

Chapter 8

Fiona

I jolted awake feeling suffocated and breathless from the nightmare that plagued my sleep all through the night. My entire body felt numb and I could not move a single muscle. I guess this is why nightmares are called demons of dreams. It took me a moment to realize where I was as I scanned my surroundings.

"Luna. Luna," a voice called out from the other end of the door.


Luna?!

"Oh, my goddess!" I yelped, "I'm dead meat," I whispered under my breath as the memories of last night's event came flooding back to me.

'You'd know the consequences of your actions by dawn' the voice of Alpha Izaak rang in my head over and over again, as it sent shivers down my spine.

It is dawn already and only the goddess knows what consequences await me. The thought of it alone made my heart pound so hard in my chest like it was going to burst open accompanied by cold sweats on my forehead.

"Luna, you awake?" The voice came again accompanied by gentle knocks on the door, snapping me out of my thoughts.



I took in a few deep breaths, closed my eyes, and tilted my head backward, and gently massaged the back of my neck.

What's the worst that could happen right? Agreeing to take my sister's place was a conscious decision I made even though I felt like some nuts were loose in my brain when I came up with the suggestion.

"Give me a sec," I replied as I made my way to the door and slowly turned the doorknob.

"Good morning Luna," Mrs. Teresa greeted me with a wide grin.

"Good morning," I replied. "What time is it?"

"A little past 10 am."

I stood speechless as I could not believe what she was saying. I'm an early riser even on days when I was sick I still woke up early.

I felt a hand tug on my nightwear and I looked down. My eyes met with an adorable little girl, about six years old with big brown eyes and inky black hair.

"Good morning Luna," she said, bowing slightly and smiling at me. I crouched down to her level and returned the smile.

"Good morning, beautiful," I replied, stroking her cheeks.

"You are beautiful," she said as she presented me with some handpicked flowers.



"Thank you dear, you are so sweet," my heart instantly melted at how cute she was.

"I'm sorry for the intrusion Luna," Mrs. Teresa said as she drew the girl behind her.

"Don't be silly," I scolded. This is definitely a lovely intrusion, who is she?" I asked.

"She's my granddaughter."

"You have a lovely granddaughter."

"Thank you, Luna," she replied smiling.

"Please, just call me Fiona."

"I dare not, you are now the Luna of the pack..." she said and mumbled some inaudible words.

"What was that?"

"It's nothing," she replied nervously.

"What's your name princess?" I asked the little girl, and she blushed as I called her a princess.

"I'm Lily," she replied shyly.

"Awww, such a beautiful name, for a beautiful girl," I said.

Something caught Lily's attention and her face suddenly lit up. I followed her gaze and saw some kids at the other end of the hallway.



"Please excuse me, Luna," she said bowing slightly. I was taken aback by such courtesy displayed by her. Kids her age these days hardly greet adults, how much more taking permission before leaving.

"Of course," I replied and gestured for her to go.

"Thank you," she said with a smile and she ran away happily towards the other kids.

"You are doing a nice job, Mrs. Teresa," I complimented her.

"Thank you, Luna."

Two servants passed by with marching uniforms and politely bowed to me.

"Please forgive my manners, come in," I stepped aside, letting her in.

"Thank you."

"So, what brings you here?"

"Oh my goddess," She faced palmed, "I totally forgot. Alpha Izaak requests your presence."

I froze in place at the mention of Alpha Izaak's name, as the reality of what awaits washed over me. Different thoughts ran through my mind. Will I be flogged publicly and humiliated in front of the entire Silver Bow pack? Or will they drop molten silver onto my skin? The thought of it alone made me shiver or will the worst happen and my wolf Tris

be skinned alive?

'no, no, no, Fiona you are overthinking this' I scolded myself inwardly.

"Tris I need you" I mumbled under my breath.

"Are you okay Luna?" Mrs. Teresa asked, her face etched with worry.

"I- I'm..." I stuttered, " I'm fine," I replied with a weak smile.

"You sure?" She stretched her hand to touch my forehead. " You look pale. Should I get the pack's doctor?"

"That won't be necessary, I'm fine Mrs. Teresa," I lied. "Tell the Alpha I'd be with him shortly.

"Okay, Luna. I will send in your personal handmaid to you in a bit," she said as she turned and headed for the door.

A few minutes after Mrs. Teresa left, I heard a knock on the door. 1

"Come in."

A tall young brunette lady of about 18 years with moss green eyes and an hourglass shape stepped in. Her hair was neatly packed into a ponytail, and her uniform was well-ironed and neat.

"Greetings Luna," she said with a slight bow. "I'm Cora, I'm your handmaiden." She introduced herself.



"Hello Cora, it's nice to meet you," I replied smiling at her as I noticed how tense she was.

She smiled weakly at me but was no longer as tense as she was when she walked in.

"I'd go prepare your bath," she said. I simply nodded at her, giving her approval. She dropped the peach-long flowing gown she was holding on the bed and headed to the bathroom.

As I stepped into the tub, I instantly felt relaxed, as the water was mixed with a handful of lavender leaves.

Cora helped me with dressing up and applying a little bit of makeup. She escorted

me to the courtyard and as we got a step closer the knots in my stomach tightened.

"We're here." Cora announced.

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