

## 43 CHAPTER 43 Challenging me

Koko's POV 1

I laid on my bed after Laci left me. My mind was a mess and I didn't know what to do. I had thought of leaving quietly, but my heart couldn't accept that Niyole might have a difficult time again.

He had suffered when his first mate died two years ago. If I leave now, wouldn't it be cruel to him?

"Oh, goddess! I don't even know what to do! Should I stay or leave? If I stay, his mother would hate me and even the people in the pack would hate me too!"

"But if I leave, Niyol might not be able to accept another rejection or the pains of being abandoned again. What should I do?"

I was just rolling on my bed when the servants came to announce dinner.

"Dinner will be served in thirty minutes, Miss. The Queen mother requires your presence in the dining."

I really don't want to eat without Laci or Niyol, but it seemed I would have to. That was because Niyol's mother wanted me in the dining

room.

I wonder what she could be up to now.

I quickly went to freshen up before going to the dining room. When I got there, it wasn't just the Queen mother alone, a young girl was also sitting down too.

I walked silently towards them trying to catch a glimpse of the girl even though my head was down. I managed to catch a glimpse of the girl and bit hard on my lips.

It was that same girl from the supermarket!

What was she doing in the palace? Did Niyol's mother invite her over? Was she the girl she was referring to?

I felt a pang of pain in my chest as I sat down quietly.

The servants served the dishes, but I already lost my appetite. I didn't feel like tasting anything.

"Aren't you going to eat? You will need your strength when you finally leave." Niyol's mother said. The girl let out a mocking laugh.

I began to hate myself, but I just ignored them and tried to force some food into my mouth. My heart was burning in anger.

All my life I had been oppressed and humiliated. I had become used to it but still, it hurts to be mocked all over again.

But for once, I would like to stand up for myself. I was tired of being abused every time while I just let them do whatever they want.

But I was still not brave enough.

"When are you leaving?" She asked, eating her food elegantly.

I put a spoonful of food in my mouth and swallowed hard before replying. "I am not going unless Niyol wants me to."

"What? Who gave you the guts to speak to the Queen mother like that!" The girl said. I think her name was Scarlett.

The queen just stared at me, her eyes boring through my soul. "You are not leaving? I thought you were wise after all you have been through, but it seems I was wrong."

I didn't reply to her. I rather focused on my food. I just wanted to finish eating and go back to my room.

"Look here, you cursed demon! I want you out of this palace before the end of tomorrow or I will make your life a living hell!" Scarlett said, glaring at me.



"You weren't the one that brought me here. I will wait until Niyol comes and if he wants me out, then I will leave without a second thought." I replied, standing up.

I was already fed up with their words. I really couldn't continue pretending to eat anymore. As I stood up from the dining table, a cold feeling engulfed my whole body.

Did she just pour water on my body? I looked down at my wet clothes. She actually poured the whole jug of water on me!

"How dare you leave when the Queen mother is talking to you? Who do you think you are?" Scarlett said, looking at my miserable face with a smirk.

I looked at my wet clothes and then at Niyol's mother who was watching the show without saying anything.

"Do you need another reminder to put your head down? Or do you want to bewitch her with your cursed eyes? Do you really think because Niyol brought you here, you have been accepted? Do you think he loves you?" She ranted.

I remained quiet as I lowered my head. Then I took in a deep breath before bowing to the Queen mother." I am sorry for my rudeness



earlier. Please forgive me. I will beg to take my leave now."

Immediately after I finished the words, I turned around and walked briskly out of the dining room. As I walked, I heard Scarlett calling me all sorts of names.

"You cursed bitch! I will surely make you leave this palace! You are just a shameless cursed whore..."

I went into my room quickly and shut the door tightly. Heading straight to the bed, I burst into tears. My pillow became wet due to my unstoppable tears.

I wondered if I was the only one that the goddess deemed fit to suffer!

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I didn't realize that I slept off with tears all over my eyes. I woke up feeling a slight pain from the excessive crying of last night. I stayed on my bed even when it was almost time for breakfast.

I made up my mind not to leave the room, no matter what, even though the Queen mother summoned me!

I just continued lying on the bed, not caring about the hunger that was slowly finding its way



to my stomach. I wasn't going to leave the room, no matter the hunger!

Just as I was tossing on my bed, there was a slight knock on my door. I refused to answer but the servant continued knocking.

When I didn't answer she said in a soft voice, "Miss, I...I brought your breakfast. Madam Laci ordered me to take care of you."

What? Laci ordered her to take care of me? I slowly got up from the bed, feeling suspicious of the servant. Nevertheless, I opened the door.

She was indeed carrying a tray of dishes. I opened the door wider for her to enter. Shutting the door behind me, I went inside.

"I am sorry for not bringing your dinner last night. I was sent on an errand and I didn't come early. I heard you were eating in the dining room that was why I didn't bother to bring the food." she explained, looking and sounding remorseful.

I smiled at her. "It's not your fault. I'm actually grateful today. Thank you so much. What's your name?"

"My name is Cassie, Miss." she replied. "I will be going. I will come back to collect the dishes. Just leave it on the table when you are done."

I thanked her again as she left, closing the door behind her. I felt grateful towards Laci. At least, I won't have to face any of those two people today.

Or so I thought.

Just as I was feeling happy, the door was suddenly pushed open and Scarlett walked inside looking all ready for war.

I forgot to lock the door! I just invited trouble this morning!

"It seems you are daring me! Didn't I tell you to leave already?" Scarlett said, walking towards me.

I ignored her and that seemed to fuel her anger. She walked a step close to me. I could feel her chest heaving in anger.

Just when I raised my head to look at her, a slap landed across my face. It was so strong that I fell onto the table and all the dishes scattered on the ground.

My mouth was filled with the metallic taste of blood and I felt my eyes going dark. She used a lot of force on me.

"What the hell do you think you are doing, Scarlett?" Laci screamed at her.

Then she growled loudly. Instead of

answering Laci, Scarlett also growled too. They were glaring at each other in anger.

I could feel Laci's anger rising. I knew if I didn't do something fast, these two people would tear each other apart.

"Laci, please stop! Don't fight." I managed to say. I tried to stand up so I could stop Laci, but it was very difficult for me, as I was feeling very weak. Seeing that I was struggling to stand up, Laci rushed towards me to help me up.

She then turned to Scarlett. "Are you doing all these because of what my mother told you?"

"Even if she didn't tell me anything, I will still do all I can to get this cursed bitch out of this palace!" Scarlett said, looking at me with disgust.

"You wouldn't dare! Just wait till Niyol comes back. And let this be the last time you lay your filthy hands on her again!" Laci said, staring directly at the girl.

She then added. "You might be a powerful warrior, but don't you forget that I am still an alpha and I demand respect!" She growled, her voice radiating power.

Scarlett immediately fell to her knees, but her face was far from fear or respect. It was rather filled with rebellion.



**"Get out!"**

Scarlett got up from the ground and cast a disdainful look at me before running out of the room. It was as if she was challenging me!

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