on.

She noticed him unbuttoning his shirt. After that, he threw his shirt to the floor and leaned down to her again.

He began to kiss her bare shoulder, wandering his hands all over her body.

Just as his hands were about to pull down her dress from her body, she let out a whimper.

Ian’s hands froze, and his gaze shifted back to his face.

295

+25 BONUS

He saw the resistance in her eyes for him. He assumed the tears streaming down her cheeks were no longer from anger, but from the hatred she felt in her heart.

“He clenched his jaw while staring at her.

Wasn’t she feeling good and moaning when he touched her? Why is she in tears right now?

His heart tightened as he saw her tears.

Even after so many years, he could not see her tears. It hurt his heart.

Did she love Dane this much?

His fists tightened around her dress. He took a deep breath and clenched his teeth.

He took a deep breath and looked at her body one last time before getting out of bed. He looked only at her face and mumbled,

“You love that man so much that you are resisting your own mate’s touches? Indeed, you are a loyal woman.”

The sound of his voice was painful. Staring at her, he felt a mixture of pain and anger.

Ava was taken aback. The whimper was not to resist him but to defeat herself for resisting him. He seemed to misunderstand her reaction.

However, his words brought her back to reality. How could she forget that she was with Dane now? She could not cheat Dane.

Ian averted his gaze from her, imagining that she might not have resisted Dane's touch. It was him who she was disgusted with.

He bent down to free her hands from the belt's grip. She immediately sat up, trying to zip up her back chain.

It pained him how she was trying to hide her body from him as if he was a stranger to her.

He grinned painfully and turned around. He felt he should not stay here to make her feel even more insecure.

As soon as he turned around, Ava cast a soft glance at his back.

However, her eyes froze when she saw the wounds like tree branches in his back.

Her lips trembled when she saw the wounds burning red, spreading in his back.

She choked on her breath, staring at the wounds. She was familiar with the wounds. She had experienced the pain. It was unbearable. She felt like she was living in hell. She had those wounds for more than a month. She had not forgotten the days, but she could not forget how painful they were.

One night with these wounds was like years of agony.

She slowly lifted her hand, pointing at his back with her shaking finger, and asked,

"W-What happened to your b-back?"

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Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 296[812 words]

+25 BONUS

In a large bedroom,

A woman was lying on her back, wrapping her body around a quilt. She opened her eyes and tried to move, but her bare arms brushed against a body, sending her butterflies in her stomach.

She cleared her view and turned around to look at him. A smile was on her face, which indicated that she was pleased.

She lifted her hand and caressed the face of the handsome man who was sleeping next to her. Her fingers brushed against his cheek.

His brows furrowed in response. She hurriedly moved her hand away. She looked at her hand, **assuming** he was uncomfortable because of the bandage.

She breathed deeply, inhaled his scent, and hugged him.

The man finally opened his eyes. She smiled and rested her head on his chest, saying,

“Good morning, Dane.”

He stared at the ceiling without responding to her. It was like he was in an inner conflict. Her smile faded when she observed him.

She moved and sat up, holding the quilt against her chest.

She hissed when she felt pain in her bottom. This man was an absolute beast last night.

“Dane”

She spoke again, hoping to get his attention.

Dane let out a sigh and turned his head to look at her. Her eyes became blurry when she noticed they were dark.

He sat up and leaned his back against the headboard of the bed. The quilt slipped down from his chest and rolled around his waist.

He grabbed a cigarette and lit it. He smoked to ease my mind.

“Did you regret last night?” she asked with a hope in her heart.

He gazed at her and shook his head. Her heart skipped a beat, feeling blissful. She loved this man and did not want to let him go.

“I was in my rut, Freya.”

She clenched her jaw. She knew it. She never forced him, though. He was the one who wanted to have sex with her, and he kept doing that till sunrise.

“Dane-

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“Freya, you know how Alphas react during their rut.”

It enraged Freya. “So? That means you can have sex with anyone you want at that time? Why didn’t you just go for Ava instead of me?”

He puffed out smoke, looking **away** from her, and replied,

1/2

296

+25 BONUS

“I didn’t want to hurt her.

Freya felt a pang in her chest. Tears formed in her eyes and flowed down.

“What was my fault? Only that I loved you? You are a beast. You are selfish. You hurt me by breaking my heart. You... you didn’t even care about our mate bond when you approached Ava.”

His lips paused when he heard her. His head turned to her, and he muttered,

“How many times have I told you not to talk about useless things? That mate thing is not for us.”

She glared at him and nodded at her. “You are right. Then what about last night? You were in rut; you needed your mate. Did you use me? Are you going to come get me when am in my heat?”

He turned away and stepped out of the bed after crushing the cigarette on the ashtray on the nightstand.

His naked body caused her cheeks to flush. She lowered her head.

Last night, she thought he had returned to her. But she was a fool in love.

“Stop hurting yourself. You know I will marry her no matter what. Just move on,” he reminded her and went to the bathroom.

She heard the sounds of the shower. He just ignored her as if she was nothing to him.

She wiped her tears and got out of the bed. She put on her dress and rushed out of the room. All she wanted was to leave his house as soon as possible. She did not want to see him again.

When she walked toward the front door, the sound of a car came from outside.

When she opened the door, the woman she detested the most was standing outside.

Ava appeared to be about to knock on the door, but when she saw Freya, her hand stopped in mid-stride. "Freya?"

Ava's eyes went to her shoulder which was full of hickeys. Ava's eyes widened as if she was not expecting her there.

"What are you looking at? He slept with me last night. But so what? He still wants you. I am just a play toy in his hand," Freya said angrily.

Ava seemed to be shocked after hearing her. She frowned and asked,

"You two slept last night?"

Freya smiled at her painfully and replied,

"Not everyone is Alpha Ian, who can keep their wolf under control around his mate. My mate was in a rut, so he just used me and then threw me like a tissue."

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Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 297[931 words]

Aya was in a really bad mood because she thought last night she almost cheated on Dane. She should have "managed to stop Ian from kissing her or getting close to her.

So today, in the early morning, she left her house only to confess what had happened and apologize to him.

However, as soon as she saw Freya, she was shocked. Her shock turned into the endpoint when she heard Freya's words.

"Your m-mate? What are you saying?" Ava asked Freya with a confused look.

Freya gave her a poker face. “Don’t tell me you don’t know that Dane and I are mates.”

Ava felt the ground slipping beneath her feet. She could not just believe it.

Freya and Dane were mates?

How come she did not know about it?

Freya noticed her expression and scoffed at her. “Why do you think my brother despises you so much? Because you snatched his sister’s mate away from her. You destroyed my life, Ava. I was so happy with him. But you entered our life and ruined everything.”

Ava blinked as she did not know what to feel. When she saw tears in Freya’s eyes, she felt hurt in her heart. She never liked Freya; however, today her heart was aching for her.

She understood how painful it was to be rejected by your mate. Her mind was suddenly filled with one question. “Did he reject you?”

Freya’s eyes widened, and tears streamed down her cheeks. You want him to reject me? Of course, you do. You want to be with him instead of your fated mate. What can I expect more from you?”

Ava shook her head, as she did not mean it; she only wanted to know the answer.

Freya walked past her, brushing her shoulder against hers. I will never forgive you. You did not only break my heart but also Ian’s heart. If he hurt you years ago, now you are hurting him even more. He never touched me or let me kiss him. He did not even allow other women to kiss him. He had been foolishly in love with you for years. If you had really loved him, you would have gone to him, not roamed around with another woman’s mate.”

Ava turned to face her. “I didn’t know that Dane was your...

Freya exhaled with a grin that looked hurtful. “Even if you had known, you would have had to be with him. He will never let you go. He is a selfish man who only does what he wants.”

After saying that, Freya left the house, leaving Ava in a daze and guilt.

Ava **felt** like crying. She never thought to break someone’s heart or ruin anyone’s life.

Dane told her that he and Freya had split up. He had always told her that Freya had fallen out of love and no **longer** cared about him.

How would she have known they were mates?

Ava got mad at Dane for not telling her the truth. She rushed to his room and found **the room empty**

297

+25 BONUS

As she was about to leave the room to look for him somewhere else, the door of the bathroom opened.

She turned around and saw Dane walking out of the bathroom in a white bathrobe.

He was stunned to see her there.

“When did you come?” he asked.

He spoke softly, not as harshly as he had spoken to Freya before.

This woman seemed to have a great effect on him. He walked toward her, causing her to step backward.

He paused a few steps away from her as he noticed her movements.

His eyes darkened as his gaze roamed around the room. His gaze returned to her, and he asked,

“Did Freya tell you something?”

Ava tightened her fists and stepped toward him. She pushed his chest in a fit of rage.

He was taken aback. For the first time, she behaved like this to him.

“You slept with her?” she asked, glaring at him.

His gaze, which was almost darkened by her push, turned soft again.

“Ava, I didn’t want to hurt you.”

“Yeah, I saw how you did not want to hurt me by carrying her in your arms and leaving me alone at the party,” she said mockingly.

‘How foolish I was to think I was cheating on him by being unable to push Ian. I did not sleep with him, but I still felt guilty. But here it is... he has all the answers and excuses,’ she thought, feeling betrayed.

Dane shook his head. “I-I was just—”

“Just what? You could not control yourself? Because she is your mate?”

His eyes narrowed, and he asked, “Did Freya tell you that?”

“Why? What would you do to her for telling me the truth?”

Dane shut his eyes as if he was controlling his anger and then replied, “I don’t care.”

“Why didn’t you tell me that she is your mate? Why did you hide it from me?” she asked, desiring all of the answers from him.

“You never asked me,” he responded, leaving her shocked.

She couldn’t believe he said that. Just because she didn’t ask, he would hide it from her and start a new life?

She nodded her head in anger and said,

“It was a good thing you kept it hidden from me. Because I also hid something from you.”

“What?” he asked, his face turned confused.

She smiled at him sarcastically and answered,

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“I also have a mate. And surprisingly, it’s your rival once again.” z

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Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 298[863 words]

Dane’s

eyes darkened as soon as he heard Ava.

Ava observed those eyes and scoffed at him. “What happened? Lost all the colors from your face?”

He clenched his jaw and grabbed her arm, pulling her closer to him.

“You can’t be with him.”

Ava looked into his eyes, noting his fury. “What’s wrong? Why didn’t you think about it when you spent the night with your mate?”

ke up.

Dane tried to compose himself, losing his grip on her arm. Look, Ava. I never slept with her after we She tried a few times to seduce me when she was drunk. I always ignored my wolf and the desire to be close to her. But I lost myself in front of my wolf last night.”

He let go of her arm and cupped her cheeks. She looked away from his face. Not wanting him to touch her, she attempted to push him once more.

Her eyes landed on the hickeys Freya had purposefully left visible in his chest.

If Dane had said that everything Freya said was a lie, she would have ignored it. But he himself admitted everything.

Now what would she do?

“Ava, you are a fragile woman to me. I want to protect you and bloom you. I didn’t want to hurt you last night.”

Ava’s gaze returned to him, shaking her head. “That is not the way to bloom your woman. You cheated on me and my trust.”

For some reason, Ava’s mind reflected Ian’s face.

Today, she could feel how Ian felt when he thought she had cheated on him.

Though she did not cheat, he misunderstood that and felt this way.

“There is no way I can leave you,” Dane said with an angry tone.

She pushed his hands away from her cheeks and turned around to leave.

He grabbed her wrist and said,

“You can have time and think about it.”

She yanked her hand away and turned her head to him, “Think about what? About us? We are over.”

He growled in response, which shocked her. His face turned fierce in anger. He turned her around and drew her closer to him.

“I have spent my entire life looking for you, Ava Taylor. Even though I had no idea what you looked like, you **were** always on my mind. That man, who has rejected you and betrayed you several times, does not deserve you.”

“And you deserve me?” she asked with a sad smile.

Her heart broke thinking that he had slept with another woman. She had trusted him blindly. She used to feel warm around him, but it has now vanished. She used to think anyone in this world could do wrong but not him. It

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+25 BONUS

appeared that sleeping with another person was not considered cheating on his list.

He did not sleep with another woman while he was in a relationship with me,” she told him angrily, unaware that she had just defended Ian.

Dane’s eyebrows rose in surprise. “So now he is better than me? Have you forgotten who gave you shelter when you were lost four years ago?”

Her expression changed when he reminded her of all the things that he had done for her.

He had given her shelter in his pack, assisted her in discovering who she was, introduced her to her brother Griffin, and given her his shoulder when she had no man in her life.

She lowered her head and said, “Thank you for everything. I will be forever indebted to you.”

“Thank you? Will you thank me for what I have done with my heart?”

She raised her head and looked into his eyes. “You don’t love me, Dane. Your heart beats for somebody else. I have been watching you for the past few days. Whenever Freya is around you, you look different. He became enraged upon seeing her in revealing clothing or with another man. You don’t like her to move on when you yourself have moved on.”

He gave her a long look before averting his gaze. He gritted his teeth and said,

“Don’t try to make me confused just because you discovered Ian Dawson as your mate again. Your first love has returned to your heart, and you now prefer him to me.”

She shook her head. “You are misunderstanding me. I never said that I wanted to be with him. I don’t want to be with him either.”

He was taken aback. “Not with him either?”

She wiped away the tears that had fallen on her cheeks. She took a deep breath and said,
“I don’t want to be with anyone now.”

It did not seem to fit with Dane. “Don’t forget that our parents once fixed our marriage. You have to fulfill that. What about your promise? You can’t back away.”

Ava found herself in a cage. She pushed his hands away from her arms and took a step back.

She made her way to the door while saying,

“I will not break any of the promises I made to you. I will never forgive Ian. You will always be the man who gave me a new life.”

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 299[846 words]

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Ava, why did you decide to leave now?” Ava’s mother, Angela, said with tears in her eyes.

When she and Harper returned home, Ava said she was leaving tonight. She was shocked to hear that, as well as Harper.

“Mom, Dad, I told you that I would be here for my birthday. My birthday had passed, but I remained here for the competition. Since everything is over now, it’s time for me to return to where I belong.”

Her voice was calm, just like her face. There was no emotion in her eyes that could show her inner feelings.. Angela wondered if anything had happened to her daughter. She had spent her entire life protecting her daughter from the Thunder Howl Pack, convinced that Alpha Dane would force her into a relationship. Ho

er, after learning that Ian had rejected her daughter as her mate and that Dane treated her gently, Angela realized Dane was the ideal match for her. Ava and Dane were fated, and her ex-husband’s decision was not wrong when he promised to marry Ava off to Dane.

“If you need anything, just remember to call me,” Harper said.

Ava nodded at him with a polite smile. She hugged him, feeling as if he was the only man who had never hurt her.

“Dad, please take care of Mom and yourself.”

At that time, Stephen entered the house. Angela and Harper had informed him that Ava was leaving.

“Why so suddenly, lil sis?” Stephen asked, hugging Ava.

“I have to leave, Steph. I will come again after some time to meet you all,” Ava replied.

Stephen let out a sigh. He did not want his little sister to leave. But nothing was in his hands. He assumed she did not want to live in this pack anymore because of Ian.

He carried her luggage and placed it in the bonnet of his car. He would drop her off at the airport.

After waving at her parents, Ava got in the car with Stephen.

He gazed at her and asked, “Is it because of Ian?”

Hearing Ian’s name, Ava felt her heart shake. She turned her head to look outside the window. “Tell him to find someone who suits him and mark her.”

Stephen exhaled, shaking his head. “I can’t tell him anything just like I don’t talk to you about him. He does not speak to us anyway. He is in his own world, focusing on leading the pack rather than talking about his life.”

Ava gave him a nod. “That’s good. He should do that.”

She recalled what had happened last night.

When she asked him about his back, he only said,

“Why do you care? Since you don’t accept me as your mate, you should not care about me either.”

Then he left her room without looking back.

Her eyes reflected those wounds, which resembled tree branches. She closed her eyes to block the thought from her mind.

1/2

299

+25 BONUS

When they arrived at the airport, Stephen assisted Ava and guided her to the boarding pass.

Before she could get there, Ava heard her name yelled from behind.

She turned around to see her two best friends waving at her and running toward her.

Abigail and Debra hugged her tightly.

“You cheat! You were going to leave without meeting us again?” Debra spoke with tears in her eyes.

Stephen looked at Debra, with surprise. He had never seen her cry; he could not even think that this strong-headed woman could tear up.

“Ava, take care of yourself,” Abigail said in an upset tone, hugging her again.

Ava smiled at them and nodded her head. “I will. See you again.”

Abigail looked around and asked,

“Where is Dane?”

While asking about Dane, she sounded angry, which confused Stephen. He was not aware of what had happened between Dane and Freya. However, he didn’t ask anything.

“I am here.”

A voice spoke from behind them. Ava’s friends turned and saw Dane approaching them.

Wearing a dark suit with sunglasses, he looked decent and less aggressive.

Ava’s friends only saw him treating their friends well. However, Ava had told them about Dane and Freya. Ava didn’t tell them about Dane sleeping with Freya, she only told them about their mate bond.

Ava’s friends did not want Ava to be with Dane anymore. Because they think Freya might cause issues for them later on. They felt that Ava should give Ian one last chance since he was her fated mate.

Ava glanced at Dane for a moment and then looked away. He came to stand next to her and wrapped his arm around her shoulder, then looked at Stephen.

“I am taking your sister with me. Don’t worry about her.”

He then looked at Ava's friends, who gave him a nod in greeting. He nodded at them back and leaned his head to

Ava.

"Let's go."

Ava gave her brother and her friends a last wave and turned around with Dane.

She left the pack with him, leaving her past behind once again.

Don't Leave Me, Mate Oh Really 300[863 words]

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ONE WEEK LATER

Ava awoke to the sound of a loud alarm. She opened her eyes and did not consider sleeping for a few minutes longer. She sat up slowly, grabbing the phone and stopping the alarm, which would continue to snooze if she did not turn it off.

She glanced outside the window. It was early in the morning.

Another day arrived, and she had to pass it. She believed she would have to cooperate with her fate without questioning it much.

She left the Mystic Shadow Pack one week ago. She did not tell her mate before leaving. That was y her wolf was really upset with her, refusing to shift again.

Ava was in real trouble. Her wolf's resistance was really hurting her, making her weak.

All week, she could only practice her powers as a witch, but she could not shift and run.

The last time she had shifted was when she met Ian and realized that he had become her mate.

Ava's phone rang in her hand, drawing her attention away from the window.

She received the phone call while getting out of the blanket.

"Ava"

Dane's calm voice reached her ear. She walked into the closet while saying,

"I'm listening."

Her tone toward him was as gentle as usual. She could not be rude to him, even though he had cheated on her in the relationship.

That night with Freya was nothing in his eyes, but to her, it was a betrayal from him. However, he bound her with the promises that her parents made in the past. He also made her remind her promise to him not to forgive Ian.

She was a woman of words. She did not know how things would go in the future, but she decided to go with the flow. She did not back down from her promise. 3

But one thing was sure: Dane's position in her heart had moved. She still had a soft corner for him in her heart; however, it was not that strong anymore.

Before the likeness could form into love, he broke her trust

"The meeting is in ten minutes. I sent my car to your home"

Hearing him, her brows furrowed. "I can come by myself."

"But Ava, it's urgent, and I don't want you to be hurried then-"

"Tell your driver to go back. I will take a cab and come to the company in time."

There was a sign of distance in her voice. She cut the call and freshened up in a few minutes. She knew she could not reach the company in ten minutes. But she did not want his help either.

She rushed out of her house, heading to the pack company.

When she arrived at the company, she was fifteen minutes late. She let out a sigh of defeat. Though she had told the cabbie to drive faster, she could not come in time because of the long distance between her house and the company.

She entered the meeting room, and everyone gave her a glance, saying that she was late.

She was stunned that Dane had not started the meeting without her.

She ignored him the whole meeting and only talked to him when it was needed.

When the meeting was over, Dane stopped Ava from leaving the meeting room by grabbing her wrist.

“Are you still mad at me?”

His voice was soft, and his brown eyes were gentle when he talked to her.

Ava looked at him, slipping her hand out of his touch. He noticed it, clenching his hands.

“If you keep that one night in your head forever, how can you live with me your whole life?”

His question scared her. She gave him a smile that looked painful to him, causing the gentleness to fade in his eyes.

“You will have to forget about it. I told you that I have nothing to do with Freya.”

Ava shook her head and replied, “I don’t care anymore. It’s between you two.”

“You are a part of my life now.”

She gave a low chuckle and asked, “Dane, if I had made the same mistake, would you have forgiven me?”

His eyes darkened as soon as he heard that. He grabbed her arms and lowered his face to reach her level.

“Why did you say that? Why would you sleep with that man? Didn’t he break your heart? He didn’t trust you and made you suffer for years. How can you forget that again?”

Ava stared into his eyes. He sounded manipulative to her. “You broke my heart too. If I had slept with him, I would have counted it as cheating. But it appears that if I had done that, I would not have felt as bad as I do right now.

His grip loosened as he released her. He stood still and placed his hand on her head.

He stroked her hair slowly and muttered,

“Don’t talk nonsense. You can never do that. You promised me you would not forgive that man. I know you will only follow what your father wanted years ago. You are bound to be with me.”