

The Lycan 161

Chapter 161

ASHANTI'S POV.

TWO WEEKS LATER.

I have been spending the night at Alpha Reagan's chambers for straight two weeks now. The other Ha m girls are not very happy about this. The entire pack is buzzing with rumours about the kind of relationship we have.

Some say

say I'm a bedroom freak, that's why he cannot get enough of me. Others say I used a charm on him. Some kind onse have the decency to get love involved in the issue. They say Alpha Reagan has fallen in love with me and I am the chosen one. Meaning, he's going to accept me as his second chance mate.

Oh, how I wish that was true.

When I go to his chambers, the only thing we do is have fun the best way we can and have sex and sleep. We never talk about ourselves or bring up the rumours flying around or talk about what we have.

The fact that our relationship hasn't been defined hurts me, but I'd rather stay guessing, than bring up the topic and get the shock of my life.

A knock on the room door snaps me out of my thoughts.

"Come in." I signal and immediately, the door opens and Tessa steps in.

"Hello." She greets me cheerfully as she walks in, closing the door behind her.

"Hi." I reply and stay focused on folding the clean clothes before me. She nods and goes into the closet to probably change her clothes. For the past two weeks, she has been acting friendly towards me and it baffles me. However, I make sure to keep my distance and ignore her as much as I can. The last thing I want is to warm up to her and get disappointed in the end.

"Here." Her voice comes through again after a few minutes and I'm shocked to see her walking towards me with a bowl of food and a bottle of apple juice. "I got this from the cafeteria on my way here." My stomach grumbles and that's when I remember that I'm hungry, but taking food from Tessa is not a safe thing to do right now.

When she senses my hesitation, she opens the bowl of food, eats three spoon fools of the casserole in it, opens the bottle of juice and sips a bit before putting both by my side on the bed.

"It's not poisoned."

"I didn't say it was."

"The look you gave me implied it was." She argues. I sigh heavily and put aside the dress I'm holding and focus my gaze on her.

"Wouldn't feeling annoyed that she has the audacity to try to act coy with me.

t you have your doubts if you were in my shoes?" I ask her with furrowed brows,

"I would." She shrugs. "I've been terrible to you for some time now.""

"For some time?" I ask in complete disbelief, almost raising my voice. "It's been almost one month now since you started ignoring me. Treating me like I didn't exist. Like I was your worst enemy. All of that without any explanation and today, all of a sudden you're acknowledging my existence and giving me food. What kind of sorcery is this?"

'If you'll just let me explain."

"I would've been willing to listen to your explanation two weeks ago. I don't want to hear anything you have to say right now. Just ride on with being mean to me. I'm used to it."

"They threatened to kill my parents in our pack if I didn't cut all ties with you." She blurts out and blood freezes in my veins. I shoot her a shocked gaze and she calmly nods her head.

"Yes. And I'm sure you know who I'm referring to."

"Alina?" I whisper.

"The one an only.

"But why would she threaten to kill your parents. You've done nothing wrong to her." "Apparently, she doesn't like the fact that you've got any friends. She saw herself losing to

life miserable." you on many occasions, so she decided to use other means to make.

I knew it.

I had a gut feeling Alina was responsible for this and I was right. She's never going to stop. trying to torment me. She even had to go to the extent of threatening to kill Tessa's parents. That girl is a psychopath..

"I know it doesn't make up for how b i t y I've been these past weeks, but I'm sorry. I felt genuine fear when the man she sent to threaten me called my parents names, the names of siblings, my parents occupations, their day to day activities and even our home address. That's when I knew she wasn't bluffing. And knowing Alina's reputation of not being the type to dish out empty threats, I had to do as she commanded. I'm sorry."

"So what about now? You're being friendly with me. If she finds out, you'll be in big trouble." She shakes her head. I look at her, confused.

"No, I won't. Two weeks ago, the same guy who threatened me came to tell me I could be friends with you again and that no harm will come to my family. That's why I've been warmer to you these past days. I was too ashamed to say anything. I don't know what happened, but the threat has been cancelled and I'm free to be friends with you again." She explains and immediately, the conversation I had with Delta Kyle the day he took me out replays in my mind. He promised me he was going to get to the root of the issue. I am sure he confronted Alina and made her revoke her threats.

A smile creeps on my face.

"What's funny?" Tessa asks curiously. I calmly shake my head and look at her.

"Nothing. I just... you know..." I shrug. "I'm Amazed by the lengths Alina is willing to go to make my life miserable in this castle. It's scary."

"It sure is. You should be wary of her. That girl has killed before and she won't hesitate to do it again. You need to be very careful around her."

"I know and I am. And I'm also happy that I've got my friend back. Tessa you have no idea how much I've missed you." Tears well up in my eyes.

"I've missed you too, Ash. I'm sorry I threw your bracelet in the trash. I cried after we had that argument when you confronted me about it. I felt terrible, but I had to make it look real. I'm sorry."

"It's okay. I completely understand." I'm smiling through tears.

"The entire H a r e m is buzzing with the fact that you always draw with Alina during duels." "Yeah. And I don't need to tell you that she's not very pleased about that."

"Kick her a s!"

"The day that will happen, I'm sure I'll have to leave this pack else she'll strangle me in my sleep." We both burst into laughter.

"She wouldn't dare! Not when you have Alpha Reagan as your backup. And... speaking of Alpha Reagan... you've not spent a single night in this bedroom for the past two weeks. Are two a thing now?"

"I wish!" I say in dismay.

"So you two are just... f**g?"

"Yeah."

"Well, do you know what I think about this situationship you two have?"

"It's not a situationship, but yeah, let's hear what you think."

"I think the two of you are madly in love each other, but too shy to say it." I throw my back and let out a loud hysterical laughter.

That's a total joke.

head

Alpha Reagan could never fall in love with me.

Chapter 162

REAGAN'S POV.

It's never a good thing when the elders call for a meeting with me involved. They definitely want to discuss something annoying. Last time, the meeting was about me finding a second. chance mate who will rule by my side as Lama and bear me an heir that will continue my line.

True. It's a good reason to call a meeting since I'm their leader, but that doesn't change the fact that it annoys me a great deal. Sometimes I wish I could just live my life as I please.

"Kyle." I call when he walks to me from the car he arrived in. My Beta Ronald is doing the same.

"My Lord." He answers with a curt bow.

"Do you have any idea why the elders have called this meeting?"

"No, My Lord. But my guess is, they've called to talk about the mate issue. It's been a while since the girl's arrived, but you've still not mentioned anything about choosing a mate among them." He explains thoughtfully and bile churns in my stomach. I turn to my Beta who instantly bows his head to avoid eye contact with me.

"What about you, Ronald, any idea or guess?"

"No idea, but I'm guessing the same thing Kyle just mentioned." I sigh in exasperation.

"Bloody council of elders." I mumble under my breath and lead the way into the building.

What irks me the most is that they are right to mount this pressure on me. I need an heir sooner or later as tradition demands, but as an individual, I'm not ready for that yet.

I'm not even ready to be committed to anyone right now.

Everyone rises to their feet and bow their heads the second I set foot into the conference room. A chorus greeting follows, which I nod to and signal them to take their seats. I walk to the head seat of the table and make myself comfortable. There are guards stationed at every corner of the room. Kyle and Ronald occupy the nearest seats on my left and right hand side. Once we are all settled in our various seats, I clear my throat and look at the elders who are seated around the table with eager expressions.

"To what do I owe the pleasure of this very formal meeting called by my council of elders?" I ask calmly, but the seriousness in my voice cannot be missed. The head of the council of elders, clears his throat and trains his eyes on me.

"My Lord, we are here to address an issue... a rumor that has been flying around the pack for weeks now. When it began, we didn't pay any attention to it because we thought it'll die down in the coming days, but weeks have passed and tongues are still wagging. That rumour doesn't appear to be dying down anytime soon." He explains and there are nods of approval from the rest of the elders. My eyes flick from Ronald, to Kyle who both seem to have understood what the elder is talking about, just like I have.

I sigh heavily and look back at the old man.

"And what rumor is that?" I ask, even though I know already.

"There's a H m girl called Ashanti. Rumour has it that you've been spending nights with just her for the past weeks, which is unusual for you. You have taken her out on numerous occasions and you treat her better than you do the other Harem girls." He stops talking and looks at me.

"Well... go on. I want to hear more."

"Hearing all that got us wondering if she's the chosen one." The back of my neck heats and I flinch without meaning to.

They want to know if Ashanti is the girl I've chosen to be my second chance mate.

If only they know she's already the one chosen by nature.

"Alpha Reagan, please don't get us wrong." Another elder speaks. This one is sitting on left hand side.

"It's been a while since anyone has seen you get deeply involved with a girl since the passing of your true mate. You shut yourself out and never had any relationship with women, but since this girl arrived, things have been different with you. We've heard of and seen you do things you haven't been able to do with any other for many years now. That's why we thought it wise to find out from you if she's the chosen one." The old man expatiates and I lean back on the backrest of my chair. My eyes flick to each and every one of their faces, giving them very critical looks.

A few who can't maintain eye contact with me bow down their heads.

I'm barring my teeth and cursing myself internally.

Of course the just had to notice that I've been treating her differently. I didn't plan for any of this to happen, but I keep losing my control over that girl. The truth is, as it is now, I'm contented with the way things are between us.

To be honest, my head jarred within when she mentioned kids the other night. I know what she's thinking. She wants us to be more than what we are, but that can't happen. At least not now because it's going to put her in danger. Things need to cool down a bit between us so they can stay at the stage I want them to be.

"You're being obnoxious and selfish again." King, my wolves curses me out of nowhere. "You're not being fair to Ashanti. You need to communicate these things with her! The poor girl is going through a hard time!"

"You don't know that,"

"But I know for sure that you are doing all this because you're scared to take responsibility. Which is not what a King should be facing."

"Shut your mouth, King. You know nothing."

"What I know is that you are depriving both of us of being with our mates as we should be. You're having a good time with Ashanti, but what about me? I need her wolf!" He scolds me and I quickly shut him out before I lose my mind and act inappropriately before these elders.

King and I do nothing but argue all the time.

Now, back to what I was pondering about. In the beginning, I tried not to make my feelings for

her obvious, but jealousy came in and I couldn't help but try to win her over. Everything seems to be catching up with me. My s u p i d i t y and cowardice.

I have out a heavy sigh.

"My Lord." Another elder calls. I look at him. "We need a Luna. We need an heir. And we are asking to know if she's the chosen one so we can get to know her and respect her more. That's all."

I'm sick of this meeting.

I turn to Ronald and mindlink him to end the meeting. He does as told and accompanies the elders out of the conference room, leaving just Kyle and I behind.

I rub my eyelids with my fingers and sigh heavily. The elders words keep ringing in my and I don't know what to do with myself right now.

mind

"You know you're going to have to give them a response sooner or later, right?" Kyle tells me. I groan, totally frustrated by that truth.

It is no doubt that I'm in love with Ashanti. I want to be with her, but I can't. I can't let them know she's my mate. There's a good reason for that.

"Right."

eyes

"So, is she the one?" He asks out of nowhere. I look at him long and hard and unlike the majority of elders who always look away to avoid eye contact with me, Kyle keeps his glued with mine as he patiently waits for my response.

ust Kyle even more than I trust myself. I can trust him with all my secrets. If I tell him how I feel about Ashanti, I have nothing to worry about because he won't tell another soul. Not even Ashanti herself, but because I've always been a stubborn person, I shake my head.

"The relationship I have with Ashanti is nothing of that sort."

That lie stabs my heart like a thousand daggers!

Chapter 163

ASHANTI'S POV.

I'm rummaging through my closet for what to wear and go over to Alpha Reagan's chambers. It's almost five p.m. and the driver will be here any time soon to pick me up. I finally settle for a pair of pink shorts and a black fitting blouse and since the weather is a bit chilly this evening, I throw a white hoodie over it and take out my sneakers from the shoe section. I'm not going to wear them now, I'll do so when the servant comes to announce the driver's arrival.

I look at myself in the mirror, satisfied with my outfit. It's casual, but cute.

The moment I get into the bedroom, there's a knock on the room door.

My heart skips a beat everytime I hear that knock even though they're going to give me the same news. That's because hearing that the driver has arrived to pick me up excites me and there's not a day I won't be excited to go spend the night with Alpha Reagan.

"Come in." I signal as I sit on the bed and start putting on my shoes.

The driver arrived earlier than I thought he would.

"Ashanti." The servant's familiar voice calls.

"Tell the driver I'll be there in a minute." I say, not even sparing her a glance.

"Ashanti, there's no driver." She calmly tells me. I stop trying to put on my shoe and look at her. Brows creased.

"Huh?"

"Alpha Reagan called. He said to tell you not to come over tonight." Her words slap my face like a hundred hands would. My heart runs into my stomach, my ears start itching and my palms get all sweaty.

He doesn't want to spend the night with me today.

That's completely normal right? Why then do I feel so hurt?

"Oh... okay." I say trying to keep a cheerful look despite my urge to burst into tears.

"Yeah. So there's no need to get dressed." Then she leaves. I tug off my shoes, pull myself up onto my bed and allow myself to hit the pillow behind me.

"Why doesn't he want to spend the night with me?" I ask rhetorically, sounding like a pathetic, desperate idiot. I close my eyes and try to steady my raging heart beats, but my nerves are not cooperating.

I haul myself up from the bed so fast that my head hits the headboard and I'm actually grateful. I take a moment to appreciate the pain. The thought of him telling me to stay because he wants to spend the night with another girl is causing me an unbearable amount of agony.

I stand up. Start pacing the length of my room. I open my mouth to shout, to fight, to swing my fists, but my vocal cords are cut and my arms are heavy.

Why doesn't he want to spend the night with me?

Why?

I tremble on my spot when the door swings open. At the speed of light, I spin around to see who it is, hoping it's the servant who has come to tell me she was just playing with me, but all my hopes are thrown off a cliff when my eyes land on Tessa. I almost roll my eyes in dismay.

"Why are you crying?" She asks, alarmed, walking over to me. My hands touch my face and that's when I realise I've been shedding tears without knowing. "Ashanti." She calls in a concerned tone.

I try to talk but there's a knot in my throat preventing me from doing so.

“Ashanti.” She calls my name again and I can’t hold it in anymore. I crash into her arms and burst into tears. I am frayed and falling apart. I cry hard and she doesn’t say anything. She simply comforts me and leads me to the bed to sit on it.

“What happened?” She asks calmly and I look up at her.

“He doesn’t want me any more.

Chapter 164

KYLE’S POV.

“My relationship with Ashanti is nothing of that sort.”

If Alpha Reagan wasn’t my King, I would have given him a hard punch in the face the moment he finished spewing those words from his mouth. Those are words that will shatter Ashanti’s heart into pieces if they were to reach her hearing.

Most of the rumours going around concerning their relationship are nasty. They refer to her as a bedroom freak. A sex machine. That’s why he calls her to his chambers for two weeks consecutively without taking a break. Whenever I overhear people talking about the issue, I have to think of something else so I don’t imagine the scenario. He has access to her body anytime and anyhow he wants. He shows her affection In public. He takes her out. He treats. her better than the other H a m girls. He has made her fall in love with him and I can bet my life that he has feelings for her as well.

Very strong feelings.

What I don’t understand is why he doesn’t want to accept those feelings. Accept Ashanti and do the right thing.

I’m tempted to say he doesn’t want to claim her because she’s an ordinary werewolf, but that’s not the kind of man Alpha Reagan is. He’s the Lycan King, but he doesn’t think lowly of werewolves. There must be another reason why he’s hesitant on accepting Ashanti.

“Kyle.” A call from outside my bedroom interrupts my thoughts. I sit upright on the couch I’m laying on and turn down the volume of the TV to listen again.

The only person I live with is my nanny and she never calls me by my name. So I definitely have a late night guest.

“Kyle, I’m coming in.” The voice speaks again and groan in annoyance when I recognize it.

Alina.

My room door creaks open and as she steps into my bedroom, I rise to my feet. “What? Do you want to chase me away?” She asks in surprise.

“I’m very much tempted to do that right now. You’re not supposed to be here. It’s late.”

"Oh, please." She waves a dismissing hand in the air and proceeds to walk towards me. "I can come here anytime I want and I already ordered the old maid to prepare my bedroom because I'll be staying the night." She says carelessly and my face contorts with rage. I take a step forward.

"She's not an old maid, she's my nanny! She raised me!" I sneer and head to my nightstand where I pick up my cell phone and dial a number. The phone I'm trying to call is picked on the third ring. "Hello Nan... stop whatever preparation you've been instructed by Alina to carryoutI know, but the bedroom is clean. If she wants it cleaned again before she sleeps in it, she can have it cleaned herself. You go to bed. It's late I mean it, Nan... Yes. Goodnight." I end the call and turn to face Alina who's giving me the "Are-you-f u c n g-kidding-me" look.

"Seriously?"

"Yes. Seriously. My Nan is not your s e r v t ! I've made this point clear to you a billion times already."

"Yeah, yeah, whatever. I'm not here to fight with you over a mere nanny." She takes several steps towards me and stops barely a few meters away.

We are too close for my liking.

"Why are you here?"

"I heard about the meeting that was held between the council of elders and the three main leaders of the pack." Her eyes are boring deep into my face as she speaks.

"That's no news."

"I also heard they tried to find out from Alpha Reagan if Ashanti was the one he had chosen to be his second chance mate, but he didn't give any response."

"I still don't understand why you're telling me things I already know."

"Don't you see?" She takes one step forward, her eyes glowing with hope as a smile creeps on her face. A dirty idea has popped in her mind again.

"See what?"

"It's true that he invites her to his chambers every night and he treats her special, but the fact that he couldn't give the elders a response means something. It means he's not sure about her."

"His silence could mean anything, Alina!"

"Which is good. That's evidence of the fact that he's unsure how he feels about Ashnati. He's unsure if he wants to choose her as his second chance mate or not. He's in doubt and this is the perfect moment for us to sway his feelings. When he's doubting himself."

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Chapter 165

"What do you mean sway his feelings?" My brows crease as I ask that question. Her gaze drops to the floor and she heaves out a heavy sigh before locking her eyes with mine again.

"Kyle. My dear brother. You couldn't be so blind and dense, could you?"

"Talk or get out!"

"What I'm trying to say is that I'll talk to the elders." I scoff in derision.

"Talk to the elders?"

"Yes. I'll try to make them see reasons why they cannot accept Ashanti as the Luna of this pack even if Alpha Reagan chooses her. You said I could fight to get the man of my dreams as long as I'm not harming Ashnati in any way. That's exactly what I'm trying to do. Talking to the elders, turning them against her

won't put her in harm's way. It's just me applying wisdom and power. Something she greatly lacks. And you must help me."

"That's not going to happen."

"Kyle!..." She closes the gap between us and wraps both palms around my arms, holding them in a firm grip. "Please. You have to help me. You have to talk to the elders as well. Your words as the Delta of the pack will carry more weight. If you tell them Ashanti is a weak, low life werewolf who doesn't deserve to rule over the Lycans, they will listen to you. Please, help me out with this!" She says, shaking me hard. I jerk her hands from my arms and take several steps back, shaking my head.

"I said no! Nothing of that sort is going to happen. Ashanti is not weak. You know that. Lately you've been unable to defeat her in duels. It's just a matter of time before she beats you in that combat circle. And saying she's a low life?" I chuckle and shake my head. "You're wrong. In case you forgot, let me remind you that Ashanti's father is the Alpha of her pack and she's his first born daughter. That makes an Alpha heir. She has Alpha blood running through her veins and there's no weak Alpha out there. If you want to tell lies to the elders, go ahead and do so yourself. Stop trying to drag me into your mess."

"Do you even love her at all?" Her voice is a shaky mess. She has both fists curled by her side. Anger and indignation are burning in her eyes like a bushfire. She's i s e d.

Thoroughly p i s s e d.

I nod my head.

"I do."

"Then how come you don't see this as a chance to help her from Alpha Reagan?"

"Because I don't want to. They both love each other, so let them be with each other."

"Stop talking like an idiot Kyle!" She explodes like an erupting volcano. "This is your chance, you m o o n! If we work together and succeed, we'll both get what we want."

"You have no idea what I want." I tell her as calmly as I can. Her chest is rising and falling heavily as she takes in short deep, heavily breathes.

12

□

"I went to his office a few days ago to see him. We had a big fight and in the middle of that fight, I kissed him. I thought he'd ask me to stop and throw me out, but he didn't. He kissed me ferociously, then he bent me over his office table and f u c k e d me hard!" I swallow dryly upon hearing that. "He still loves me, Kyle. He wouldn't have f c k e d me if he didn't have feelings for me. I will never give up on him because I know he needs me."

"You're delusional!"

"Maybe I am. Maybe I'm not. But one thing for sure is that I won't forget your words when I become Luna of this pack. I'll talk to the elders. I'll do the convincing myself and once I succeed, once I become

Queen of the Lycans, I'll make sure you regret not helping me out." She says bitterly and I bow to her in mockery.

"All hail the future Queen of the Lycans. I hope you show me no mercy when the time comes.

"Just you wait and say." She storms out of my bedroom, slamming the door hard behind her. I head back to the sitting area and slum on the sofa.

I can't wait to see the look on her face when she fails.-

Chapter 166

ASHANTT'S POV.

My eyelids feel like bags of salt have been placed on them.

Heavy... so heavy, I can barely keep my eyes open as I walk to the arena. That's because I couldn't get any sleep last night. I kept thinking and turning like a rotisserie chicken on the

bed, hoping the door would burst open and Alpha Reagan would come in and take me away or

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a maid would come in to announce that the driver had come to take me...

None of that happened.

I slept on my bed. Woke up on my bed for the first time in two weeks. And right now I feel like I'm going through a heartbreak.

My mood has still not improved by the time I arrive at the arena. I greet the guys gloomily and ignore Alina as usual.

Everything changes when I spot Alpha Reagan at the sitting area, putting on his training shoes. It seems he just arrived as well. With a bright smile on my face, I head over to him.

“Good morning Alpha Reagan.” I greet cheerfully, expecting him to smile at me as he returns my greeting, but he doesn’t. He focuses on his shoelace as he mumbles a very depressing good morning” back to me. My heart sinks into my stomach. Pain courses through my chest, but I have to stay optimistic. I maintain my smile as I wait for him to finish putting on his shoes.

H

“What are you still doing here?” He asks when he’s done and his question throws me off guard.

“Huh?”

“You shouldn’t be standing here, grinning at me. Get ready for training.” He says it so coldly, chills run down my spine. My face grows ashen as I look at him with raised brows and lips parted in silent surprise.

Did he just use that tone on me?

“Go on.” He almost shoos me away and I almost trip when I take a step forward. My knees are wobbly. Two steps later, I turn back to look at him and he gestures to me with a head shake to- keep moving. I turn around and walk away with energy coursing through me with so much vigour I have never felt before.

He didn’t just treat me like an outcast, did he?

He didn’t even offer to tie my hair like he always does. He didn’t smile at me even for a bit. His words were as cold as ice.

Fresh air.

I need to get

get some fresh air. The back door of the arena comes into sight and I head towards it. In less than no time, I'm standing at the balcony, leaning against the railings, trying to steady my raging heartbeats.

It's over.

13

He didn't call me over last night. He just treated me like a complete stranger back there.

He's done with me.

"Breathing in this cool air must feel very refreshing, especially after being humiliated like that." Alina joins me at the balcony. I can hear her smile and I try not to look at her because if I do and see that cocky smile on her face, I might push her down this balcony.

"Leave me alone!"

"I don't want to."

I let out an angry sigh and finally muster the courage to meet her gaze.

Yes, she has on the cocky smile.

I curl my fists my side and grit my teeth so hard, my jaws hurt. I wish this girl would just let me be!

"What do you want from me?"

"I think you know what I want, but it's obvious you're not going to give it to me. So I'm going to have to take it by force." I don't say anything. I look away from her. "Do you know why werewolves and Lycans don't mix?" I don't answer her question. When she realises I won't say anything, she sighs and starts talking again. "There's no need for me to say it, because you already know. But there's something else I want to say."

"I don't want to hear it."

"Oh, you do. It's quite interesting." Her smile widens. I roll my eyes hard and look ahead, praying in my head for this to end already. "A meeting was held between the council of elders and Alpha Reagan yesterday. Apparently, rumours of your close relationship with the Lycan King had gotten to them, so they decided to call a meeting and discuss the issue with Alpha Reagan." That gets my attention. My brows shoot up in surprise as I look at her. My surprise amuses her. "Yes. They did. You've been quite popular around here. They are now holding meetings to discuss things about you. Congratulations." I roll my eyes yet again. She chuckles. "Right. You must be eager to hear what was discussed. Well, they berated him for getting involved with a lowlife like yourself."

"You're lying."

"You think?"

"I know."

"Alright then, go back in there and see how his mood turns sour when he sets his eyes on you, then you'll know if I'm telling lies or not." I stare at her deadpan. She flashes me her perfect fake smile again. "Ashanti..." I back away when she tries to touch my cheek with her finger.

"Don't you

dare lay your filthy hands on me." I warn through my teeth. She heeds to my warning and keeps her hands to herself.

“Even if Alpha Reagan chooses you to be his second chance mate, the elders and the citizens will never approve of you. Lycans will never let any ordinary werewolf like yourself rule over them as their queen. They’ll have to burn this pack to the ground before that happens.

“You don’t know that.” I say, trying to sound as confident as I can even though I’m dead

within.

She’s right.

Lycans would rather die than let a normal werewolf rule over them.

“You’re headed for a dead end. All this lovey–dovey you have with Alpha Reagan right now has an expiry date. A date which is approaching. There’s no place for you in that castle. You don’t have a future with him. Stop fighting with me over him right now and I’ll show you mercy when I become Luna.” The smile on her face is replaced by a dangerous look. “Keep fighting and I’ll order your head to be served to me on a tray the moment that crown is placed on my head.” Her smile returns.

That’s one thing that has always intrigued me about Alina. The fact that she can switch her emotions and the looks on her face like one switches a light bulb on and off.

“You’re a smart girl, Ashanti.” She continues. “I’m sure you’ll make the right choice.” She gives me a gentle pat on my shoulders before finally leaving me alone.

I didn’t sign up for any of this.

Chapter 167

ASHANTI’S POV.

There’s a sinking nervous pain in my stomach that I choose to ignore when I go back into the arena. Alina’s words are replaying in my mind like an audio disc and no matter how much I want to deny her words, deep down in my heart, I know they are nothing, but the truth.

Lycans are a proud species. They would rather burn to the ground than let their Alpha marry an ordinary werewolf and have her rule over them as queen.

There's no place for me here as Alina rightly said. I have no future with the Alpha. Everything we have now is going to end. That's if it hasn't, already.

"Ashanti." A baritone voice sounds my name and I don't need to look to know it's Alpha Reagan. I stop in my tracks and turn like a robot to face him. He's frowning like I've done something wrong.

"Where are you coming from?"

"The balcony. Went to take some air." I reply lifelessly. I'm still trying hard to believe he's talking to me like this.

"You can't just take breaks without asking for permission."

"I'm sorry, Alpha. It won't happen again."

"Good. Now, for your punishment. Five rounds around the arena. On your mark!" I start running before he can say the next word. Alina is snickering at a corner. The guys are exchanging confused looks. If Alina had not told me what was up, I would be just as confused as they are about what was going on.

The elders probably scolded him and made him understand they would only accept me as their Luna over their dead body...

Hold up.

How come I'm already talking about the elders accepting me when I don't know if he has accepted me. It's true that he treats me specially and most people think there's something going on between us, but there's nothing.

I don't even know if the an has feelings for me or if he has been treating me so specially because I f**k him well. I have no idea what's going through his mind. The topic of how we feel about each other has never been brought up.

Gah!

This is driving me crazy.

After my punishment, I joined the others and combat training lasted three hours. Alpha. Reagan does a good job ignoring me throughout that time and only acknowledges my presence again when it's time for duels. He pairs me with Ashanti and we're the last pair to duel for the day, as usual.

"You good?" Kyle asks when I go to drink water at the sitting area. The first pair are already dwelling in the circle.

"Yeah, why?" I lie and look at him.

"The tension between you and Alpha Reagan is almost suffocating everyone in the room."

"That's because he woke up this morning and chose to be an a**!" I say, shooting Alpha Reagan and stern glare and I know he heard me because he looks at me. I roll my eyes and look

away.

"Don't let him hear you calling him that."

"Oh, I think he already did!" I slam my water bottle on a nearby chair and walk away, frowning.

When it's time for my duel with Alina, I don't hold back and neither does she. We both fight fiercely and the duel ends in a draw. Alpha Reagan doesn't look too pleased.

Now I don't know if he wanted me or Alina to win.

'Ashanti." He calls me when I step out of the circle. I turn to face him, still breathing fast from the brawl.

"My Lord." I give him a curt bow. He inches closer to me, his eyes drilling holes into my face.

"It's been weeks already since you matched up to Alina's strength. You're supposed to be winning duels with her by now. What's happening?"

"I'm sorry My Lord. I'll train harder so I can win the next duel against Alina."

"You had better not disappoint me." He walks away.

I head straight to the sitting area where I pick my bag and storm out of the arena with tears welled up in my eyes.

He's cruel.

He's a cruel d!

HOURS LATER.

"Alina could be lying, you know." That's Tessa's response after I just told her what Alina and I discussed back at the Arena. I tilt my head to the side and look at her as though she has lost a screw in her head.

"What would Alina gain from lying about something like this?"

"Your tears. Your pain. You, doubting Alpha Reagan's intentions towards you." She lists out easily and I think about them for a while before nodding.

"True. But I don't think she lied. Alpha Reagan's behaviour towards me at the arena proved she was telling the truth. He was so cold and mean. It felt like he was possessed." I cry. She sighs and shifts closer to me.

"I still think you should hear it from his mouth before jumping to conclusions."

"He's never going to say anything, Tess. He never does. This should also serve as a wake up call for me. I need to calm down from the heat of this passion and think more about the kind

of relationship we have. It's a secret. He has never publicly proclaimed me as his exclusive lover. It's true that he has shown it with actions, but you and I know it's important to make verbal affirmations to certain things. As it is right now, I don't even know how he feels about me. It's painful." The tears in my

eyes spring free down my cheeks and before I know it, I'm crying and shuddering and wheezing and splintering into teardrops.

Alpha Reagan probably doesn't even have feelings for me and even if he does, the elders and citizens will never accept me as their Luna and Alina is threatening to have me decapitated if she ever becomes Luna of this pack.

How did my life become so messed up?

Chapter 168

ASHANTI'S POV.

"You're here." Says Alpha Reagan when I step into his bedroom.

"I am." I try to smile, but fail woefully. Everything he did and said to me at the arena earlier today is still fresh in my mind. I'm angry and sad and disappointed and confused all at once. My heart careens out of control when he rises to his feet and walks towards me but he doesn't close. He stands at a distance and shoves both hands into his trouser pockets, giving me

serious look.

a

"Well, don't just stand there like you don't know why you're here. Go take a shower in the bathroom and meet me here."

"Yes, Alpha.." I say with a bow before scampering into the bathroom. On my way here, I had hoped things would go back to normal between us, but it's evident they won't.

It's over for real. My time is over.

He no longer wants me.

I cry my heart out as I bathe under the shower. Everything will go wrong if Alpha Reagan stops being nice to me. The Harem girls will go back to hating me. I could be packed out of the Premium Residence back to the normal Harem quarters. Alina will torment me even more. My life will go back to being miserable in that Harem.

When I step out of the bathroom, I make sure to dry my tears and look normal before going back to the bedroom to meet Alpha Reagan.

"I'm done." I announce. He rises from the sofa, already naked and stalks towards me, looking as serious as ever. He growls in disapproval when he sees me wearing panties and pulls them down my legs impatiently. When I'm standing in front of him fully nude, he takes off his trousers and orders gruffly, "On your knees."

I sink to my knees on the tiled floor like a suppliant and take his jutting erection in my hands.

"Suck." The moment my lips slide over the engorged head of his cock, he moans and tilts his head back, closing his eyes. He sinks his fingers into my hair and raggedly whispers my name. "Ashanti..." His gruff praise is candy to my ears. It's heroin injected into my veins. It's hot euphoria running along every nerve ending, setting me on fire. I suck so eagerly on his dick, he has to warn me to slow down. "Go slow. You'll get my cum, but not yet." He opens his eyes and gazes down at me, running his thumb over my top lip as I bob my head, taking him deep in my mouth then going shallower again.

"Look at you," he says hotly, "On your knees for me. My hard cock in your mouth. Your eyes begging for me to fuck you." Feeling crazed, I close my eyes and swallow him as deep as I can, gagging a little as I shove his girth down my throat.

I moan around his cock, sucking frantically as I stroke his shaft with both hands. My pussy throbs. My nipples ache/I need him to fuck me so badly, I moan again, trembling with need. He knows. Of course he knows. His laugh is soft and dark.

"You want to spread your legs for me and take that cock deep, don't you?" The vein on the underside of his penis throbs against my tongue. His fingers tighten in my hair. Right now, could order me to throw myself out the window, and I probably would.

That is what horniness can do to me.

he

With a sudden force, he pulls my head back, his cocked springs free from my mouth and locks. his gaze with mine.

“Do you know what I want you to do?” I frantically shake my head. “I want you to fuck that gorgeous pussy while you take my cock down your throat. But don’t you dare come without my permission. Do it now!” He orders. I have no idea what I’m in for tonight, but I know it’s not ordinary. I shove one hand between my legs and frantically start rubbing my clit. I’m soaked already, desperate, breathing hard through my nose and shaking all over.

He cradles my face in both hands and flexes his hips, guiding his cock in and out of my mouth, controlling the speed and depth, controlling every part of me.

He whispers, “Fuck yes.” I gaze up at him. Our eyes lock. His lips are parted, and his eyes

eyes burn. They burn straight through me, flaying me open until I’m totally exposed, raw and vulnerable. Mewling around his cock, I shove a finger inside the aching space between my legs.

“Don’t come,” he orders in a soft, stroking voice as he imprisons me in his mesmerising gaze.

“Be a good girl and hold out for me.” I’m going out of my mind. I beg him silently with my eyes. He licks his lips, watching me. A contraction deep in my core makes me suck in a sharp breath through my nose. He fists a hand in my hair and pulls my head back.

His dick pops out of my mouth.

Breathing hard, he bends down until he’s staring into my wide eyes from only a few inches. away. Holding my jaw firmly, he says in a guttural voice,

Chapter 169

“Did you disobey me? Did you come?” I’m panting so hard, I can barely answer.

“No. No. I promise.”

He doesn’t believe me.

With a growl, he pushes me onto my back on the bed and kneels over me, flattening one hand over my sternum and pressing down so I’m pinned.

The other hand he slides between my legs. He hisses when he finds me soaking wet and ready for him.

He thrusts a finger inside me, shushing me when I groan.

“Place your arms over your head and spread your legs.” Shivering, I lift my arms over my head and rest my clasped hands against the bed. Then I spread my thighs and bite my bottom lip, praying I’ll be strong enough to take whatever he’s about to give me.

He’s still for a moment, watching my face with avid eyes, that finger sunk deep inside me waiting for the rhythmic clench of orgasm. I’m almost there—almost—and if he moves his finger at all, I’ll tip over the edge and start fucking his hand desperately as my climax rips through me.

He slides the hand pressed against my sternum over to one breast and fondles it for a moment before he pinches the hard nipple. Pleasure ripples through my body in waves that head straight down between my legs. Though I’m unable to control the way my thighs quiver and my back arches from the bed, I remain silent, breathing shallowly through my nose.

Between his legs, his erection stares straight at me, glistened with my saliva, the crown flushed red. The shaft is thick, taut, and mapped with veins.

Even though he has been mean and cold towards me today, I want it. I need it. I need him to impale me on it and fuck me senseless as he growls filthy things into my ear and perfumes my skin with his scent as he grinds against my body.

He stops and looks at me.

“You know what?” He rises from my body, pulling me up by the arms with him. “Get on all fours.” I squint at him. He holds my arm and flips me over and my head smashes in the cushions.

Now I understand what he meant when he said I should get on all fours. He’s about to fuck me from behind. I can feel his hot, stiff erection poking against my stinging ass. My pussy clenches with need. I groan in desperation, wiggling my butt against him.

Gripping my wrists with one hand, Reagan slides the other between my legs. He rubs my pussy lips, spreading the wetness all over. When his fingertips glide over my clit, I squeal.

He slides his finger up and down my pussy and I cry out, stiffening.

“This is mine,” he says darkly. I turn my face to guide the head of his hard cock inside me.

the cushion when he holds me down and

I cry out, shuddering.

“Take it.” He commands softly as he shoves his dick all the way in.

It burns and leaves me breathless, my eyes watering. He doesn’t move his hips again, he simply lies on top of me, breathing heavily against my hair, both hands now wrapped around my wrists.

His total dominance over my body makes something fragile inside my chest snap like a twig. A tear slides over the bridge of my nose. Trembling, full of him and chaotic emotion, I whisper brokenly, "Reagan." He groans. "Please fuck me. Fuck me hard."

He withdraws and pumps back into my pussy with a sharp snap of his hips. My sob is broken and grateful.

He does it again, thrusting harder, then again with a grunt when I moan.

It stings like a son of a bitch, but my clit is throbbing and my hard nipples rub with delicious friction against the coarse fabric of the sofa with every thrust, so I beg him to keep going, canting my hips up and back like the greedy little slut he's made me.

Releasing my wrists, he grabs my hip in one hand and pushes against the sofa with the other.

He rears back to his knees, keeping his cock inside my pussy and bringing me with him. He steadies me and braces one foot against the mattress, then grips my hips in both hands as he kneels behind me.

Then he fucks me hard and deep, driving into my tender pussy with relentless force as I cry out deliriously and his heavy balls slap against my pussy.

"Please make me come?" I try out in pleasure. He reaches around between my legs and firmly

s on my swollen clit. It sets off an instantaneous chain reaction.

tugs

I gasp

and buck. My pussy clenches rhythmically. My mind blinks offline as my body takes over, responding to his touch on a level beyond conscious control.

“Reagan! Oh God, Reagan, I’m coming! I’m coming!”

The sound that breaks from his throat is guttural, animalistic, and thoroughly pleased.

Then he shoves his thick finger inside my throbbing pussy, and his sounds are drowned out by my high, wavering scream of pleasure.

He shudders, lets out a primal roar, and comes inside me.

I break down into tears, sobbing helplessly and asking myself why something this sweet and passionate has to end.

Chapter 170

ASHANTI’S POV.

By the time I wake up the next morning, he’s long gone. I am not surprised. The way he f c

k e d me last night made me understand that the era of him giving me princess treatment is over. He was emotionless and hard. Too hard, but he didn’t care.

From now on, it’s safe to consider myself a normal H a r e m girl who pleases him in bed.

With a heart as heavy as steel, I roll over on the bed and my eyes fall on the nightstand. There’s a note on it. Quickly, I heave myself upright and pick it up to read.

It’s for me.

“Report for training as long as you don’t see this after one pm.

J

My eyes dart to the wall clock at the side and disappointment washes through my spine when the time reads eight am. I have to go for training.

He always tells me to go for training only if I feel like it, but today is different. He’s not giving me a choice. He’s commanding me to show up for training. Sighing lightly, I put back the note on the nightstand and step down from the bed. Pieces of my heart are dropping to the floor as I head to the bathroom to bathe.

The moment I step into the shower, the tears I’ve been trying to hold back escape my eyes and pour down my face like a waterfall. Memories of all the sweet moments we spent together floods my mind and I can’t help but ask myself the question, Why?

Why can’t he fall in love with me?

Why can't I be accepted by him and his subjects and council of elders?

Why did he pull me so close to him only to push me away as such at the slightest inconvenience?

Why am I so unlucky when it comes to men?

First it was Conrad. That jerk who cheated on me with my sister and now it's Alpha Reagan.

I'm not cursed, am I?

I'm hiccuping by the time I step out of the shower and my eyes must have turned pink. My face is just a sad case. When I go into the closet to dress up, I don't wear Alpha Reagan's clothes like I used to, I wear the ones I came with. When I go back to the bedroom, I'm shocked to see Ma'am Charlotte waiting for me.

"Good morning, Ashanti." She greets with her usual wide smile.

"Good morning, Ma'am Charlotte." I croak.

"I came to ask if I should serve you breakfast in here." I look around the bedroom and my eyes settle on the sitting area where Alpha Reagan and I have had several meals together. I can hear myself giggling gleefully in those memories. I close my eyes against the pain and dizziness in my head. I take a moment to collect myself before snapping my eyes open and saying;

"No, thank you. I'll eat breakfast at the H e m cafeteria..." Where I belong.

I say the last three words in my mind.

"Are you

sure?" I give her an eager nod and proceed to leave the bedroom. My insides are somersaulting with nervous energy as I leave his chambers.

All I want to do is cry.

And die a little.

Because what I feel now is ten times worse than what I felt when Conrad and I broke up.

REAGAN'S POV.

Last night was the worst night in the history of nights I've spent with Ashanti. I f k e d her with no mercy and couldn't even bring myself to cuddle her afterwards. I have never regretted doing something so much in

my life.

I was a total a s s.

Today again, during training, I didn't go easy on her. I was so cold and mean to her that she rushed into the toilet and burst into tears. That shattered my heart into pieces.

The meeting with the elders has messed me up. My fear of losing Ashanti is going to push me to do things I will regret for the rest of my life and the sad thing is, right now, I have no idea what to do.

The elders will be needing a response from me soon and if I tell them Ashanti is not the chosen one, they will urge me to choose someone immediately and if I'm not careful, they will choose for me.

I need to make a decision sooner or later..

A knock sounds on the door and I nearly scream at whoever it is to go away, but I manage to curb my anger and signal the person to come inside. The door opens and I j r o f from my bed when Alina walks into my bedroom with a smug smile on her face and a robe.

I won't be surprised if there's nothing underneath the robe...