

## 68 Chapter 68 A game of mirrors

POV 1

After Max found about Meredith's past he made everything in his power to make her feel protected and loved. Not a day goes by without showing her how much he loves her, but Meredith is not some fool who doesn't notice when a change occurs and looking at Max she asks him directly after about a week in which he was all the time with her, being always on the alert.

"You found out, isn't it?"

Max looks at her and tries to make a fool of himself and pretend he doesn't know what she's talking about.

"I don't know what you are talking about!" he said and he opens his phone and shows Meredith an invitation trying to direct attention to something else. "Two weeks and the contest will start!"

But Meredith is not letting him sneak and tells him:

"I am fine. Will you believe me when I am telling you that I am fine? "

Max just looks at her and feels how his heart it tightens. She suffered so much and it was his fault because if he would have acted like a husband, she would have been with him, not alone in Paris.

"I am fine Max. I am stronger now and I am a survivor not a victim to try to hold my hand all the time"

"It's not about that," Max said. "But finding what happened back then put me on alert, especially after your last kidnap. I must protect you. "

"Then start the training. This is the best way to protect myself and will give me a better chance to survive," Meredith said.

"I will not ask you what happened, because I know that is not something to remember but I am proud of you." He tells her and pulls her to his chest.

"Luke found about this?" Meredith asks.

"Yes, he went crazy and he put someone to watch Vivienne even if he knows she doesn't want him. He can't let her live again something like that, she's still Cassel's sister. " And taking her hand in his hand he asks Meredith.

"Did she like that new house?"

"How do you know she's not staying at the hotel



anymore?" Meredith asks looking at him strangely.

"Luke told me. He is the owner of that house she rent" Max said laughing. "My gamma is just insane. James helped him to break her laptop system and view her history search about houses. He bought a house to meet all his preferences and put it on the internet at a low price so that she will be attracted and visit the house. His plan worked."

"Are you serious?" Meredith asks staying with her mouth wide open. "This is creepy, Max! When Vivienne will find out she will kill him."

"No she will not, but if she finds the hidden cameras or the warriors that guard the house then she will surely kill him." And he smiles.

"But he did exactly what I would have done to defend you. Nothing is too much or too hard when it comes to those you love."

Meredith just looks into his eyes and putting her hand on his cheeks tells him.

"When I'm with you, I'm not afraid of anything. I know you're with me and I feel safe." Meredith tells him.

"And when am I not with you?" Max asks seriously.



"I am not afraid anymore. I promised myself that I would never capitulate without a fight. I know better than anyone that this world is like a game of mirrors. Nothing is what it seems. Francois's assistant was like family to him. I was kidnapped by mistake, he was my teacher and took me to that show as a reward for winning a project, but it ended in the way it did and then I met Vivienne. She was different. She was shy and sweet. "

"So she wasn't crazy from the beginning?" Max asks laughing, because every time he met Vivienne he has a little and is admitted himself to the psychiatric hospital.

"No, she was different. She was in love with Francois's assistant. It was a total fiasco what happened. "

" Luke has no fault for what happened back then. He deserves a chance. " And taking her hands in his hands he tells her "Her new house is in the werewolves area, she will be protected there. Every werewolf from our pack knows about Vivienne and will look for her, but just as I told you when she came here, if she hurts Luke too much I will make her regret. "

"I love the way you care about your people," Meredith tells him. "James and dad are the same as you are."

"Is this a complement?' Max asks smiling at her.

"It is, because I just put you in the category of the three most wonderful people I know."

"Tomorrow morning" Max said looking in her eyes.

"What is happening tomorrow?"

"Be ready at six for your first training. And is Vivienne wants to learn how to fight asks her to come too." And Meredith just looks at him with a big smile.

"I love you" she tells him and she takes his hand and kissed it.

"What about now?" Max said looking at her as she got up and headed for the door of his office.

"I will go to my office and verify the dress for the contest and then I will go out with Cara and Vivienne." And with her hand on the doorknob she tells him.

"I will wait for you at home" Meredith said and exits his office but when she arrives at the Design Department she sees a Cara with a sullen face.

"Hey, what's going on!" she asks looking at her and she turns her phone so that Meredith can read a message from Sam.



"Sweetie, my parents will come to dinner tonight!"

"And the problem is?" Meredith asks her because she doesn't understand anything.

"His mother is a bitch. She was beaten me when I was staying in New Moon Pack and I am sure that she will make things difficult for me. I just know that!" Cara said almost crying.

"She was a beta female, she couldn't be so bad." Meredith said she remembered the beta of the Crescent Moon, which was like a second luna for the pack.

"Don't you think Veronica should inherit her attitude from someone?" she asks Meredith sadly.

"In this case let's go and help you prepare, Vivienne will come here too and we will walk together."

But as soon as Vivienne arrives at MaxLine and she puts her foot in the elevator to climb to the Design Department, she came face to face with Luke.

Even if Luke takes care her stealthily and keeps her safe so that nothing bad happens to her, from their first meeting Luke has not appeared in front of Vivienne.

Seeing him her heart skipped a beat. He is not wearing a suite like last time when she saw him and he is very casual, as if he is coming from some training or something like that.

He wears some black jeans that fit him perfectly, and a navy blue sweatshirt while on his head he has a beanie, that gives him a naughty look, that makes Vivienne's heart to shiver.

When he sees her, looking so beautiful, more beautiful than he saw her on the camera this morning, when he verified if she is alright he feels the pull to take her in his arms but he knows that she doesn't want him so he just smiles at her and salutes her nodding his head.

Vivienne just looks at him expecting for him to try to impress her, to tell her that he doesn't have the strength to live without her, to be more like Max who loves Meredith to the moon and back, but surprise! Luke said nothing.

It's the first time in her life since she started to act like a bitch when a man acts like this and this annoys her.

"He was interested in me!" she said to herself. "I'm sure he wanted me, why did he change his mind?"

And her Latin spirit takes control and without further ado she asks Luke.

"Why are you ignoring me?"

Luke looks at her and smiling at her said nothing.

"I moved from the hotel" she tells him "Just in case you want to visit me"

But Luke ignores her and she can't stand it anymore and presses the emergency button and blocks the elevator between floors.

"Gamma, is everything alright?" the elevator supervisor is heard in the speaker.

"We are fine" Luke said and wants to press the button but Vivienne gets in front of him blocking it.

"Vivienne, step aside" Luke says softly, but Vivienne wouldn't be Vivienne if she did that, so she starts pressing all the elevator buttons, damaging the control panel and permanently blocking the elevator by shorting a circuit.

"Are you nuts?" Luke asks her , but Kodi's eyes widen after her.

"Take her please!" Kodi said. "I want her as crazy as she is"

"So, now you're talking to me?" Vivienne asks Luke squeezing her eye and pursing her lips, speaking with her cute accent.

"Why are you ignoring me?" she asks him again.

"Because I am boring and not so interesting for you Milady!" Luke said ironically and press the button and speak.

"We are blocked here, send someone to help us exist." And he put his sport bag on the elevator floor and sit on it while Vivienne stayed and looked at him.

Seeing that he has no intention to speak with her she makes a new plan yelling at him she makes Luke to look at her. In a second she slapped his face making him look like a fool at her, but in the next second Vivienne throws herself in his lap and kisses him, letting him know out.

When she wants to take some air, Luke catches her head and standing up he lift her from the ground making her sit with her legs around his waist like a koala in a tree and kisses her passionately until she is not able to breathe on her own.

And when she was hoping for round two the elevators starts and the doors opens. Luke puts her on her own feet, bends down and takes her bag and leaves the elevator without saying anything, leaving Vivienne to look after him like after Santa Claus on the Christmas eve.

"Why is he leaving?" she asks herself whispering.



"Why is he ignoring me?"

And for the first time in the last five years she felt it. It was there. The desire is blinking again in her heart.

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